

DALLAS SECTION AIChE APRIL 22, 2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

A Dallas Section AIChE Executive Committee Meeting and a General Meeting were held on April 22, 2014 at the Two Guys From Italy restaurant in Dallas, TX.

A) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The attendees were as follows:

Chair:	José Ramiro Rodríguez Perazza
Vice Chair:	Donald B. Miller
Treasurer:	Fernando J. Aguirre
Secretary:	Frederic S. Eisen
Director:	Lee M. Vickers

Directors Lacrisha (Lacy) Bishline, Nancy D. Garnett, and Elizabeth C. Hilbourn were excused absences.

The Secretary determined a quorum was present.

Below is a brief summary of the meeting.

- 1) Officer Elections – The election of new officers will be at the June meeting. The need to assign an election committee (of at least two people) was discussed.
- 2) Local Section Leadership Workshop – The Chair and Director Lee Vickers briefed the Executive Committee on the LSLW meeting they attended in New Orleans at the end of March.
- 3) Young Professionals Group – Director Lacy Bishline has scheduled another Happy Hour and Mixer for Young Professionals for April 29th at the Fillmore Pub in Plano, TX.
- 4) Student Talk – The Treasurer will be speaking to a group of Hispanic students in Lewisville, TX.
- 5) Update on Programs – The planned speaker for the May meeting is unable to give his presentation on “MIXING” at the normal meeting date of May 27th. However, later during the general meeting, it was agreed to change the next meeting to May 13th when the speaker will be available.
- 6) Treasurer’s Report – The Treasurer’s report was received by the Executive Committee and presented to and approved by the members attending the general meeting. \$11,136 is in the bank.

B) GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was held at Two Guys From Italy restaurant. Attendance at the general meeting was 14.

The Chair made some welcoming remarks. He pointed out that officer elections are coming this June and requested volunteers for the election committee and to run for office. If interested contact one of the current officers. The Treasurer's report was presented. The Vice Chair discussed changing the May meeting to accommodate the speaker (Mr. Dickey) to Tuesday May 13th. The group agreed to the date change.

The speaker for the evening was José Ramiro Rodríguez, our Section Chair. His topic was "MANAGING CONFLICT – CRITICAL SKILL FOR ENGINEERS THAT BECOME MANAGERS".

A conflict is a situation in which people are in disagreement and opposition. Managers need strong conflict resolution and negotiation skills if they want to be successful. Engineers are used to handling objective and undisputable facts, and when encountered with opposition on nonscientific situations, might not recognize the need to look at the other side's point of view. As they climb the management ladder, they will encounter more and more divergent points of view, not only personal but among different factions in the personnel they manage. Being prepared with conflict management skills are assets that are critical to a successful performance in the organization. The speaker discussed types of conflict, described conflict management styles, and conflict resolution through negotiation, collaboration, mediation and arbitration (some engineers are good on these at contractual disputes, but not when involved in interpersonal disputes).

Many engineers that become managers realize that they must effectively resolve interpersonal conflict to be successful, sometimes too late in their careers, when they are passed over for lack of "people skills".

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 PM.

Fred Eisen

Secretary

4/27/14