

Minutes
WPSA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Thursday, April 18, 2019
Manchester Grand Hyatt
Room: Bayview
San Diego, California
8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Members Present: Janni Aragon, Michael Bowers, Mark Brown, Mark Button, Tony Carey, Jason Casellas, Valeria Chapman, Lan Chu, Richard Clucas, Shirin Deylami, Elsa Favila, Mario Feit, Farah Godrej, Mario Guerrero, Steven James Johnston, Jane Junn, Natalie Masouka, Jessica Lavariega Monforti, Jamie Mayerfeld, Stephen Nicholson, Valerie O'Regan, Sarah Shair-Rosenfield, and Sophia Jordan Wallace.

Members Absent: Toby Rider.

Guests: Ian Balisy, Christina Bejarano, Andrew Dilts, Cory Gooding, Tim McCarty, Huw Price, and Rogers Smith.

Meeting called to order at 8:17 a.m. by President Jane Junn

I. Approval of Minutes

A. August 2018 WPSA Executive Council Meeting

B. February 2019 WPSA Action Without a Meeting

Motion to approve both August 2018 and February 2019 minutes by Jessica Lavariega-Monforti, Second by Janni Aragon, motion passed.

II. Reports

A. President's Remarks: Jane Junn welcomes gathering, and everyone present introduces themselves. Junn recognizes the service of Elsa Favila, associate director, for her 35th year as part of the organization. A beautiful gift of jade is presented.

B. Executive Director's Report: Richard Clucas thanks President Junn for her service as president. He reports on the successful conference in San Diego, the largest ever. He highlights special events during the conference, including workshops, and community college involvement. He recognizes Jamie Mayerfeld's service as program chair for the San Diego conference. He thanks Cory Gooding, the local arrangements team for generously providing a guide for participants. He discusses plans for the 75th anniversary conference in 2022 in Portland, Oregon, and suggests a special committee to plan special events for this

- anniversary conference. He discusses the two major publications the association produces, PRQ and PGI. The association signed a seven-year contract with Taylor and Francis to continue publishing PGI. He has been working on the creation of a new award for best article for PGI. He also handled the issue of amending the bylaws for the possibility of co-winners for the PRQ best article award. He noted that he would like a volunteer to assist in putting together the association newsletter. In terms of policy, he also noted the creation of the anti-harassment policy of the association. He also noted the administrative tasks including a report on financials, targeted outreach, and the 2023 and 2024 planning.
- C. Program Chair's Report: Jamie Mayerfeld thanked Richard and Elsa for making his job easier. He noted the high pre-registration rates of 1,178 individuals. He also encouraged attendance at the lectures by Janet Napolitano and Rogers M. Smith.
 - D. Local Arrangements San Diego: Cory Gooding and Tim McCarty discussed the guide they created for participants and the 24 volunteer undergraduates who helped with registration.
 - E. Local Arrangements Los Angeles 2020: Andrew Dilts discusses plans to make next year's participants welcome in Los Angeles. Loyola Marymount has pledged resources and undergraduate students to assist with the conference. Mario Guerrero asks about public transport in L.A. and suggests Burbank and Long Beach as good alternative airports. Also Santa Monica train to downtown.
 - F. Nominating Committee Report: Richard Clucas noted Ricardo Ramirez nominated as Vice President and Program Chair and noted the elections would be held at the business meeting on Friday at 5:15 p.m.
 - G. Financial Report: Michael Bowers submitted his report, which can be viewed for more details. The association has \$1 million in assets with membership and registration fees as main source of income.
 - H. PRQ Report: Sophia J. Wallace presented the PRQ report, which can be viewed for more details. The editorial team is composed of several field editors who are responsible for manuscripts in their respective areas. She noted that there have been 147 articles submitted since January 1, 2019. She expects approximately 550-600 submissions by year's end. She noted about 5 days turn around time for desk rejects, 63 days for rejections, and 80 days for revise and resubmit. The desk reject rate is 43%. Steve Nicholson asks about desk reject rate and whether it is an increase. Wallace responds that this rate is in line with other journals. Richard Clucas asks about the lower numbers of theory submissions. Wallace suggests it could be because of categorization but was not sure why. Sarah wonders whether the percentage is lower because of the higher number of submissions in other areas. Jane Junn asks for follow up from PRQ and PGI editors regarding the desk reject figures. They should report back to the

council regarding how the desk reject rates compare to other journals controlling for submissions and other relevant variables. She also would like more investigation of political theory and why the numbers are down with an action plan to change this. Mark Button asks about environmental politics and the issue of how this field is classified. Wallace says this can fall into public policy or public law. Junn suggests the possibility of the creation of a publications committee to monitor these issues. Lan notes she coded categories when she was APSR assistant.

