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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING ♦ MINUTES ♦ Sunday, June 26, 2016 ♦ 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre Hotel ♦ Toronto, Ontario, Canada**

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**Board Members Present:**

Mrityunjay (Jay) Singh, President  
William Lee, President-elect  
Daniel Lease, Treasurer  
Michael Alexander, Director  
Geoff Brennecka, Director  
Manoj Choudhary, Director  
John Halloran, Director  
Martin Harmer, Director  
Edgar Lara-Curzio, Director  
Hua-Tay (HT) Lin, Director  
Tatsuki Ohji, Director  
Greg Rohrer, Director

**Non-Voting Board Members Present:**

David Johnson, Parliamentarian  
Charlie Spahr, Executive Director

**Board Members Absent:**

Kathleen Richardson, Past President

**Staff Present:**

Eileen De Guire  
Marcus Fish  
Michael Johnson  
Sue LaBute  
Mark Mecklenborg  
Kevin Thompson

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENTS**

President Jay Singh called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and thanked everyone for attending. There were no additions to agenda.

**2.0 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**2.1 Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes**

- January 24, 2016
- April 4, 2016 (via Conference Call)
- April 29, 2016 (via evote)

**2.2 Acceptance of Committee Reports**

**2.3 Approval of Student Material Advantage Chapters**

- Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
- National Engineering University, Lima, Peru
- Penn State Behrend Materials and Manufacturing Group, Erie, PA, USA

On motion by Dan Lease, seconded by HT Lin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda of June 26, 2016.

**3.0 INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBER UPDATES**

Board members provided updates of their ACerS related activities that have taken place since the last Board meeting in January.

## 4.0 PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

### 4.1 Strategic Planning Implementation Report

- **Membership Growth**

- GGRN Member Recruitment
- Revitalization of Domestic Sections
- Corporate Member Recruitment
- Creation of International Chapters
- Lifetime Membership

Jay provided an update on membership activities. He would like to see more professors promote GGRN, especially those on the Board. Supplemental funding was approved for Sections and has been promoted to them. International Chapters will be started in Germany, the UK and Singapore on a test basis before opening up to more areas. Staff is still investigating the necessary structure required in other countries. Lifetime membership has been activated in the membership database and will begin to be promoted.

- **Integrated Publications Strategy (Journals and Proceedings)**

- Consultant on-board; Report expected soon
  - o Benchmarking, Market Scan, Product Performance
  - o New Products and Services (Journals, Proceedings, 'cascade journals,' Open Access, etc.)

The consultant, Simon Inger, has interviewed Jay and several others and the final report should be available in August. The consultant will assess the journal, conduct a market scan and benchmarking to recommend ways to improve and how to position better due to open access models.

**Action Item:** Add Martin Harmer to the list of those to be interviewed by the consultant due to his experience on another journal.

- **Global Collaborations And Outreach**

- **ACerS-Korean Institute of Chemical Engineers (KIChE) MOU**

The MOU was signed with the KIChE in January. Jay expects it to be a good collaboration. They are a large, active group interested in promoting ACerS meetings, are interested in hosting MCARE, as well as want to publish with ACerS and attend our meetings.

- **Asia Pacific Ceramic Cooperation Summit (APCCS) in Singapore and Bangkok**

In an effort to reach out to Singapore, Bangkok and Malaysia, Jay and Charlie visited Singapore in January and Bill joined them in Thailand to meet with members and potential members. They made a lot of good contacts to hold future events and to set up an international chapter in Singapore. Need to ensure to maintain the interest and to follow up.

- **Volunteer Recognition, Recruitment, And Retention**

- **ACerS Global Ambassadors Program**

Jay reported that he has awarded 15 Global Ambassador awards during his term. The recipients have been very appreciative and it builds goodwill for members to become more involved in ACerS.

- **Medal for Advancement of Ceramic Technology**

The committee has submitted two awardees for approval by the Board. The physical award is in the process of being finalized. This is a new award designed to get corporate leaders involved in ACerS.

