

Minutes

**Western Political Science Association
Executive Council Meeting
Thursday, March 16, 2006
Hyatt Regency, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Sierra Vista Room
8:00 AM - 11:45 AM**

Members Present: President Ron Schmidt, Sr.; Vice President Valerie Martinez-Ebers; Treasurer Gilbert St. Clair; Recording Secretary Barbara Morris; Council members Shaun Bowler, Edwina Barvosa-Carter, Clive Thomas, Noelle Norton, Lori Cox Han, Sonia Garcia, Susan Burgess, Joel Kassiola, Gary Segura, Howard Gillman, David Camacho

Ex-Officio Members Present: Executive Director Elizabeth Moulds, Associate Director Elsa Favila, PRQ Editors Harold Clarke and Ken Godwin, PRQ Managing Editor Ron Hrebenbar, and Past President Barbara Norrande

Members Absent: Todd Donovan

Guest Present: Peter Steinberger, Andrea Simpson, Tim Krebs, Kristin Hill Maher, Amy Mazur, Cornell Clayton, Catherine Rossbach, Burke Nagy, Jessica Taverna, Chao Vang, and Victoria Farrar Myers

Call to Order: Meeting called to order 8:10 AM

I. Introductions

Special Introductions- Incoming PRQ Co-Editors, Amy Mazur and Cornell Clayton, Jessica Taverna PRQ Administrative Support, Chao Vang WPSA Technical Support

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 2005 Executive Council meeting were approved without change.

III. Reports

A. Executive Director

Fall Work:

The bulk of the work during the fall was site prospecting for 2009 and 2010 to take advantage of a potential Hyatt Hotels "large hotel deal" after our the signing of San Diego 2008. Three future sites were reviewed: San Antonio, Vancouver, and San Francisco. Contracts were signed with 2009-Vancouver Hyatt Regency

2010 - San Francisco Hyatt Regency

We hope to be able to find an advantageous contract for 2011 or 2010 in San Antonio.

Much of the fall was spent planning the details of the Albuquerque meeting. Further, time was spent following up on two policy areas acted on by the Executive Council in September. Child

Care: given low demand, most of the services we will be able to provide involve information about local resources. Investment policy: An Investment Policy Committee comprised of Gil St. Clair, Dale Marshall, and Chris Garcia have recommended a draft policy to the Executive Council. Membership: Individual membership is down slightly. Awards: we have a complete set of awards this year.

Upcoming work: new relationship with University of Utah and Sage Publications and new editors of PRQ. Elsa and Betty will close out Albuquerque books in a few weeks. Planning for Las Vegas, Peter Steinberger is the program chair and a call for papers has already been sent. We anticipate a lot of activity. Betty was asked to sit on APSA committee which reviews the Annual Meeting.

B. Program Chair's Report: Valerie Martinez-Ebers

Val reported that we have 150 Albuquerque panels, excellent pre-conference workshops, and wonderful receptions

C. Local Arrangements, Albuquerque: Tim Krebs

Costs were a little higher this year, we are hoping to meet goal with walk in registrations.

Local Arrangements, Las Vegas

The convention will be held March 8-10, 2007 at the Riviera Hotel (north section of "the Strip", and reachable by the new tram. The meeting room space is all in the Riviera's convention center in back of hotel \$104.00 is the room rate. Local arrangements host will be the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The arrangements are being handled by Ted Jelen, Michelle Kuenzi, and Ken Fernandez.

D. Nominating Committee Report: Valerie Martinez Ebers (Manny Avalos ill and could not be present)

The Committee recommended the following individuals:

Vice President and Program Chair, 2007 – 2008

Andrea Y. Simpson, University of Richmond

Treasurer, 2006 – 2009

Gilbert St. Clair, Southwestern University

Executive Council 2007 – 2010

Region A

Lisa Garcia Bedolla, University of California, Irvine

Charles C. Turner, California State University, Chico

Region B

John G. Bretting, University of Texas at El Paso

Region C

Ange-Marie Hancock, Yale University

E. Financial Report- Gil St. Clair

Gil reported our net assets to be \$243,257.86 (up from \$219,256 last year).