Motion by Sarah to follow up on these three items by August 2019 meeting, Seconded by Jessica Lavariega Monforti, motion passed. Motion by Sarah to create an ad hoc publications committee chaired by outgoing President Junn with Steven James Johnston and Lan Chu as members. Mario Guerrero seconds, motion passed.

- I. PGI Report: Valeria Chapman is present as part of editorial team. Sage representative discusses his pleasure with the journal. Richard asks about royalties which went up and then fell. No clear answer but follow up will occur. Valeria reports the renewal of contract, 169 submissions in 2018. Discusses format of journal with original research, dialogue sections, and review essays. Citations are up with online first helping. PGI will publish a special 25th anniversary issue on the publication of Michael Dawson's Behind the Mule. She noted the 20% acceptance rate, 15 weeks for time to decision. PGI is very active on social media and twitter, but would like a social media coordinator. Richard asks about subscription rates and Sage suggests academics contact their libraries.
- J. WPSA Committee on Information Technology: No report given.

III. **Old Business**

- A. Future Convention Sites: Elsa Favila, Richard Clucas discusses the rotation and in particular why the conference is not in San Antonio this year. California members cannot travel to Texas on state funds due to California Attorney General's ruling. In 2021, we will be in Seattle, and in 2022 we will be in Portland, Oregon. Mark suggest Salt Lake City, UT as an option. Valerie asks about Orange County because of Disneyland. Richard asks for a vote giving him the authority to negotiate terms for 2023 in San Francisco and 2024 in Vancouver, BC. Valeria motions, Sarah seconds, motion passed.
- B. Anti-Harassment Policy: Christina Bejarano reports on proposed revisions to include definition and when it occurs. She noted the MPSA is also working on this and the sharing of information is advised to make sure everyone is on the same page. The possibility of an ombudsman either available in person or by phone is an option. Third party reporting sites have also been used in the past by other organizations. Jane Junn suggests that the August meeting should

- have a more in depth discussion on this issue. She notes the importance of dealing with the issue of bystanders. She is concerned about due process as well. She asks Bejarano to stay on to at least August to see this through. Jessica Lavariega Monforti voices support for third party ombudsman and Jane Junn also notes the financial concerns as well. Valeria Sinclair Chapman notes the issue of liability has to be discussed, including relevant legal issues. Cory Gooding notes the Title IX office of his university is active. Janni Aragon asks about Vanessa Tyson and whether the association will support her. Richard suggests moving this issue to new business.
- C. Independent Accountant Financial Review: Richard Clucas, Michael Bowers. Several years ago, the Executive Council asked Richard to look into having an outside CPA conduct an audit or review of the Association's books. The presentation at this meeting was to give the CPA's final report to the council. The CPA found that the association's finances looked good.

IV. New Business

- A. Budget: Michael Bowers proposed budget notes higher accounting and legal fees because of the review but everything stable.
- B. Sick Leave Policy: Elsa Favila notes that the association needs to have a formal sick leave policy for employees due to California law. Richard presented proposed policy. Michael Bowers motions, Sarah seconds, motion passes.
- C. PGI Best Article Award: Valeria Chapman, Richard Clucas note new best article award similar to PRQ's award should be created. Funding by Taylor and Francis will be \$500 award. Motion by Sarah second by Jessica, motion passes.
Chapman also proposes increasing form 4 to 5 issues per year. Motion seconded by Sarah, motion passes.
- D. Making the WPSA More Climate Friendly: Jamie Mayerfeld proposes committee to create climate friendly association. Sarah motions, Tony seconds, motion passes.
- E. APSA Initiatives—Rogers Smith addresses council on higher ad challenges and highlights four APSA initiatives: 1. Public scholars program, 2. Online teaching resources, 3. Teaching in research and peer to peer pedagogical (P4) initiative, and 4. Professional behavior.
- F. Staff Pay—Richard Clucas proposes raise to Jason, the technological associate who has been transporting equipment for 9 years. His current pay is \$20 per hour. Suggests \$30 per hour. Motion by Sarah, Cory seconds, motion passes.
Also proposes raise for Elsa Favila, whose current salary is \$46,232. Jane Junn Proposes 15% raise. The proposal also called for giving both Elsa and Jason yearly raises based on increases in the consumer price index. Motion by Sarah, Cory seconds, motion passes.

- G. Adding Criteria for Betty Moulds Award to Formal Policy Document: Stephen motions, Jason seconds, motion passes.
- H. Janni Aragon asks about support for Vanessa Tyson. More details need to be ascertained by the director about the nature of support and liability issues.

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m. by President Jane Junn

Respectfully submitted by Jason P. Casellas, Recording Secretary.