

Local Section Annual Report, Year 2015

Texas Section, AACC

Prepared by

Kenneth E. Blick, Ph.D., ACS, ABCC, FACB

Section Chair

Local Section Officers for 2015:

Chair:	Kenneth E. Blick, Ph.D. (2015-2016)
Chair-Elect:	Ibrahim Hashim, Ph.D. (2015-2016)
Past Chair:	Anthony O. Okorodudu, PhD, MBA (2015-2016)
Secretary:	Felix Omoruyi, Ph.D. (2014-2015) – 2 nd Term
Treasurer:	Qing He Meng, MD, Ph.D. (2015-2016) – 1 st Term
Delegate:	Joshua Bornhorst, Ph.D. (2015-2016) – 1 st Term
Legislative Liaison:	Patricia L. Williams (2015-2016) - 1 st Term

TSAACC Activities:

1. After some discussion, it was decided that having a Fall or Spring meeting in Oklahoma organized and chaired by Dr. Blick or Dr. Akl was not a practical consideration. The topic being considered was “Lean Process Design Initiatives for the Modern Clinical Laboratory. “ Dr. Blick was going to include faculty from his Black Belt training programs. Attendance was a concern due to the cost of travel, etc. As things have developed in recent years, having meetings in the Dallas and Houston area make the most sense for the Texas Section. The goal to have at least one all-day conference is still in place.
2. In lieu of a regional meeting in 2015, a Texas Section meeting was organized by Dr. Mohammad Amin for Monday, July 27th at the McCormick and Schmick restaurant in Atlanta. After some discussion, most present at this meeting felt that having a Texas Section get together at the National AACC meeting is probably a good idea.
3. Dr. Blick attended the memorial service for Dr. Charles Bradley and, at the request of his wife Loretta and sons; Dr. Blick delivered the eulogy for Dr. Bradley at this service. As known by all, Dr. Bradley was an active member of the Texas Section and the AACC for a number of years while he served as Laboratory Director and Professor at Texas Tech University Medical Center. Prior to joining the Texas Section, Dr. Bradley was active in the Southeast Section while he served as Laboratory Director and Associate Professor at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville .

4. Dr. Blick advanced a proposal to the AACC that as part of a new member initiative, the AACC should facilitate promotion of a Student Affiliate Membership program to undergraduate Chemistry and Biological Science majors. Some preliminary thoughts and discussion with April Gascon of the AACC led to a suggestion that the Texas Section could show some leadership in organizing such a program in close collaboration with local universities.

Finances

The section is financially sound with a comfortable positive account balance. Dr. Meng reports on the Bank of American statement a balance of \$42,367.55 in savings. Expenses for the 2015 for Texas Section activities amounted to \$7,095.01. Expenses were mainly due to speaker and Honoraria payments. The AACC dinner in Atlanta for the Executive Committee meeting expenses amounted to \$434.01. (See attached Treasurer's financial report for 2015.)

See below from spreadsheet attachment...

<i>Withdrawals for the period</i>		
1/12/2015	AMERICAN ASSOCIA DES:CHECKPAYMT CHECK #:5221	\$5,000.00
1/12/2015	Michael Laposata Check # 5216	\$500.00
1/12/2015	Michael Laposata Check # 5218	\$130.00
5/4/2015	Gregory Sossaman Check # 5222	\$1,031.00
7/31/2015	Texas AACC Dinner Check # 5223	\$434.01

Awards

Past chair award has been purchased by Peggy Mann for Dr. Okorodudu but not formally presented as yet.

Networking opportunities

The Executive Committee and key members of the section met in Atlanta and discussed future plans for meetings. It was generally agreed that a large meeting would be organized in the Spring or Fall in either the Houston or Dallas area. A Chairman or focus topic for this meeting has not been selected as yet. A conference call will be scheduled in January to firm up this plan.

Election of the 2016 Officers for the AACC Texas Section

Secretary: Felix Omoruyi, Ph.D.

Officers for 2016:

Chair:	Kenneth E. Blick, Ph.D. (2015-2016)
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Positions Available for Election in November 2016 (2017 Vacant Positions)

Treasurer (Dr. Qing Meng is eligible to run for 2nd term)

Delegate (Dr. Joshua Bornhorst is eligible to run for 2nd term)

Legislative Liaison (Patricia L. Williams is eligible for 2nd term)

Per our bylaws, the Nominating Committee shall consist of the immediate Past-Chairperson and two (2) members appointed by the present Chairperson. In the absence of the Past-Chairperson, the present Chairperson shall appoint the entire Nominating Committee. This committee to be chaired by Dr. A.O. Okorodudu will solicit nominations for these positions by October 2016.

Challenges/Issues

Putting together successful meetings that are well attended and financially feasible continues to be a challenge in part due to the large geographical area covered by the Texas Section. Nevertheless, we have shown that our section has the capacity and leadership to put together world class programs.