- **Samuel Geijsbeek PACRIM International Award**  
The committee has submitted two awardees for approval by the Board, which will be presented next year at the PACRIM meeting next summer in Hawaii.
- **ACerS Presidential Ambassadors Program**  
Past President Gary Messing provided a report covering his trip to Korea.
- **Past Presidents Newsletter**  
In an effort to keep Past President's actively involved and engaged, a quarterly newsletter is being sent to them each quarter. The first issue was sent in April.
- **Ceramic Publications Company (CPC)**
  - The CPC group is conducting a SWOT Analysis/Strategic Plan process.

#### 4.2 New Regulations in Ceramic Manufacturing

Bill Lee reported that he is appointing an advocacy committee during his term that will be chaired by Mike Alexander, to conduct advocacy activities such as the creation of a webpage that provides information or links to new and updated regulations and topics that are of interest to the corporate members. Could be a way to educate members and be a resource, especially for smaller companies. Plus could be a nice tie-in with the Manufacturing Division. Bill wants to ensure that it's conducted from the global perspective, not just the US and that it's structured in a way to protect the Societies tax exempt status.

#### 4.3 Restructuring and Integration of Educational and Outreach Activities

EIC chair, Kevin Fox, called in to provide an update and present a draft proposal to restructure the education and professional development activities of ACerS. The original EIC structure was intended to better integrate the education and professional development groups, however, the current structure is still not ideal. Some of the groups are inactive and the existing structure seems to be more limiting than enabling. The proposed structure eliminates the EIC, and adds a class called the Education and Professional Development Council. Jay appointed a committee to work with Kevin to develop a formal proposal. They will consider how these groups interface with the Foundation, where the ABET activity belongs, and possibly add the GGRN to the structure. The committee members are Geoff Brennecka, Edgar Lara-Curzio, Martin Harmer and Greg Rohrer.

**Action Item:** One of the committee members will contact Ricardo Castro for his proposal about dissolving NICE.

## 5.0 FINANCIAL UPDATE

### 6.2 2015 Auditor's Report

Treasurer Dan Lease reviewed the results of the annual audit for 2015 conducted by the firm Schneider Downs. The audit focused on accounts receivables, investments, and revenue recognition as areas of potential fraud.

- No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses were found.
- The draft audit report expressed an unqualified opinion and a clean audit.
- Financial statements indicate a financially strong organization.
- A Line of Credit was established in 2014, no outstanding borrowings at 12/31/15.

Dan noted that the Society achieved over \$10 million in assets at year-end 2015.

On motion by Edgar Lara-Curzio, seconded by HT Lin, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2015 auditor's report in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

### **6.3 2016 YTD Financial Results (through April)**

Dan reported on the financial results through April 30, 2016. Year-to-date surplus is \$98K, however, is \$76K below budget, primarily due to CPC revenue shortfall. Product, advertising, and subscriptions sales are all performing under budget. As a result, Executive Director Charlie Spahr will present a draft proposal for an investment to improve the Ceramics Art Daily website.

### **6.4 Investment Portfolio Update and Major Fund Balances**

Dan updated that year-to-date rate of return is 1.73% with total cash and investments of \$7.7 million as of April 30, 2016.

### **6.5 Potential Change in Financial Advisor**

Dan updated that ACerS current financial advisor, Erik Niermeyer, moved from Wells Fargo Advisors to Stratos Wealth Partners. Erik submitted a proposal for ACerS to move the portfolio with him to the new firm, which would result in a slight reduction in the fee structure of approximately \$11K per year. Erik understands ACerS investment guidelines, his management style is conservative and protects the investments of the organization. Until a decision is made, Matthew Gray is managing the ACerS portfolio at Wells Fargo. The Executive and Finance Committees recommend moving with Erik Niermeyer to Stratos.

