

## **Foundation Committee**

**Foundation Members:** Gary Acuff (Chair), Wendy White (Vice-Chair), Jim Dickson, Kelly Stevens, Joshua Gurtler, Isabel Walls, Fred Breidt, Julie Jean, Mathew Moore, Alvin Lee.

**Board/Staff Present:** Michelle Danyluk, Manpreet Singh, Amy Rhodes, Fabiana Guglielmone, Lisa Hovey.

**Advisors:** Vickie Lewandowski, Gale Prince, Kathy Glass, Zeb Blanton, Jenny Scott.

**Student Liaisons:** Ellen Mendez Sosa, Claire Murphy.

**Vistor:** Laura Strawn.

**Meeting Called to Order:** Wednesday, 8:02 a.m. July 19, 2023.

Welcome by Gary and the appointment of Wendy as Recording Secretary. Additions to the Agenda and Approval.

Review of minutes from the May 25, 2023, Conference Call. Amy moved to approve, and Jim seconded. Approved by voice vote.

### **Financial Reports** (Lisa Hovey)

Lisa reviewed the balance sheet. The fiscal year ends Aug. 31. Investments are improving this year, but not yet enough to recover from last year's market downturn.

### **Future Initiatives**

Graduate Student Practical Training Assistance (Alvin Lee) continue to work on graduate student exchange awards for training that isn't covered by their university and travel to the event.

Student exchange, possibly extending travel to conferences to join a laboratory or industry location. Claire Murphy will join the subcommittee. Article Processing Charge Waiver/Assistance (Alvin Lee)

Elsevier has means of helping people from developing economies.

The subcommittee needs to work closer with the editors to better understand the scope and need of this award.

### **New Business**

Dependent Care Grant Discussion. There were three 2023 Annual Meeting requests, all were granted.

Discussion around including service animals to this award.

The Board asked to allow last-minute entries for emergency situations. Future Fundraising Ideas Younger members don't seem as interested in participating in the silent auction or donating. Ideas mentioned in the meeting:

- Consider a university competition for students to bring an item (< \$50) and charge \$10 a vote.

Encourage students to get alumni to bid on items.

- Alternatively, have Student PDG members design university t-shirts for a live auction, providing an opportunity for alumni to collaborate with students to generate the highest bid. The winner of the contest would be the t-shirt getting the highest bid.

- Way to engage students by having a \$10 vote to have a professor dress in a silly costume or pie to the face.

Silent Auction discussion

- Consider a live auction for the top few items or provide a box for blind bids at the end of the auction.

- Allow phone bidding (onsite attendees only). Discussion regarding whether the meeting app could handle something like this.

- Create calendars and ask students to submit entries for the pictures (petri dish art, electron microscope scans, etc.) to sell at the Foundation booth. Have a water bottle engraver and/or badge ribbon maker at the Foundation booth.

#### **Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. Request that we allow ADA Service Animals to be included in the Dependent Care Grant.
2. Request that we allow last-minute entries for emergency situations be included in the Dependent Care Grant.
3. Request to add Laura Strawn and Claire Murphy as members of the Foundation Committee.

#### **Final Comments:**

Future Foundation Virtual Calls, all at noon Eastern Time: October 24, 2023; January 25, 2024; April 25, 2024; June 27, 2024.

**Next Meeting Date:** Wednesday, July 14, 2024, Long Beach, California.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:29 a.m. Eastern Time.

**Chairperson:** Gary Acuff.