

**ACS Midland Section Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 1st, 2025, MSU St. Andrews and Microsoft Teams, Midland MI**

Attendees (Voting board members indicated by *; 9 required for quorum)

In-person:

Dave Stickles	David Potts	Krishnaja Duvvuri*
Isabel Meza	Michelle Cummings	Hunter Woodward*
Paulami Majumdar*	Wendy Flory	Pranavi Aradhyula
Reggie Bou Zerdan*	Erin Vogel*	Steve Keinath*
Mark Jones*	Erica Bruske	Gina Malczewski*
Dale Lecaptain	Dan Dermody	

Virtual:

Wendell Dilling	Michael Tulchinsky	Justin Massing*
Wenyi Huang*	Clare Leahy	
Helena Zhang	Judith Espinoza*	

➤ **7:00 pm – Call to order**

- Krishnaja Duvvuri (Chair) called the meeting to order.
- Hunter Woodward (Director) motioned to approve the November minutes; the motion was seconded by Erin Vogel (Past Chair) and approved by all.

➤ **7:01 pm – Nominations and Elections update by Reggie Bou Zerdan (Chair, N&E)**

- Reggie introduced the new elected members to the Board.
- The total number of votes was 75 (same as last year)
- The new members are David Potts (Treasurer), Clare Leahy (Secretary), Erika Bruske (Chair, N&E), Reggie Bou Zerdan (Chair Elect) and 3 directors (Michelle Cummings, Dan Dermody, Steve Keinath)
- Krishnaja congratulated all the newly elected candidates and thanked the previous officers in these roles for their contributions and support.

➤ **7:03 pm – Update on Fall Scientific Meeting+CERM by Dale Lecaptain (Chair, FSM)**

- Dale provided a summary of the FSM hosted by the ACS Midland local section. This year was special as CERM was hosted together with the FSM. The theme of the meeting was ‘Chemistry Reconnected’.
- The meeting was held on October 16-17 at Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant. There were 75 poster abstracts, 35 vendors, 268 registered attendees with 48% students and 52% non-students. Notable attendees from National were highlighted (Caroline Ribes, Will Lynch, Angela Wilson – President 2023, Chris Budrow – President Elect 2025).
- Dale highlighted the many volunteers whose contributions led to the success of the event.

- The two Co-Chairs – Dale Lecaptain and Hunter Woodward have received recognition from National for successfully organizing a combined FSM/CERM meeting. The Board thanked Dale and Hunter for all their efforts and congratulated them on their recognition.
- Dale mentioned that all expenses related to the FSM will be closed with Justin Massing (Treasurer) soon. Hunter also pointed out that Midland ACS successfully organized the event in a smaller budget than usual regional meetings, allowing a some surplus funds remaining for use by committees.
- The Board commended Dale for proposing and leading the initiative on combining CERM with ACS Midland FSM - a completely new undertaking - when the usual regional CERM gathering was cancelled earlier in the year. Board members proposed recognizing Dale for his contributions by nominating him for ACS Fellow next year.

➤ **7:15 pm – Exhibit update by Gina Malczewski (Chair, Outreach)**

- Gina communicated to the Board on the most recent status of the Exhibit, which is now hosted at Bay County Historical Society (BCHS) museum.
- For the benefit of the new members, Gina provided a short overview of the history of the Exhibit, spanning its first inauguration at Rowe Hall in CMU, followed by its grand opening post pandemic with Angela Wilson (then ACS President) and eventual move to storage before being moved into BCHS.
- After the move, the Exhibit was officially opened on 10/13/2025. There have been programs organized there by Midland ACS around that time and will continue to the end of the year.
- Gina shared the content of the Exhibit with the Board, along with a few pictures of the contents at BCHS.
- Gina brought to the attention of the Board several of the programs, such as ‘Women in STEM’ presentation on 10/11.
- For funds, Gina has already submitted a grant for summer programs. In addition, there are funds available from the National and Local Senior Chemists committees, MI Sugar grant, Doan outreach funds as well as additional funds expected from some items that have been put up for sale (such as monitors). Gina is working with Justin (Treasurer) to close these in his accounts.
- Gina reminded the Board that Designer fees for John Metcalf for the banner is still unknown. Gina mentioned a lot of the content for the banner (texts and pictures) was already provided to him by her.
- Regarding publicity, Gina has engaged in a lot of word of mouth publicity in all the events she visits. She has also done an interview with WSGW for broader audiences.
- Krishnaja thanked Gina and the Senior Chemists Committee for all their hard work on the relocation of the Exhibit as well as all the programs. Board members were encouraged to visit the ACS Exhibit at BCHS museum.

➤ **7:32 pm – Chair updates by Krishnaja Duvvuri (Chair, ACS Midland)**

- Krishnaja reminded the Board that the annual report submission portal is now open. All active committees must submit report on their committees and events. The deadline for the report submission to National is February 15, 2026.

- Krishnaja encouraged all committee members to consider nominations for the ChemLuminary awards. Hunter reminded all members to be mindful that some of the awards may have restrictions like once every few years; so people should check when/if the section received such an award before.
- Krishnaja summarized the outcomes of the Vision Strategy Meeting that was conducted in October. Feedback was received from members on what the section is currently doing well and what could be improved. Based on the feedback, four focus areas were developed. Promotion of Events, Diversifying Outside Dow, Engagement from Past Members to Future Generations and Communication among Committees.
- Members of each focus area proposed a specific goal for the area and provided a high level summary of the ideas and strategies towards achieving the goals, that were developed during the Vision Strategy Meeting. Details of goals and strategies of these focus areas can be found in the slides.

➤ **7:52 pm – Other Business**

- Isabel Meza (Co-Chair, Women Chemists Committee) shared information on the Girls Scout STEM Day event that was conducted in collaboration with WCC, D&EI and YCC. 20+ girls scouts between 7-10 years age were engaged in STEM themed events, such as slime making, fake snow, shrinky dinks and so on. The event was successful and very positive feedback was received.
- Pranavi Aradhyula (Co-Chair, Young Chemists Committee) summarized the events of the YCC through 2025 – 2 Lab and Plant tours, 2 networking events, 1 Rock Painting social, organizing technical sessions at CERM/FSM and the Girls Scouts STEM Day event.
- Gina reminded all the members that we have to move the ACS storage from its current location at MSU St. Andrews to a different location.

➤ **8:00 pm – Adjourn**

- Hunter Woodward moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Gina Malczewski and approved by all.