On motion by John Halloran, seconded by Geoff Brennecka, the Board voted unanimously to transfer the investment portfolio transfer to Erik Niermeyer of Stratos Wealth Partners.

## **6.0 PAST PRESIDENT'S UPDATE**

In Kathleen Richardson's absence Jay provided updates on her behalf.

### **6.1 Nominating Committee**

Jay reported that the Nominating Committee made recommendations for Principal Activity Committee members and chairs in April for Board of Directors approval. All were passed unanimously and the nominees were notified in June.

Jay reported that there was very good participation from the Nominating Committee members, the restructured process worked really good, resulting in a strong slate of new nominees.

### **6.2 Washington Intern in Science and Engineering**

Jay reviewed that the Board of Directors approved support as a pilot program last year. Beth Dickey is the champion for ACerS and is working with staff to promote the program among membership to build the pool of suitable nominations. Manoj asked what is being done to secure candidates. Jay responded that there is more time to collect candidates as the approval came late last year.

## **7.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **7.1 Operations and CPC Update**

Department Updates were provided in advance of the meeting and there was no discussion.

### **7.2 Division and Section Funding**

Charlie reported that five Divisions have requested the funds so far this year, and anticipates that three more also will. Since its recent introduction, no Sections have requested the funds yet, however he anticipates that several will in the coming months as several have expressed interest.

### **7.3 World Kitchen Update**

Charlie reported that there are no new updates to report as a decision from Judge Darrah has not yet been rendered and it's not clear when it will be.

### **7.4 Functional Glass Manufacturing Initiative Consortium Development**

Charlie updated that the project is progressing with the second (of two) workshops being conducted in May. After a year into the project, it is running on-time and on-budget and is in a good position to deliver a comprehensive roadmap as scheduled in the Fall.

The project is approaching a significant transition point, a consortium business model will need to be defined, including sustainable funding mechanisms and organizational structure. Some options are to join an existing NNMI, identify a university or corporate partner. Some concerns are that we don't have the resources to support financially, or the manpower, which could really be a challenge for the Society. Manoj suggests speaking to the GMIC Executive Director, who might have experience to share.

A proposal will be prepared to present by October.

#### **7.5 GGRN/MA Discussions with MS&T Partners**

The GGRN program has been successful since its inception last year. As reported previously, the GGRN program is in violation of the existing Material Advantage agreement with ASM, TMS and AIST, which is supposed to be the only student member program. Charlie updated that ACerS drafted a new agreement that spells out that MA is primarily for undergrads, which would allow us to continue the GGRN program for grad students. A conference call is scheduled with the other three societies next two weeks.

#### **7.6 Ceramics Expo**

Charlie updated that the second Ceramics Expo took place in April, again in Cleveland. It was another strong event, with an increase in both exhibitors and attendees. While attendance rate did not increase quite as much as hoped, next year will focus more on increasing attendance. Smarter Shows, the UK company that produced the CEX, has been a really good and flexible partner.

ACerS planned to sponsor several workshops during CEX, however, only the OSHA- Industrial Safety Training was held due to low registration for the others. Will continue to develop offerings for the next Ceramics Expo including ways to capitalize in other areas such as advertising, individual and corporate membership. Eileen pointed out that CEX is a really good opportunity to market ACerS membership 1,800 attendees at the last show are not current ACerS members.

Jay commented that he thinks competition with CEX is damaging the expos at MS&T and ECD. Charlie responded that the exhibitors at those shows were complaining that their customers were not at those shows. Geoff added that while it's hard to quantify, our association with CEX shows that we are back.

#### **7.7 CPC Proposal for CAD Website Improvement**

Charlie reported that CPC is struggling to meet budgeted goals this year, and it is apparent that it's not trending to improve by year end. Charlie and Michael have meet with Mequoda to review a proposal that would position CPC for years into the future. The proposal was recently received so will need further review and discussion in the coming weeks. Mequoda was the company that was used to launch CPC, so knows the business and has been a good partner through the years. Unfortunately, the former CPC Managing Director had ceased to follow some key best practices and also launched an updated website without proper testing. The proposal has Mequoda taking over the marketing, web development and maintenance, and enhances the bundle and payment offerings. With our reserves, we are in a strong financial position to do this, at this time.

