

121st Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science

Union University
Jackson, Tennessee
28 October 2011

The annual meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science (TAS) was held at Union University, 28 October 2011 with President Jeffrey Boles presiding. President-Elect William Andrews served as the Program Chairperson, and Wayne Wofford served as the local arrangements coordinator. Eugene de Silva is the Annual Meeting Coordinator. On Friday 28 October 2011 the meeting opened with registration and poster presentations in the lobby and Colburn room of the Grant Center. Morning technical sessions were held in the Bowld Student Commons and White Hall. The annual business meeting was held in the Harvey Auditorium from 11:15 AM–12:00 PM CDT. Academy members enjoyed a luncheon in Salon 3 of the Grant Center. Following the luncheon, Academy members were welcomed by Union University President David S. Dockery in Salon 1 and 2 of the Grant Events Center. The keynote address delivered by Dr. Michael Gibson was titled “A Tale of Two Oceans”. Dr. Gibson compared two ancient oceans of West Tennessee and their marine biota. Afternoon technical sessions followed in the Bowld Student Commons and White Hall. Throughout the day, members of the Academy were encouraged to record reminiscences of the Academy as a part of the Centennial Oral History Project. On Saturday 29 October 2011, a field trip to the Coon Creek Science Center was led by Dr. Michael Gibson. Participants were treated to a guided tour of this important paleontological site with 70-million-year-old fossils of Upper Cretaceous marine shells.

Annual Business Meeting
28 October 2011

Tennessee Academy of Science President Jeffrey Boles convened the Annual Business

Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science at 11:15 AM CDT in the Harvey Auditorium of the Grant Events Center on the campus of Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. President Boles thanked the administration and members of the local arrangements committee from Union University for hosting the meeting. A motion to suspend the reading of the minutes was made by Kim Cleary Sadler and seconded by John Zamora. The motion carried. A motion to accept new members was made and seconded with no opposition. The names of new members from 2011 will be published in the *Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science*.

Treasurer Steve Murphree discussed highlights of the Treasurer’s report showing total Academy assets of \$172,931.64. The full treasurer’s report is printed in the 27 October 2011 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Treasurer Murphree reported that the Academy had received an unofficial auditing report from the Principles of Auditing class at Belmont University. Stephen Stedman made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. Gilbert Pitts seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Managing Editor Stephen Stedman commented that members should have received the last issue of the *Journal* recently. Editor Stedman stated that he is eager to solicit centennial related material and has received an article from Dr. George Webb on the AAAS meeting of 1927 hosted by the TAS. He also reported that the Executive Committee had approved four issues for 2012 with approximately 200 pages. Editor Stedman reported that there were no changes to the editorial board and board members are currently listed on the back page of the *Journal*. He concluded by offering thanks to Assistant Editor Christy Carter.

President Jeffrey Boles presented the following Fellows nomination to the full membership. The Fellows committee, chaired by Dr. Charles McGhee, with the approval of the Executive Committee submit M. Gore Ervin, Ph.D., Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Department of Biology, Middle Tennessee State University for consideration as TAS Fellow. Dr. Ervin has been an active member of the Academy serving as section chairperson for Health and Medical Sciences, Editor of the *Journal*, a member of the Executive Committee, and President of the Academy in 2009. President Boles made a motion to the Academy to accept Dr. Ervin as Fellow. Secretary Fulcher seconded the motion and the motion carried followed by applause. A framed certificate will be sent to Dr. Ervin.

President Boles reminded members of the Academy awards. Information on the awards can be found on the TAS website and in the July/October 2006 issue of the *Journal*.

