

NCSA New Council Meeting

Minutes

Pittsburgh, PA
April 10, 2005

Attendance: Kathy Feltey, Hans Bakker, Jay Weinstein, Michelle Smith, Anna Linders, Bruce Keith, Joe Yenerall, Rebecca Bordt, Marty Schmidt, Dean Purdy, Marty Jendrek, Debra Swanson, Kent Schwirian, Katie Claussen, Fayyaz Hussain, Jay Howard, Peter Adler (MSS President elect), and Susan Alexander.

I CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Kathy Feltey, President, at 9:10 p.m.

II ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Remembering NCSA members Kathy Feltey noted the passing of two long time members of the NCSA: Frank Wesite, Indiana University, and John Schnabel, University of West Virginia.

B. NCSA/MSS Joint Meeting: Peter Adler, MSS President elect, reported on the discussions, to date, with the NCSA committee (Dean Purdy, Bruce Keith, Jay Howard, Jay Weinstein, Tom Calhoun, and Kathy Feltey).

- Representatives from the NCSA and the MSS will be sent each other's mid-year Business Meetings and the committees will meet at the ASA meeting in Philadelphia.
- Each organization will have representatives at each other's annual meeting in 2006.
- The 2007 meeting will have a joint theme and an integrated program.
- The MSS is working with a new software program to integrate the meeting. The joint meeting will have separate registrations but the same membership fee (\$75 estimate)
- Splitting costs, such as the printing of the program, still need to be resolved.
- There will not be power point equipment due to the high cost.
- There will be a joint membership fee for persons wishing to join both the NCSA and MSS.
- There will be four "anchor" talks (Plenary, two president's addresses, and an opening keynote speaker).
- The meeting will run Wednesday through Saturday of Easter week. The timing results in lower hotel costs (approximately \$144 per night at the Marriot on Michigan Avenue)
- The keynote address will open the meeting with a reception to follow. The two Presidential addresses (by Peter Adler and Jay Howard) will be in the late afternoon. The Plenary speaker will close the meeting, with a reception to follow.
- Each organization will have its own Business Meeting.
- Student groups may plan joint activities.
- There will be a larger book exhibit and possibly an "ice cream social" to attract participation.
- Total participation is expected to be between 1,200 and 1,400 persons.

Discussion followed concerning aspects of the joint meeting. A suggestion was made to begin listing information about the joint meeting on the NCSA website in an "In the News" section.

III OFFICERS REPORTS

Past Vice President: Kathy Rowell, not present.

Vice President: Rebecca Bordt reported that the 2006 meeting's theme will be "Making a Difference: Sociology as Social Activism." The 2006 Ruth and John Useem Plenary address will be given by Dr. Walda Katz-Fishman from Howard University

Student Section Chair: Katie Claussen reported that the first meeting of the new Student Section was at 7:30 on Friday. Attendance was low and next year the time slot should be reconsidered. At the meeting information about the NCSA was distributed and contact information was collected. Katie asked NCSA Council members for contact information for their graduate students.

Teaching Section Chair: Debra Swanson presented a motion from the Teaching Committee: *that the Distinguished Contribution to Teaching Award is named in honor of John Schnabel, who founded the teaching award. Additionally, specific teaching sessions, on a rotating basis, would be named in honor of other distinguished teachers.* Keith Roberts is working on the formally wording of the John Schnabel Teaching Award. Motion approved (10-0-1)

Executive Officer: Dean Purdy reported that participation at the meetings is strong. Eleven meeting room have been in nearly continuous use and most sessions had good attendance. Dean suggested the use of posters next year to inform students about various graduate programs.

Secretary: Susan Alexander will make hard copies of the NCSA Constitution available to all NCSA officers, to be distributed at the mid-annual meeting in October.

Treasurer: Marty Jendrek will be unable to report on the final numbers from the meeting until she has time to review the receipts; however, the attendance appears to be up. The NCSA Council thanked Marty for all her work over the past six years as NCSA Treasurer.

Past President: Kent Schwirian, no report.

President Elect: Jay Howard reported on the PPF (Preparing Future Faculty Program). Eight certificates, to date, are to be issued. Attendance was up at the Teaching sessions overall.

The "John and Ruth Useem Plenary Address" was time limited to five years, and the Council should begin exploring the next honorary name – Milton Yinger, past NCSA President, was suggested.

It was suggested that the NCSA website make a place for past NCSA minutes and list the former keynote speakers.

Vice President Elect: Jay Weinstein, no report

IV COMMITTEE REPORTS

Applied and Clinical: Chair to be determined

Community Colleges: Michelle Smith. Not present. A suggestion was made that this committee consider including regional campus members to this committee.

Distinguished Service: Tom Brignall. Not present

Editors, *Sociological Focus*: Steve Carlton-Ford and Paula Dubeck. Not present. Susan briefly summarized key points from their report at the Old Business Meeting, April 7. Discussion followed as to the benefits of Blackwell taking over publication of the journal *Sociological Focus*. The Publication Policy Committee chair, Kent Schwirian, should report on this item at the fall meeting.

Marty Schmidt reported that Paula Dubeck had allocated this time to be used for a discussion of four items that came from a session of past NCSA presidents. 1. That the NCSA work with each state's sociological association to obtain membership lists; 2. That the NCSA list all committees and committee members in the program; 3. That the NCSA expand the meeting to include Thursday evening sessions; 4. That the NCSA consider a response to the growing attacks on academic freedom.

After discussion of these points, it was agreed to send item #1 to the Membership Committee and item #2 to the Program Committee. Item #3 was discussed but rejected. Item #4 will be sent to the Professions, Freedom, and Responsibility Committee and the Policy Committee for consideration and a report is expected at the mid-annual meeting. Kathy Feltey suggested that a survey of the NCSA members would be useful in determining the NCSA members' opinion on an expanded program.

It was agreed that the NCSA website should include a list of all committees and their membership, important links, the student paper winners, and other award winners.

Editor, Newsletter: Joe Yenerall. Joe asked NCSA Council members to send information to him by September 1 for the fall newsletter.

Finance: Harry Potter. Not present.

Local Arrangements: Chair to be determined.

Membership: Bruce Keith and Marty Jendrek. No report.

Nominations: Chair to be named.

Professions, Freedom, & Responsibility: Sara Beth Estes. Not present.

Race, Ethnic, and Gender Equality: Chair to be named. The status of this committee will be considered at the fall Business Meeting.

Scholarly Achievement Award: Bob Shelly. Not present.

Student Representative -- Undergraduate: Patrick Bell. Not present.

Student Awards Committee: Fayyaz Hussain noted the Council decision last year to embed the student paper entries in the program. Discussion followed about this policy. This issue will be revisited during the Fall Business Meeting on October.

Public Policy: Chuck Gallmeier. Not present.

Publication Policy: Kent Schwirian. Not present.

Webmaster: Cindy Saylor. Not present.

Employment Exchange Program: Christopher Bradley, not present.

V ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ad Hoc Awards Committee. Kathy announced the establishment of an Ad Hoc Awards Committee to propose a policy for the NCSA when naming awards. Keith Roberts was suggested as the chair.

VI ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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