Next steps are to finalize the proposal and schedule a conference call with the Board once further details are available in the next few weeks.

#### **8.0 PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT**

The Nuclear & Environmental Technology Division proposed an annual Best Student Presentation Award for student presentations made at NETD sponsored symposia during the ACerS Annual Meeting.

On motion by Geoff Brennecka, seconded by Greg Rohrer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the NETD Best Student Presentation Award and related Procedure Manual amendments.

#### **9.0 CERAMIC and GLASS INDUSTRY FOUNDATION**

Foundation Development Director, Marcus Fish, provided an update of Foundation fundraising and programming activities. The 2015 Annual Report was created, and mailed to donors plus ACerS members who haven't yet donated. So far, \$133K has been raised in 2016, plus a new endowment fund gift of \$100K was received from

Dr. Shunpei Yamazaki this month.

- Participated in the USA Science & Engineering festival in Washington DC in April. There were over 360,000 attendees during the three day event. ACerS/ CGIF anchored a “Ceramic Corner” of ceramic and glass focused organizations.
- Working to relaunch the Materials Science kits with additional corporate sponsorship, plus will distribute the *Magic of Ceramics* book with the kits.
- Ceramic and Glass Career Center is up and running.
- Holding off on adding additional universities to the University–Industry network until they see how the initial ones are performing.
- Sponsoring student exchanges and interchanges with ECerS.
- Supporting PCSA as a Student Leadership Development Program, including annual funding to support program expenses.
- The 2016 expense budget is \$196K, but will likely be less with the suspension of additional universities in the University-Industry network.
- The fund balance is \$1.2 million, which includes donations and ACerS matching grant funds.

Mike Alexander reported that he made some development visits with Marcus earlier this month and encouraged all Board members to do so as it’s helpful to have the Board members visit with Marcus.

#### 10.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by John Halloran, seconded by Geoff Brennecka, the Board voted to move into executive session.

#### 11.0 SOCIETY AWARDS

##### **Samuel Geijsbeek PACRIM International Awards**

On motion by Dan Lease, seconded by Manoj Choudhary, the Board voted unanimously to approve **Tatsuki Ohji** and **Hai-Doo Kim** as the 2017 Samuel Geijsbeek PACRIM International Awardees.

#### 12.0 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

##### **Medal for Leadership in the Advancement of Ceramic Technology Award Committee**

On motion by Martin Harmer, seconded by Greg Rohrer, the Board voted unanimously to approve **Reginaldo Muccillo**, as a member of the Medal for Leadership in the Advancement of Ceramic Technology Award Committee for the Society term June 2016 through October 2017.

##### **Books Publishing Subcommittee**

On motion by Geoff Brennecka, seconded by Bill Lee, the Board voted unanimously to approve **Eva Hemmer**, and **Jake Amoroso**, as members of the Books Publishing subcommittee for the Society term October 2016 through October 2019.

##### **CGIF Board Member**

On motion by Martin Harmer, seconded by Greg Rohrer, the Board voted unanimously to approve **Kathleen Richardson**, as a member of the Ceramic and Glass Industry Foundation Board of Trustees for the Foundation term October 2016 through October 2018.

##### **ACerS Board Member**

On motion by John Halloran, seconded by Dan Lease, the Board voted unanimously to approve the extension of **Tatsuki Ohji’s** term on the ACerS Board of Directors for one year through October 2017, to replace Mike Alexander when he moves to President-elect in October 2016. (Note: Tatsuki Ohji was not present for this discussion and vote).

#### 13.0 APPROVAL OF ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS

On motion by John Halloran, seconded by Tatsuki Ohji, the Board voted unanimously to approve the slate of nominees for committee and sub-committee appointments presented by President-elect Bill Lee [Appendix A].

