

NCSA Mid-Year Council Meeting
Bowling Green, OH
Friday, October 8, 2010, 9:00 am

Present: Hans Bakker (presiding), Susan Alexander, Kevin Christiano, Barbara Denison, Leslie Elrod, Mellisa Holtzman, Anna Linders, Joyce Lucke, Gustavo Mesch (via Skype, for part of the meeting), Melinda Messineo, Larry Nichols, Betsy Ross, Mary Senter.

President Hans Bakker called to order at 9:05 am and welcomed everyone. Nichols moved and Holtzman seconded the **Motion** to approve the agenda as previously amended. **Motion** carried, no nay votes or abstentions recorded. The two sets of minutes presented (Old Council and New Council from April 2010 in Chicago IL) were distributed and corrections made. **Motion** to approve the Old Council minutes as corrected from Linders, second by Ross was approved with no nay votes or abstentions recorded. **Motion** to approve the New Council minutes as corrected from Linders, second by Nichols and **Motion** was approved with no nay votes or abstentions recorded.

Chair recognized Gustavo Mesch via Skype to discuss the editor's report and the proposal to move publication of the journal from Paradigm to Routledge. After Mesch presented the issues, listing some of the problems with Paradigm, and representing the benefits of moving to Routledge, he left the Council to its discussions.

Holtzman move to reorder the agenda and discuss the issue of journal publisher at this point rather than at item 13, Ross seconded the **Motion**. **Motion** approved with no nay votes or abstentions recorded.

Conversation ensued pointing out the positive aspects of moving to Routledge once the contract with Paradigm is completed in November 2011. **Motion** by Holtzman with a second by Linders to accept the recommendation of the Publications Committee to receive a contract proposal from Routledge. This **Motion** is made with the sense to inform the Publications Committee that we are favorable towards moving to Routledge as the journal's publisher. **Motion** carried with no nay votes or abstentions recorded.

Moving on to a report of the electronic Council vote to consider meeting with the Midwest Sociological Society in 2013 in Chicago and instead meet independently in Indianapolis, Bakker informed Council that the vote was clear, with 10 voting to meet independently in Indianapolis, 1 Council member abstaining to vote and 1 Council member not voting. It seems clear, Bakker concluded, that the decision is to meet in Indianapolis in 2013 and whether or not to proceed with a joint meeting in 2016 can be considered at a later date. Senter mentioned the existence of various state associations such as Michigan, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania – perhaps contacting them when NCSA would be in the state about possible collaborations.

Having started the morning contacting Gustavo Mesch due to the time difference, we finally worked our way to introductions of ourselves on the agenda. Information was shared around the table about our work and other activities we wished to share.

Bakker next called on Lucke to present information on our meeting in Indianapolis for 2013. The best proposals for space, free parking, and cost are from properties on the outer ring. The Linders moved and Holtzman seconded that we meet downtown. **Motion** carried with no nay votes or abstentions recorded. **Motion** made by Holtzman, seconded by Ross, to avoid Easter weekend if at all possible. **Motion** carried with no nay votes or abstentions recorded. Lucke will come back to Council with available proposals. Bakker thanked Joyce Lucke for all her work on the 2013 and the other meetings coming up.

Linders moved with second by Ross to begin consideration of properties in Cincinnati for the 2014 meetings. **Motion** carried, no nay or abstention votes recorded.

Next Bakker introduced past president Kathy Rowell's Nominations Report, and with the emailed addition of Lissa Yogan there are 3 candidates for president-elect: Lissa Yogan, Leslie Wang and Peter Meiksins. VP-elect candidate is Leslie Elrod and the committee is seeking other nominations. For Council at large, Mary Senter and Fayazz Hussein are the two nominees.

Beginning our consideration of items 10-12, grave concern was raised about the state of the call for papers and other preliminary program work for the Cleveland meetings. After much discussion Holtzman moved to ask Art Jipson to resign as vice president. Second was from Linders. After discussion the motion was withdrawn. **Motion** from Linders with second by Holtzman to appoint Carrie Erlin to be chair of the program committee for the 2011 meetings in Cleveland. **Motion** carried with no nay vote or abstentions recorded. Hans Bakker will communicate this to Jipson **Motion** by Nichols, second by Ross, that the president should send out a statement to the listserv urging more sessions be proposed and directing submissions to Erlin. **Motion** carried, no nay votes or abstentions recorded. .

