

Pi Chi Omega Board Meeting – Purdue January 7, 2008

In attendance:

Gerry Wegner
Dan Moreland
Shep Sheperdigian
Eric Smith
Kim Kelley-Tunis

David Fincannon
Jim Sargent
Mike Goldstein
Cisse Spragins

Absent:
Vern Toblan

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 by Gerry Wegner.

The minutes of the October 17, 2007 board meeting were reviewed and accepted with corrections. A motion was made by Eric Smith and seconded by Shep Sheperdigian.

Committee Reports

Scholarship

Vern will be sending out the scholarship applications to the Universities. Terry Whitworth has agreed to again chair the Scholarship Committee.

Web Page

Gerry spoke with Bob Geltz regarding updates to the web page. All requested changes have been made. There are also some links that are cross-referenced between the e-newsletter and the web page.

Membership

Vern is working with Rick Cooper to create a list of delinquent members. Two newly inducted members, Steve Yaninek and Jamie Guenther have not paid their dues to date.

By-Laws

A suggestion was made to create a mission statement from the “Aims and Purposes” section of the Pi Chi Constitution. Eric has agreed to create a Mission Statement and highlight this in an effort to attract additional membership.

Awards

There was nothing to report at this time. Shep is looking for committee members to help fill vacancies within this committee. Dan Moreland has agreed to help on this committee.

The award can be presented to anyone, in or out of the organization, but the expenditure must be voted on by the organization.

Research Ideas

Once again, there is a questionnaire attached to the Purdue Conference Manual requesting additional research ideas. A summary of these suggestions will be provided to Cisse Spragins for inclusion in the e-newsletter and to Dan Moreland for inclusion in PCT Magazine. It was also suggested that this summary of research ideas be provided to ESA for dissemination in the ESA Newsletter. This information could be presented as a press release to provide information to the research community. This list should include both general and specific topics. Jim will provide the list to Gerry for review prior to distribution. Results from Purdue will be available by the end of January.

Nominations Committee

No new nominations to report at this time.

Marketing

Cisse Spragins and Rockwell Labs provided 8½" X 11" posters to promote scholarship availability at ESA. The organization greatly appreciates their efforts. This will be sent to Dan Moreland for addition in future PCT issues. A suggestion was made that this would make a nice addition to the informational booth.

Archival

Stuart Mitchell is to take the archival boxes of information and scan into the computer for identification of photos.

David Fincannon will present his film on the "Progressive Pest Management: Building a Foundation" during Thursday afternoon's session. This presentation will provide interviews with John Osmun, Harry Katz, Roger Gold and others.

Other Business

Executive Director's Report

Vern will provide a report at a later date.

Treasurer's Report

Vern will provide a report at a later date.

A suggestion was made to have a secure web site to accept credit card payments for membership dues via the web.

Newsletter

A suggestion was made that a printed newsletter be eliminated in favor of the electronic e-newsletter. A checkbox on the dues statement would allow for those that want to continue receiving a printed copy. Eric Smith provided a motion that the dues statement will have the checkbox to continue receiving a printed copy. The motion was seconded by Jim Sargent. The motion was accepted and the change will be made prior to the end of the year. In addition, a copy of the membership minutes will be sent to Cisse for inclusion in the e-newsletter for review by the general membership prior to the meeting.

Old Projects

50-Year History book

The project is almost completed. It is currently being edited by Eric Smith and Gerry Wegner. One chapter by Bobby Corrigan is still outstanding. There is still a need for funding for final publication. This will need to be addressed once the project is in the final stages. It is still unknown as to how this information will be published, whether in hardcopy, paperback, etc. It was suggested that each scholarship recipient be provided with a copy of this book.

Need to continue a discussion regarding estate planning for the more senior members of the organization.

It was suggested that a third level of membership, “member emeritus”, be created for more senior members of the organization. There needs to be a specific criteria created for this new membership level. Currently, there are two levels of membership that do not require an annual dues payment. Those levels are “life” and “honorary” membership. The suggested criteria are that those members be a minimum of 70 years of age **and** 25 years of membership within the organization. This “member emeritus” standing must be added through the By-Laws committee, chaired by Eric Smith. Both Rick Cooper, membership Chair, and Shep Sheperdigian, Awards Chair, will review the current roster of members to determine membership eligibility. To aid in this endeavor, the dues statement will ask for demographic information from the general membership. A motion was made by Eric Smith, to create a non-paying membership level, “member emeritus”, for those members in good standing that are a minimum of 70 years in age and have a minimum of 25 years membership. The motion was seconded by Cisse Srpragins.

New Business

New Projects

Gerry had a conversation with Paul Bello in the creation of an endowment to benefit Pi Chi Omega Scholarships. This would involve a letter writing campaign to encourage a donation to the organization. It was suggested that a “Pi Chi Omega Endowed

Scholarship” be created with various scholarships that would fall beneath this “umbrella” fund. The organization would transition its current scholarship fund into this endowed fund. Letters that go out would allow for donations to be made in the name of an individual. Paul Bello has agreed to help the organization in this endeavor. Dan Moreland and David Fincannon are the co-chairs of the newly created Endowment Fund Committee.

It was also suggested that manufacturers be approached regarding donations to the Pi Chi Scholarship Fund.

Other

A motion was made, by Jim Sargent, to provide four scholarships, at \$2000.00, in 2008. The motion was amended by Eric Smith so that four, \$2000.00, scholarships be awarded in 2009, if funds are available. This motion was seconded by Cisse Spragins and accepted by the board of directors.

General Housekeeping

Vern will send out a thank you note to NPMA and Purdue for their donation of both space at the National Meeting and the Purdue Meeting. NPMA will also be thanked for their assistance in the collection of membership dues.

The general membership meeting will be at 5:30 Tuesday evening, in the West Faculty Lounge of the Purdue Memorial Union. The cost of the dinner is to be \$30.00.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 22nd, in Washington, D.C. Any suggestions for the Pi Chi Omega sponsored speaker should be sent to Gerry Wegner. Names and topics that were suggested for presentation at NPMA; James Austin, Texas A&M, a speaker on the “Green Industry”, Bobby Corrigan on the use of external rodent baits.

It was suggested that a future seminar be sponsored by Pi Chi Omega that predicts the future of the Pest Management Industry. This conference would be a follow-up to a 1988 conference that was also centered on the predicting the future of the Industry. It would highlight how well the speakers from the 1988 conference predicted the future and then allow current industry leaders to predict where they think the industry will go in the future.

A motion was made by Jim Sargent to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 and was seconded by Eric Smith.