**14.0 DISCONTINUE EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Manoj Choudhary, seconded by Geoff Brennecka, the Board voted unanimously to exit executive session and adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE**

**2016**

Saturday, October 22	Salt Lake City, Utah	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(MS&T)
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**2017**

Saturday, January 21	Orlando, Florida	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(EMA)
Sunday, May 21	Waikoloa, Hawaii	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(PACRIM/GOMD)
Saturday, October 7	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(MS&T)

**2018**

Sunday, January 21	Daytona Beach, Florida	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(ICACC)
Sunday, May 20	San Antonio, Texas	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(GOMD)
Saturday, October 13	Columbus, Ohio	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(MS&T)

**PRESIDENT-ELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**  
Submitted by: William Lee (Updated June 22, 2016)

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Appointee</b>
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	Member	2016-2017	David Johnson
<b>CGIF Trustee</b>	Member (from ACerS Board)	2016-2017	Greg Rohrer
<b>Finance</b>	Member (from ACerS Board)	2016-2017	Lynnette Madsen
	Member (from ACerS Board)	2016-2017	Geoff Brennecka
	Member	2016-2017	Steve Houseman
<b>Strategic Planning for Emerging Opportunities</b>		2016-2019	
	Member	PCSA Chair	Lisa Rueschhoff
	Member	YPN Chair	Krista Grayson
	Member	GGRN Chair	Theresa Davey
<b>Publications-Phase Equilibria (and Spriggs Award)</b>	Chair	2016-2017	Pankaj Sarin
	Member	2016-2019	Rick Ubic
	Member	2016-2019	Yu Zhong
<b>Distinguished Life Member</b>	Member	2016-2021	Martin Harmer
<b>Panel of Fellows</b>	Chair	2016-2019	Bill Fahrenholtz
<b>Bulletin Editorial Advisory Board</b>	Chair	2016-2019	John McCloy
	Member	2016-2019	Thomas Fischer
	Member	2016-2019	Chunlei Wan
<b>Society Awards</b>	Chair	2016-2017	Ram Devanathan
	Member	2016-2018	Sharon Marra
<b>Orton Lecture</b>	Member	2016-2019	Paolo Colombo
<b>Purdy Award</b>	Member	2016-2021	Julian Jones
<b>Jeppson Award</b>	Chair	2016-2017	Romain Gaume
	Member	2016-2019	Kristen Brosnan
	Member	2016-2019	Edgar Lara-Curzio
	Member	2016-2019	Erica Corral
<b>Schwartzwalder-PACE Award</b>	Member	2016-2021	Alex Cozzi
<b>Coble Award</b>	Member	2016-2021	Jon Binner
<b>Rustum Roy Lecture</b>	Member	2016-2019	Helen Chan
<b>Richard M. Fulrath Awards</b>	Member	2016-2021	Susan Troiler-McKinstry
<b>W. David Kingery Award</b>	Chair	2016-2017	Arun Varshneya
	Member	2016-2019	Martha McCartney
	Member	2016-2019	Dietmar Koch
<b>Corporate Environmental Achievement Award</b>	Member	2016-2019	Nancy Bunt
<b>Corporate Technical Achievement Award</b>	Member	2016-2019	Don Bray
<b>Varshneya Frontiers of Glass Lectures</b>	Member	2016-2019	John Ballato
<b>Du-Co Ceramics Scholarship</b>	Member	2016-2019	Lisa Rueschhoff
<b>ACerS Medal for Advancement In Ceramic Research</b>	Member	2016-2021	Clive Randall
<b>Education Integration</b>	Chair	2016-2018	Marissa Reigel
<b>Presidential Committee: Influencing Policy Makers/Advocacy Committee</b>	Chair	2016-2017	Mike Alexander
	Member	2016-2017	Paul Ormond
	Member	2016-2017	Amanda Quadling