

THE 115TH MEETING OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE  
17-18 November 2005  
The University of Tennessee, Martin  
Martin, Tennessee

SARAH H. SWAIN, SECRETARY TAS

*Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee*

The annual meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science (TAS) was held in Martin, Tennessee, 17-18 November 2005, on the campus of The University of Tennessee, Martin (UTM) with TAS President Stephen M. Wright presiding. President-elect John Harris served as Program Chairperson. The UTM Local Arrangements Committee members were Wilburn A. Sliger (Chair), Michael Gibson, and Wintfred L. Smith.

The Executive Committee met Thursday evening, 17 November 2005, in the Conference Room of the Chancellor's Residence on the UTM campus. Dinner was provided by UTM and hosted by UTM Chancellor Nick Dunagan. On Friday, 18 November 2005, the General Session, Annual Business Meeting, Reelfoot Lake Symposium, luncheon, and Poster Session were held in the University Center. Section meetings were held in the afternoon in the University Center and the Johnson Engineering and Physical Science Building on the UTM campus. The General Session, held in the Watkins Auditorium of the University Center, began with a welcome from Dr. Nick Dunagan, Chancellor, and Martin Mayor, Mr. Randy Brundige. The Plenary Session followed with the keynote address, titled "Tsunami 2004", given by Dr. S. K. Ballal, Tennessee Technological University Professor of Biology. The Annual Business Meeting followed the Plenary Session with President Stephen Wright presiding. During the morning meeting attendees enjoyed the "Reelfoot Lake Symposium II", Michael Gibson presiding. This symposium was the sequel to a symposium held at the 2003 TAS Annual Meeting. The Poster Session was open to attendees in the Ballroom Lobby of the University Center from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. The Association of Science Department Chairs met during the noon hour in the University Center. Lunch was served in the University Center Ballroom followed by section business meetings and paper sessions as listed in the printed program.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
18 November 2005

TAS President Stephen Wright convened the Annual Business Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science at 11:30 AM in the Watkins Auditorium of the University Center on the campus of The University of Tennessee, Martin (UTM), Martin, Tennessee, and determined by the attendance that a quorum was present. A motion to suspend the reading of the minutes passed. A motion to accept new members (number to

be determined after meeting registration is completed) also passed.

President Wright thanked President-elect and Program Chairperson John Harris and members of the UTM Local Arrangements Committee for developing and organizing the 2005 annual meeting. Program notes and changes were announced by President-elect Harris. President-elect Harris also explained the cancellation of the anticipated field trip to Reelfoot Lake due to the low number of registrants. Plans for a spring Reelfoot Lake expedition are being considered. Dates and details will be announced on the TAS web site.

Treasurer Steve Murphree discussed the Treasurer's Report and distributed copies of the report to interested attendees. (The report can be viewed in its entirety in the 17 November 2005 minutes of the Executive Committee printed elsewhere in this publication.) Treasurer Murphree reported a current paid membership of 670 persons. He encouraged members to check their membership status and to renew as soon as possible. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report passed.

Managing Editor Gore Ervin summarized the report published in full in the minutes of the 17 November 2005 Executive Committee meeting. Due to low numbers of manuscript submissions, July and October 2005 issues were combined. Issues will continue to be combined, January-April and July-October, until the number of accepted manuscripts increases. Editor Ervin praised this year's section chairs for encouraging timely abstract submissions. Members were encouraged to volunteer to serve as manuscript reviewers. Editor Ervin expressed appreciation to Dr. Phillip Mathis, Middle Tennessee State University, Dr. George H. Allen, formally at Humboldt State University, and Dr. Gus Tomlinson, formally at Tennessee State University and former *Journal* editor, for valuable contributions to the *Journal* collection in the editorial office.

Tennessee Junior Academy of Science (TJAS) Director Jack Rhoton summarized the report printed in full in the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting. Director Rhoton presented a brief history of TJAS and its activities and offered copies of the 2005 TJAS *Handbook and Proceedings of the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science* to interested members. Awards presented at the TJAS annual meeting (Nashville, April 2005) were announced, including the three Outstanding Secondary School Science Teachers awards. Director Rhoton presented the TAS Distinguished Secondary Science Teacher

Award to Ms. Marion Pitts of Martin, Tennessee. Ms. Pitts came forward to receive a plaque and a check for \$500 from TAS. The Director's report can be seen in its entirety in the minutes of the Executive Committee printed elsewhere in this publication.

Nominating Committee Chairperson and Past President Michael Redding presented the slate of TAS officers for 2006: President-elect Dr. George Webb, Tennessee Technological University; Treasurer Dr. Steve Murphree, Belmont University; and Secretary Ms. Sarah Swain, Middle Tennessee State University. A motion to accept the recommended slate of officers passed.

Fellows Committee Chairperson, Charles McGhee, presented nominations for Fellows of the Academy. The nominations were accepted for presentation to the membership by vote of the Executive Committee in its 17 November 2005 meeting. A motion passed to approve as Fellows Dr. J. Michael Redding, Professor of Biology, Tennessee Technological University, former TAS President, currently serving as Meeting Coordinator, Past President, and TAS representative to AAAS Section Y, and Dr. Stephen M. Wright, Professor of Biology, Middle Tennessee State University, former Program Chairperson and current TAS President. Both have served on TAS committees, as section chairs, as presenters in technical sections, and as sponsors of student research and presentation.

The membership observed a moment of silence in honor of deceased TAS member Dr. Ernest Blythe, retired faculty member of the UTM Department of Geology and former Director of the UTM Honors Program.

The Resolution of Appreciation, prepared by the Resolutions Committee, Sallie Noel, Chairperson, was read by Secretary Swain. The resolution expressed appreciation to the host institution, UTM, and the Local Arrangements Committee for making the preparations for a successful annual meeting. A motion to accept the resolution passed. The Resolution of Appreciation is printed in full in the 17 November 2005 minutes of the Executive Committee elsewhere in this issue.

President Wright presented the Distinguished Service Award to Dr. J. Michael Redding for his long and untiring service to the Tennessee Academy of Science. In addition to many years of participation and service, Dr. Redding currently serves the academy in multiple roles as Past President, Meeting Coordinator, and TAS representative to AAAS Section Y. His keen insight and innovative ideas have helped to advance the goals and programs of TAS for many years.

President Wright adjourned the 2005 Annual Business Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science at 12:00 noon, CST.