

Minutes of the COMPRES Executive Committee Meeting, April 10, 2020

Present: Carl Agee (President), Andy Campbell (Chair), Przemek Dera (Vice Chair), Tom Sharp, Heather Watson, Mark Rivers (Facilities Committee), Suki Dorfman (EOID Committee).

Absent: Anat Shahar

Agenda Wednesday, April 10, 12:45 PM CDT

12:45 CDT Approval minutes from March 13, 2020 (in Dropbox) (Andy)

12:50 Year-4 budget update (Carl)

1:05 Annual Meeting update (Carl)

1:15 Nominations Committee update (Carl)

1:20 NSF COVID-19 Office Hours (Carl)

1:30 Infrastructure Bill (Carl)

1:35 Beamline Scientist searches (Carl)

1:45 PM Adjourn

Minutes

12:45 CDT Approval minutes from March 13, 2020 (in Dropbox) (Andy)

Przemek moved for vote, Andy seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

12:50 Year-4 budget update (Carl)

Carl submitted COMPRES annual budget request about 3 weeks ago and it was forwarded by David Lambert to the NSF Grants Office for approval. Carl was contacted about a week later to revise the budget with a plan for surplus funds from year-3. Currently the budget is being revised with input from the COMPRES subawards.

Mark indicated that he communicated with David Lambert and Russell Kelz about COVID-19 response at GSECARS (Peter Eng is developing a face mask decontamination device).

1:05 Annual Meeting update (Carl)

A notice about postponing deadlines was sent, but the final decision about canceling the meeting due to COVID-19 has not been made. Carl is trying to communicate with the hotel/conference center, but they are closed and are not responding to emails or phone calls.

A possible virtual annual meeting might need to be scaled down (maybe half day, or one full day at most). The Business Meeting has to be carried out (voting, elections, project updates). Adding some science program to a virtual meeting might be a necessary component to attract participants to attend. Job networking for students/postdocs is also a component that benefits from annual meetings and may need to be included in a virtual meeting.

Suki suggested to explore other workshops and activities that could be organized online to maintain a sense of community.

Annual meeting keynote speakers could be approached with invitation to present their talk via teleconferencing.

1:15 Nominations Committee update (Carl)

Jay Bass is chairing the committee. Carl to talk to Jay today about updates. Deadlines for the nominations are related to the date of the annual meeting, and are currently uncertain.

1:20 NSF COVID-19 Office Hours (Carl)

Carl attended the webinar.

1:30 Infrastructure Bill (Carl)

NSF is not expected to receive significant pandemic relief related funding in the first round, but this might change in the future.

1:35 Beamline Scientist searches (Carl)

There are two positions that COMPRES is trying to fill, one at Sector 3 at APS and one at the ALS beamline. Both vacancies continue to generate budget surpluses. Carl uploaded to Dropbox documents describing the current status of beamline scientist searches.

1:45 PM Adjourn