

Minutes of WSSA Executive Council Meeting
September 21, 2019
8:30 am – 10:00 am

Present: Larry Gould, Executive Director; Kate Herke, Communications Director & On-Site Conference Manager; Debra Andrist, President; Christopher Brown, Immediate Past President; Mary Jo Tippeconnic Fox, President-Elect/Program Chair; Diane Calloway-Graham, Vice-President/Secretary; Guadalupe Correa Cabrera, Council Member; Jessica Clark, Council Member; Chris Erickson, Council Member; Stephen Mumme, Council Member; Monica Gallamore, Council Member; Meghna Sabharwal, Council Member; William Pederson, Council Member; William Schaniel, Student Grant & Awards Coordinator; Dianne Berry, Program Editor; Guadalupe Correa Cabrera, Council Member; Chris Erickson, Council Member;

Not Present: Jesus Ruiz Flores, Council Member; Karen Jarratt-Snider, Council Member

Decisions:

Code of Conduct: Discussion of changing the wording from Code of Conduct to Conference Etiquette as suggested by Jessica Clark. Council members agreed this was a good title.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Jessica Clark and second by Chris Erickson. Unanimously

Kate suggested that we just make a policy that says in a virtual meeting it is assumed that everyone votes yes and will be given an opportunity to say nay. Council members can send any ideas ahead on discussion items and reports are send ahead in writing.

Reports:

Editors Report: The transition to Routledge according to the SSJ Editors is going smoothly. The journal seems to be flourishing in reference to number of submissions and the representation of a variety of disciplines.

Financial Report: We received a signing bonus of \$15,000 from Routledge. The associations finances will be tight up until the end of the year and this is not usual for how the budget operates. We have no outstanding bills.

Review of Role of Advance Team and related duties & costs: Debra indicated that having the advanced team go on-site prior to the conference has been good publicity. Larry suggests that we have an all-day meeting on Friday in the Fall and focus on decisions we have to make and less on planning. Most of the council would do Zoom.

Review of general conference costs: Larry indicates it is about balance. Student workers has been an expense and we need to think about how we are approaching this. Kate indicated if we cut out on-site registration that she would still need a few student workers. It is a challenge for international participates to register online. Kate is constantly supporting working with international registrations. We are changing our culture on everyone being registered and wearing their official name tag. Kate mentioned that 40 people were removed from the program and that is a big loss of income for the association.

Discussion:

Update WSSA history for 60th in Denver (Larry): Denver is where we originally started as an organization. Larry is going to visit the archives in Denver and pull out more of our history. He indicated we will put together something but not as extensive as the one that we did for the 50th Anniversary.

Newsletter Assignments: Kate is gathering ideas from the council members. The winter newsletter will go out by the first of January and due date for abstract of the article by December 1 and the deadline for the actual article by January 1. Regular section in newsletter that highlights sections.

Discussion of details for future meetings: Larry has scheduled us into 2025. Finding facilities that meet our needs is always one of our challenges. Where we go will be contingent on if a name change happens for the association. Monica mentioned thinking about coming to the Dallas area.

Student Paper Competitions Committee: Jessica Clark, Bill Pederson, and Monica Gallamore have agreed to serve on the committee as readers.

WSSA Website: Kate requested that all of us look at the website and let her know if there are some ideas for improving it.

General Policies and Information: We need to make sure that the following policies and information are clear and understandable on the website including ADA, Zoom policy, recording policy, refund policy, audio/visual information, and Code of Conduct policy.

Hotel Costs: Larry suggested we revisit this. We will most likely not go back there because of the expense. When we break the costs down in more detail we just need to consider some changes like more effectively monitoring the two-drink limit.