Motion made by Holtzman to ask Art Jipson to resign as vice president, seconded by Denison. Discussion followed. As a point of clarification, it was the sense that if Jipson is no longer vice president the president will move to follow the constitution and appoint a replacement. **Motion** amended to say Council authorizes Hans Bakker as NCSA president to have a conversation with Art Jipson concerning his willingness and his ability to continue as vice president given that the program responsibilities have already been reassigned. Amendment accepted. **Motion** accepted, no nay votes or abstentions recorded.

Senter raised a suggestion that if we are trying to raise membership and attendance, putting together some sort of "track" approach for better marketing to targeted groups like the Applied and Clinical sociologists, or community college sociologists. The sense was this is a good idea. Lucke will pass it along to Erlin.

The treasurer's report was presented by Linders, who mentioned the hiring of a new accountant for the same fee as our previous, and now retired accountant, charged each year. She also spoke to the online registration system's effectiveness. **Motion** to accept the treasurer's report made by Ross, second from Holtzman. **Motion** carried with no nay votes recorded or abstentions. Along with the treasurer's report we received the Finance Committee report from Kevin Christiano. While it seems we are on a path towards breaking even, and are okay for the short term, we are not flush and should not be overly optimistic. The Finance Committee would feel better over the

long term if we built a more substantial financial cushion. Bakker expressed our thanks to Linders and Christiano and we concurred with a round of applause for both in appreciation of their efforts over multiple years.

Motion by Bakker, with a second from Holtzman to raise registration fees \$10; a friendly amendment was received to raise undergraduate registration fee \$5 and all others \$10; **Motion** tabled until after the membership report.

Holtzman addressed the membership report next, which contained many, many new ideas for recruiting and retaining members. A discussion ensued surrounding the various issues and ideas raised. Bakker directed people to email Holtzman with suggestions. She reminded us we need an integrated approach to marketing for membership. Bakker thanked Holtzman for her effort and the group assembled agreed with a round of applause for her.

Alexander reported on publicity and the newsletter. Her reported was received and she told us of her efforts to redo the website in open-source. Christiano expressed our thanks to Alexander and we applauded her efforts, the website is gorgeous. She also reported the domain name issue since last year has been resolved.

Bakker taken on chairing the J. Milton Yinger Award committee and Jiehi Li has agreed to be on the committee.

Messineo reported on the John Schnabel Teaching Award committee; a call for nominations will be going out in the newsletter. Bakker thanked her for their work.

A discussion of Norwood's information on the student paper awards followed with the point made by Linders that the undergraduate awards are \$100. **Motion** by Nichols and seconded by Bakker that the committee notify the paper award winners one month prior to the conference with a copy of notification to the president; president Bakker will let Carole Norwood know about this practice. **Motion** carried with no nay votes or abstentions recorded.

Bakker informed members of Council that there are several positions vacant on committees and asked if anyone knows of someone who may wish to serve on a committee please let Bakker know. Among the committees with vacancies are the Scholarly Achievement Award and Yinger Lifetime Achievement Award committees.

At other business, Linders reminded us that there are 2 things to put before the membership at the next election: approve the name change of the Race, Ethnic . . . committee and remove the non-journal student membership category. Denison will put on the ballot. Linders also wondered if we should move the election from January back to December. Council will consider this until the next meeting.

Bakker next mentioned the possibility of a fund raising auction. **Motion** by Bakker with a second from Ross to consider a fundraising silent auction, perhaps in 2012, with an instruction to Lucke to determine legality in each of our upcoming venues when the implementation is imminent. **Motion** carried with no nay votes and one abstention recorded.

As a final thought, Bakker asked if we wished to meet here again next year for the mid-annual Council meeting. A sense of the Council is that Bowling Green is the best choice given its central location, so Lucke was directed to check with the Hampton Inn at Bowling Green to see if these dates are available next year.

Adjournment at 3:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Denison
Secretary