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THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC GLASSBLOWERS SOCIETY

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April 28, 2002

To: ASGS President, Gary Coyne and the BoD
From: Gordon A. Smith, Executive Secretary
Subject: ASGS Executive Secretary Report

I have recently resigned the position of Executive Secretary and David Daenzer will be replacing me at this BoD meeting. Recently, Dave and I had a discussion about the ASGS that resulted in my conclusion that we share a similar vision for our Society. Dave has many talents and a lot of Society experience that will enable him to provide excellent advice and leadership in his new position.

I have initiated the review of our Bylaws by a professional Parliamentarian and I hope to have copies of her recommendations to hand out at this meeting. After this meeting, Gary Coyne will be the new Chair of the Bylaws Committee and he already has some thoughts about how and when to implement Bylaw revisions.

National Office:

The National Office is functioning well in spite of the fact that Dawn has been plagued with recent medical problems. Hopefully, the procedures that she recently has gone through will result in some well-deserved relief. Dawn has accepted a continuation of her annual contract with no increase in compensation.

Insurance:

Heritage Insurance Agency, Inc. continues to handle all of our insurance coverage. They continue to do a satisfactory job.

It has been my hope that once we have our Bylaws in order, We will began to follow a procedure for modifying Bylaws that I outlined in my November 2001 report. I have included this recommendation on the next page of this report. Please take the time to read it. When our Society finally has a new set of clean and clear Bylaws, it will be important to keep them that way. I feel that my recommendation will help us to accomplish this effort.

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Recommendation:

First, committees that are effected by the proposal must review the Bylaw amendment proposal.


Second, if needed, the proposed Bylaw amendment can be addressed at a BoD meeting. A non-binding "consensus" vote can be taken. This action allows the Directors to go back to their members and present to them the issues pertaining to the Bylaw. The Directors will then have a better feel for the opinion of their Section members.

Third, the Bylaws Committee must review the proposed Bylaw amendment. It is the Bylaws committee that acts as a reference committee to help expedite the amending of Bylaws. The Bylaws committee can provide an informal setting where members can raise questions, state objections, or give suggestions for improvement of the proposed Bylaw changes. The committee can reevaluate the proposed amendments and make changes that are more acceptable to the original author and the membership. In most cases, the controversial issues can be resolved without changing the intent because the Bylaws committee can then propose a compromise amendment before the next Board meeting. Hopefully, the reviewed Bylaw changes will be in a form that is acceptable to the BoD and then they will be able to proceed with implementation.

Fourth, the reviewed Bylaw amendment should be placed before the BoD for passage or rejection.

I believe that if we follow this procedure, we will not only save time, but also, we will succeed in making cleaner, more logical and acceptable modifications to our Bylaws.

Respectfully submitted,



Gordon A. Smith, ASGS Executive Secretary

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