

Report of the Committee of Qualifications and Membership (CQM) for FY2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

Presented to the Board of Directors for their Meeting on October 25, 2018 at
the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport Hotel in California

Membership of the Committee

For the year ending June 30, 2018, the Committee on Qualifications and Membership consisted of the following members

- **Chair:** Emma Perry, Unity College
- Cristina Gouin, USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection
- HollyAnn Harris, Creighton University
- Douglas Jardine, Kansas State University
- Karen Sweazea, Arizona State University
- Joel Primack, University of California, Santa Cruz, ex-officio
- Geraldine Richmond, University of Oregon, ex-officio

CQM Fall Meeting on October 16, 2017 (virtual)

1. Selection of Chapter Awards

The committee discussed ranking of chapters' annual reports and selected the following chapters to receive the 2017 awards:

Chapter of Excellence Award:

- i. National Institute of Standards and Technology
- ii. Columbia-Willamette
- iii. A tie for third between
 - a. Rice University-Texas Medical Center
 - b. Oakland University

Chapter Program of Excellence Award:

- i. University of Nebraska at Kearney for the Great American Solar Eclipse Panel Discussion
- ii. North Shore for the Marine/oceanography cruise, on the Sea Shuttle Endeavor, sampling workshop
- iii. Ohio State University for the Meet a Scientist program

2. Chapter Petitions:

The committee reviewed and favorably recommended the following:

- i. Installation of a new Sigma Xi chapter at the University of South Florida
- ii. Changing the name of the University of Calgary Chapter to the Calgary Chapter as requested by the chapter to engage other institutions in Calgary

3. Other Recommendations:

- i. Maintain the emeritus dues rate at \$65 per year
 - ii. Add a fixed amount of \$3.00 for each student or professional affiliate to chapters' local support payment
4. Other Business items:
- i. The committee discussed the membership survey draft, which was launched in September 2018

CQM Spring Meeting on March 26, 2018 (Virtual)

1. Chapter Grants

The committee reviewed five SMEE grant and one Diversity grant submissions and selected the following chapters to receive grants for FY2018:

Science, Math, and Engineering Education (SMEE) Grant:

- i. Southern Illinois University Chapter received \$2,000 for the proposal titled "*Building Big Data Research & Teaching Synergy at SIUC*"
- ii. State University College at Plattsburgh Chapter received \$2,000 for the proposal titled "*Real Time DNA Barcoding within the Adirondack State Park*"

Diversity Grant:

- i. Rush University Chapter received \$500 for the proposal titled "*Encouraging research doctoral minority students to participate in annual research presentation through providing awards*"

2. Policies for Establishing Sigma Xi Clubs

The committee discussed guidelines and policies to start Sigma Xi Clubs at K-12 schools according to the bylaws and constitution changes that were approved in November 2016 (Bylaw VII). The committee put forward the following policies:

- I. *Club leader* at the school will become at minimum an active Sigma Xi affiliate
- II. *Club mentor* should be an active Sigma Xi associate or full member
- III. If the club is sponsored by a chapter, the chapter should be in good standing at the time the proposal is submitted
- IV. Any necessary background check will be arranged by the school in accordance with the school and district policies
- V. Sigma Xi Clubs and partnering chapters are eligible to apply for program funding through the Science, Math, and Engineering Education (SMEE) and Diversity grants.
- VI. Schools with an active Sigma Xi Club are eligible for a digital institutional subscription to *American Scientist* magazine
- VII. A special Sigma Xi Explorer group rate will be available to clubs at schools serving predominately students from underrepresented and low income backgrounds. Clubs with 10 or more explorers will receive a 50% discount off regular annual dues

3. Other Business Items

The committee discussed evaluation criteria for chapter awards and recommended that chapters should select one program to nominate for the Program of Excellence Award. A nomination form will be drafted and discussed at the fall 2018 meeting.

Sigma Xi Headquarters Staff Contact:

Eman Ghanem, eghanem@sigmaxi.org