

Scientific Technical Services Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Online Meeting

In attendance: John Antos, Marion Brodhagen, Don Burgess, Steven Emory, Milton From, Cristina Garcia-Lasanta Vincent Hill, Josh Kaplan, Alia Khan, Manuel Montaña, Mark Peyron, Margaret Scheuermann, Kathy Van Alstyne, Charles Wandler
Stephen McDowall, AMSEC guest
Meeting was called to order at 2:00pm
Minutes from June 8, 2020 and October 13, 2020 meetings approved

Announcements/Updates

- The online sample submission form is on the home page of the STS website. Drop box information is there as well.
- STS budget update –The operating budget does not include allocation from the Provost Office for this year. Possible change in the future from equipment replacement budget to equipment maintenance budget. Currently, the Agilent 1100 system needs the UV-Vis detector replaced.
- STS hopes to move ahead with the new Mass Spectrometry Technician position. Additional information at the next meeting. Engineering Technician position is delayed due to Covid-19 hiring freeze.
- STS has received two new optical microscopes for the microscopy instrumentation area through two grants. The Leica microscope has been installed in the Bond Hall “microimaging laboratory”. The Ramen microscope has been ordered. Both will be located in Bond Hall Room 016 post-pandemic. Both instruments are under STS space and staff support. Both instruments come with service contracts. The location of other instruments in Bond Hall will be presented at a future meeting.
- Mass spectrometers came with in-depth staff training so samples are being run. Advanced training taken by Sarina Kiesser; however, due to Covid-19 this training will be repeated post-Covid-19.

Discussion/Action Items

- Mass spectrometer user group first meeting will be in December. Discussion about training, institutional knowledge, sub-topics. Initial user group call out if interested. Relationship with Council and user groups to be developed along with access policies, user guidelines, quality control, and promoting a culture of competency.
- STF proposals should be considered for instrumentation or accessories – people with ideas for the next meeting.

Items from the Council

- Search for permanent director
- Invite Dean David Patrick for December 2020 meeting

Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm

Next meeting: December 10, 2020