F. PRQ Report- Harold Clarke, Ken Godwin

Our new Editors from Washington State University- Amy Mazur and Cornell Clayton, will begin their term on June 1, 2006. This year there was a tie for the best PRQ article.

There was a comment by Joel Kassiola regarding journal submissions and panel presentations at the WPSA in the areas of gender and theory. Susan Burgess added that the association is also at the forefront on politics and sexuality and the journal should also reflect this.

Council discussed professional courtesy by reviewers. Gary Segura made the suggestion that new editors give instructions for reviewers. Andrea gave the suggestion that the editors should make available examples of good reviews. Ron Hrebenar also added that we should mentor colleagues on how we discuss and chair panels. Edwina Barvosa-Carter suggested that editors tap into caucuses and task forces for help in soliciting submissions. She also suggested that panel organizers discuss with chairs and discussants professional courtesy and reviews. Amy Mazur suggested having a round table on this topic. Shaun Bowler thanked Ken and Harold for the work they have done, including raising the prestige of the journal and availability through JSTOR. Executive Council formally thanked editors.

G. Membership Report: Elizabeth Moulds

Elizabeth Moulds reported that our individual membership is at 922 (down 6 from last year) and that our library subscription level is at 898 (down 47 from last year).

Howard Gillman began a discussion regarding membership, retention, and increasing our base.

Gary Segura linked our pre-conference workshops to nationalizing our association.

David Camacho discussed two phenomena- part time and full time faculty, and research and teaching institutions. Joel Kassiola added that we could have a niche that would aid our members such as workshops on teaching and writing. Elizabeth Moulds noted that we targeted the community college faculty in Oakland – unsuccessfully. Noelle Norton agreed that marketing is critical. Cornell Clayton discussed job placement. Also noted was the need for financial support. Clive Thomas noted the intimidation factor.

H. Membership Committee Report: Victoria Farrar Myers

Committee has been gathering data and will take into advisement previous discussion.

IV. Old Business

A. Convention Sites: 2009 and 2010- Elizabeth Moulds

Use of Easter weekend allows for cheaper rates (San Diego, San Francisco)

Difficulty of size of association and meeting rooms, sites like to “marry us” with other meetings.

Vancouver March 19-21, 2009 great location, based on exchange rates lines, approx. \$165.00

USD guest room rates, University Of British Columbia will host, contract is signed.

San Francisco, April 1-4, 2010, \$175.00 is guest room rate (over Easter weekend), there is a escape clause for WPSA in contract regarding labor disputes, the site is the Hyatt Regency (Embarcadero). Ultimately we chose San Francisco because we felt there were a number of options in San Antonio in the years after 2010, but San Francisco will have fewer options in the future.

B. Investment Policy: Gil St. Clair

Committee on Investment looked at other associations and how they invest. They recommended a short, simple policy. Gil St. Clair moved to accept policy. Edwina Barvosa-Carter seconded.

Discussion: Policy would allow association to develop endowment. Guidance on paper on how to proceed is a useful tool. Vote: passed unanimously

V. New Business

A. Budget - Gil St. Clair

Gil St. Clair moved to accept the proposed 2006-2007 budget. Valerie Martinez-Ebers seconded
Vote: passed unanimously

B. Convention Cancellation Insurance for Las Vegas. - Elizabeth Moulds

Gary Segura moved, Howard Gillman seconded, and the Council voted unanimously that the Association should self-insure regarding cancellation of the Las Vegas convention.