The Nominating Committee and the Executive Committee presented the slate of officers for 2012 to be approved by the full membership: President-Elect, Mandi Carter Lowe; Treasurer, Dr. Steve Murphree; Secretary, Teresa Fulcher. William Andrews made a motion to accept the nomination and Steve Murphree seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. George Murphy, on behalf of the Necrology Committee, read names of Academy members deceased in 2010–2011: Dr. Henry Rawie DeSelm, retired Department of Botany, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Alec F. Bridges, Department of Chemistry, Volunteer State Community College; Dr. William (Bill) Pafford, former Director of the Junior Academy of Science, East Tennessee State University; Billy Dean Cole, Department of Biology, Austin Peay State University; Kenneth V. Bordeau, Geologist, The University of Tennessee, Martin. Academy members stood and observed a moment of silence to honor these individuals and their contributions to science in Tennessee.

Resolutions Committee chairperson Dr. David Pitts read the Resolution of Appreciation as follows:

Whereas, the Tennessee Academy of Science is enjoying the most pleasant, profitable,

and well-organized series of meetings at Union University, Jackson, and

Whereas, the success of these meetings has resulted mainly from the efforts of the officers of the respective sections; the Local Arrangements Committee Chair, Dr. Wayne Wofford; Program Chair and President-Elect William Andrews; the Local Arrangements Committee, composed of Dr. Barbara McMillian, Jane Betts, Phyllis Davenport, Belinda Moss, Dr. J. R. Kerfoot, and Dr. Brenda Pierson; Meeting Coordinator Eugene de Silva; the 2011 TAS officers, composed of President Dr. Jeffrey Boles, President-Elect William Andrews, Past President Michael Gibson, Treasurer Dr. C. Steve Murphree, and Secretary Teresa Fulcher, and from the recognition given the meetings by the local media and from the gracious hospitality of the host university.

Be it resolved, therefore, that the Tennessee Academy of Science expresses its sincere appreciation to these and all others who contributed to the success of the meetings.

The resolution was accepted by the membership of the Academy.

President Jeffrey Boles reminded Academy members that they had received notification of a proposed change to the Constitution of the Tennessee Academy of Science which would add five positions to the Executive Committee. Secretary Fulcher read the proposed change as follows with additions shown in italics:

Article IV

Section 1. Executive Committee

The officers of the academy, the immediate Past-President, the directors of each of the educational programs of the Academy (*Junior Academy, Collegiate Division, and Visiting Scientist*), a Science Specialist of the Tennessee Department of Education, *the Director of Electronic Communications, the Assistant Editor of the Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science, the Annual Meeting Coordinator, the chairperson of the Education and Research Committee, the chairperson of the Publicity Committee*, and three members-at-large shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Tennessee Academy of Science, Incorporated. One member-at-large on the committee shall be appointed by the President at the

beginning of each calendar year to serve for a three-year term. The business of the Academy not otherwise provided for shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee. It shall also pass on any business matters that arise between meetings, including the approval of all editors, and the election on new members. The latter shall be subject to ratification at the next meeting of the Academy.

Stephen Stedman made a motion to accept the change to the Constitution. Gilbert Pitts seconded the motion and the amendment to the constitution passed without opposition.

Kim Cleary Sadler presented the TAS Distinguished School Science Teacher award on behalf of Junior Academy Director Dr. Jack Rhoton. The award was presented to Peggy Bertrand, Ph.D., of Oak Ridge High School in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Dr. Rhoton's full report is published in the 27 October 2011 Executive Committee minutes.

President Boles presented the Distinguished Service award to Dr. James Howard for his many

years of service as TAS Electronic Communications Director. Accepting the award on behalf of Dr. Howard was Martin Stewart of Middle Tennessee State University. A plaque was also presented to Past President Michael Gibson with gratitude for his service to the Academy in 2010.

President Boles made brief announcements encouraging members to stop by the oral history booth to record Academy memories. He also reminded members of the location of the luncheon, the keynote presentation by Dr. Michael Gibson, and the field trip to Coon Creek on Saturday.

President Boles concluded the meeting by passing the gavel to 2012 President William Andrews and the meeting was adjourned at 11:52 AM CDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa L. Fulcher
Secretary, TAS
Pellissippi State Community College