

Minutes
NCSA Old Council Meeting
April 4, 2013
Indianapolis, IN

Present: Steve Carlton-Ford (president), Susan Alexander, Todd Callais, Bob Carrothers, Kent Schwirian, Gustavo Mesch, Jennifer Carter, Barbara Denison, Natalie Haber-Barker, Fayyez Hussain, Rachel Kraus, Melinda Messineo, Annulla Linders, Mary Senter, Larry Nichols, Lissa Yogan, Conference Coordinator Joyce Lucke

Call to order at 6:23 pm, Vice-President Todd Callais presiding for the opening of the meeting.

After introductions around the table, VP Callais moved on to address the approval of minutes from the mid-annual Council meeting held October 2012 at Bowling Green, OH at the Pittsburgh, PA meetings. **Motion by Rachel Kraus, second by Mary Senter to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.**

Skipping for the moment to the Vice President's report, there were 130 sessions proposed and roughly 90 sessions went through. The average number of papers submitted to a session was 2 so 270 proposed papers, all of which found a home, 10-15 were withdrawn and no sessions were cancelled within the last month. 383 unique people with 540 program entries. A brief discussion over the interest for having presenters' emails and also an index to the program followed.

At this point in the meeting, President Steve Carlton-Ford took over presiding at the meeting,

Motion: Rachel Kraus moved to have a check off box on the submission form indicating if a participant does not want their email published in the printed program, with Lissa Yogan seconding. A discussion about the legalities of having the emails published followed, along with the expression of opinions that people want to have access to presenters' emails for networking purposes. **Motion carried with no nays or abstentions.** A follow-up discussion on having an index of participants indicating their sessions came to a consensus that the Program Committee will handle that discussion.

President Steve Carlton-Ford briefly reported he has his address prepared and then moved on.

Anna Linders spoke next, giving the Treasurer's Report. She reported we are in good shape, things are about even and reflect some stability over the short term. This being Anna's last report as treasurer, the gathered Council gave her a round of applause led by Mary Senter in appreciation of her hard work.

The Teaching Section report was presented by Melissa Messineo. She reported that the First Annual Pre-Conference with AKD was a success and at least some part of those attending the pre-conference indicated they were staying for the full conference. She thanked AKD for their support. Lissa Yogan spoke to the High School workshop, saying this year we do have a workshop with 12 registrants, and that it seems the conference is not self-sustaining without a different budget model. Some ideas on reducing the hotel-related costs, as well as reflections on the problems of attracting registrations to this type of workshops were shared.

Mary Senter returned to the conversation about the Pre-Conference, praising Melissa Messineo's leadership role to a round of applause recognizing her efforts.

Melissa Messineo went on to give the Teaching Section report highlights, noting the various sessions and other program components they have put forward.

Jen Carter reported for the Student Section. The increased interest in Tweeting from the conference was mentioned and we will be tweeting #NCSA Indy. She also reported that students from a wide variety of institutions were contacted, and a list of participants on the committee is in the report. We recognized the success of Jen Carter's term as Student Section chair with our applause.

Anna Linders reported for the Aida Tomeh Award committee that the recipient is Jay Howard.

Applied and Public Committee report was given by Natalie Haber-Baker, who said she hopes to go to sessions where people presenting applied work will be contacted and asked to join the work of the committee.

Community Colleges Committee has a meeting scheduled on Saturday.

Membership report was given by Bob Carrothers, who said the brainstorming he attempted decreased after the last meetings, and he is open to any suggestions and ideas on increasing membership. He thought the survey looked good.

Nominations report was given by Larry Nichols, who stated they were successful getting a slate of candidate ready before the end of 2012 and this was achieved. Some comments about how to better run the technology of voting electronically were shared.

The Profession, Freedom and Responsibility Committee report was presented by Fayyaz Hussain, who addressed the problems of definition with regards to the mission and purpose of this committee. Because of confusion over this committee purpose, he suggested the name of the committee be changed to "The Committee on Professional Ethics." It was suggested that there are other activities possible besides ethics, so perhaps the name should be "Professional Ethics and Responsibilities" or something like that. **Motion by Jen Carter, second by Todd Callais, to charge the Profession, Freedom and Responsibility Committee to create at least one session on professional development issues for each conference. Motion carried, no nays or abstentions recorded.**

The Publication Policy Committee report from Kent Schwirian indicated the search for a new *Focus* editor was moving ahead. Gustavo Mesch continued on with his report from *Sociological Focus*, mentioning the increasing internationalization of submissions from areas of the world not typically submitting before. He also spoke to the steady receipt of submissions and the indexing of the journal. The waiting time for publication is about one year. Some figures on circulation from Taylor and Francis Publishers should be available to Council in the meeting on Sunday. A hearty round of applause was made by Council thanking Gustavo for his hard work.

The Public Relations report was given by Susan Alexander, who mentioned the newsletter, the listserv and other activities of public relations. One area of conversation surrounded the handling of communications to the Association membership. Discussion followed on the types of email lists we seem to have within the association, and President Steve Carlton-Ford called for there to be a re-examination of the constitutionally defined roles and the current contract language between public relations coordinator and conference coordinator positions. He will take the responsibility to bring this back to New Council on Sunday.

Moving on to the Scholarly Achievement Award, Steve Scanlon could not be present but his report was read noting the winner. Steve did resign from being the chair due to other obligations and president-elect Lissa Yogan will be considering a replacement.

The Student Sociology Conference has 7 sessions, Joyce reported.

Conference Coordinator Joyce Lucke reported that we have 10 breakouts being used completely and continuously throughout the two days of the conference. The conference program is glossy, full-color as requested. The problem

Melinda Messineo announced that the Future Faculty and Professional Development check sheets are at the desk, please encourage the appropriate people to participate in these processes.

A question about finding the cost of having projection and internet capabilities in each room was raised, and Joyce was tasked to find out how much that cost would be.

Old Business: Larry Nichols once again reminded us of the charge to research into the suggested inequality by gender of NCSA officers, especially presidents, over the past decades. The Equality and Inclusion Committee, it was noted, will be taking on that task and bring a report to the Mid-Annual meeting.

New Business: Larry Nichols reported that there will be an issue of *The American Sociologist* on the regional associations and he solicited papers.

Joyce Lucke said the mid-annual meeting would be October 4th or 11th; given that BGSU has homecoming October 5th the meeting is October 11, 2013.

Meeting declared adjourned by President Steve Carlton-Ford. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Jones Denison, NCSA Secretary