C. PRQ : New Administrative and Publication Arrangements. Ron Hrebenar

Since 1948 the University of Utah has published the WPQ/PRQ journal. In the last year, there have been a number of concerns that have caused the University of Utah to discuss ending the publication of journal, not the ownership. Lynda Roberts retired, copy editor also retired, this combined with internal audit, showed publication was in deficit. The University of Utah put out bids for production of journal and has chosen Sage as the publisher. Ron introduced representatives of Sage, Catherine Rossbach and Burke Nagy. The proposal: Sage has agreed to a 5 year commitment to publish journal. Sage will offer both print and electronic versions of the journal and will have active marketing. There will be enhanced exposure of the journal in and out of the United States. PRQ will be flagship Political Science journal for Sage.

Discussion: What are the administrative and financial issues for WPSA.

Administrative Concerns: Data base management- who will handle this in the future? We will have to amend MOU. Ron will stay on as Managing Editor

Financial Concerns: Always a slight subsidy for WPSA. We changed dues structure a few years back to clear up links between PRQ and WPSA. There were concerns regarding charges for institutional subscriptions and individual subscriptions. Sage has agreed to maintain price of individual subscriptions, but institutional memberships will increase from \$95.00 to \$195.00. Sage responded that increase to institutions is still below market. Institutional members get advantage of electronic version.

Gary Segura- should WPSA be a revenue source for the University of Utah?

What is bottom line? Part of \$95.00 goes to WPSA, part of the proposed \$195.00 would go to WPSA, what are exact revenue consequences?

Approximately 900 Institutional memberships to date, 50% current revenue goes to WPSA.

University of Utah is not going to split the new revenue at 50%. They want to set a dollar level of support for WPSA – similar to what WPSA has received the past few years. Ken Godwin highlighted the appreciation of the University of Utah and how they have run a deficit for a number of years. He also highlighted the advantage of having the journal electronically.

Howard Gillman asked whether we would have a legal relationship with Sage. Basic financial relationship is with WPSA and University of Utah. Representative from Sage suggested setting up an added relationship directly with Sage. Sage says that MOU would stipulate that WPSA would own membership list and would stipulate price guarantee. There were also questions about web space allocation and what it would be like, and who would have authority over space? Sage representative does not see PRQ as regional journal; it is a ranked Political Science journal and has a worldwide readership. No individual should be able to subscribe without being member of WPSA. Implementation is slotted for March 2007. It may be time to move data

base management to Sacramento. Elizabeth stated that in the short run, if WPSA continues to receive the revenue it has received for the past several years we should be financially secure. We could not afford to have a lower share. Joel Kassiola as a Dean gave a picture of how institutions view journal publications. He stated that in most cases journal publications are utilized for non-financial benefits. Thus you have to weigh costs to non-financial benefits. Harold Clarke highlighted the need to get the journal out on time and to raise the salience of the journal, so as we discuss a new process, we must address these needs.

Amy Mazur noted two issues for MOU. First, in the MOU to make sure editors are not tied to Sage. Second, the MOU must have some stipulation that editors and editorial boards have control over editorial decision making. Ron Hrebenar and Sage stated clearly that they have no intention of controlling editors or editorial boards. Sage representative also noted that editors can select software for submissions and reviewers.

Gary Segura noted that whatever the financial agreement it cannot cost us funds. He also noted that the management and relationship between association, University of Utah, and journal are odd.

Peter Steinberger agreed with Gary that the cost of institutional membership is irrelevant; however individual memberships are a concern. Especially is it a problem if individuals can obtain journal from library electronically? Will that impact individual subscriptions? Ron Hrebenar will commit to contributing \$42,000 at least to the WPSA for the next five years. Main concern is to maintain association memberships. 920 individual memberships -about 400 pay University of Utah through journal subscriptions, the remainder pay through meeting registration.

Plan of Action - meeting to discuss concerns will begin this afternoon by subcommittee. WPSA will begin drafting MOU's. Elizabeth Moulds will keep the council informed electronically over the months leading to council meeting at APSA.

Motion to adjourn: Ron Schmidt Sr., Seconded by Noelle Norton. Adjourned 11:50 AM.