

Minutes

**Western Political Science Association
Executive Council Meeting
Thursday, August 30, 2007
Hyatt Regency Chicago
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Peter Steinberger, Andrea Simpson, Gilbert St. Clair, Gary Segura, Noelle Norton, Todd Donovan, John Meyer, Ted Jelen, Lisa Garcia Bedolla, Charles Turner, John Bretting, and Ange-Marie Hancock.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Elizabeth Moulds, Elsa Favila, Amy Mazur, John Francis (for Matthew Burbank), and Valerie Martinez-Ebers.

Members Absent: Victoria Farrar Myers, Lori Cox Han, Kristin Hill Maher, and Richard Clucas.

Guests Present: Burke Nagy and Jaclyn Huntling, Sage Publications

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by President Peter Steinberger.

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Thursday, March 8, 2007 meeting of the Executive Committee in Las Vegas, Nevada were approved.

II. Reports

A. Executive Director's Report: Elizabeth Moulds

Finishing database transfer was heaps of work. Thanks to Elsa for everything. RFP's were sent to convention bureaus for the 2011 meeting to Phoenix, Tucson, San Antonio, Vegas. Also received bids from Dallas and Austin. Timing of meetings is becoming an issue because Midwest is getting earlier in April. Scheduling meetings in southwest is difficult in March due to tourist season. More work to do on 2011 site plans.

Report from Local Arrangements -site arrangements. Site visit in June was successful. Further planning completed, successful planning was done.

Peter has started planning for the transition/succession committee for Executive Director position.

Elsa: Membership report - membership up. No questions.

B. 2008 Program Chair's Report: Andrea Simpson.

Andrea is pitching San Diego to folks far and wide. Access to Internet in SD will cost \$10. Program Chairs for SD in place since May. 100 submissions already. Attempting to get more 'national presence' in the program. Conference was scheduled during Easter week as the hotel rates were more reasonable in San Diego. Comments - 'good location for a meeting to discuss immigration issues.'

C. Local Arrangements Report: 2007 Las Vegas. Ted Jelen

Ted Jelen asked to comment about Vegas meeting. Ted apologized for the problems that occurred with the Riviera.

D. Local Arrangements Report: 2008 San Diego. Noelle Norton

Unlike Vegas, we might have trouble providing smoking locations / rooms in SD. Other than that, it looks great. Had good meeting in June. 2nd site visit to be early November, **No, Exec Council can't tag along. Barbara Morris co-chair.???** Cabs are easy to find at site.

Question from Gary S: 'we discussed planning family events...any leads? Answer, too hard to figure out, like herding cats. Lisa Garcia ' there are group discounts to be had for Zoo, etc.'

E. Nominating Committee Report. Ron Schmidt (for Barbara Norrander)

The Nominating Committee is recommending the following slate:

VP/Program Chair Christine DiStefano, University of Washington
Executive Council:

Region A:

Susan Baer, San Diego State University

Kim Geron, California State University, East Bay

Region B:

Arturo Vega, St. Mary's University, Texas

Region C:

Julie Novkov, SUNY Albany

F. Long Range Planning. Val Martinez-Ebers for Shaun Bowler.

Val reports Shaun taking lead on a journal proposal. Had five meetings at the APSA Chicago meetings with potential publishers. Making a prospectus for a journal.

G. Succession Planning Committee. Peter Steinberger

Betty's term is up 1 year from September. She can accept 1 additional year. We must plan for transition. Best to select new person Fall 2008 or early 2009 so Betty can help train.

Peter: draft of plan proposes a bylaws change to Article 10, Section 11. Please read proposed change to bylaws. Staff should serve at pleasure of the Executive Director. Discussion of a proposed job ad by Peter. Peter: 'documents should not specify details of staffing. Details could be at discretion of Executive Director.

John Bretting comments about course release.

Peter; 'it is expected that the person would be a faculty member or the expectation could be altered.'

JB: Is it beneficial to have Executive and Associate Directors at the same institution? Gets dicey if at different institutions.

Betty: maybe not a problem. Peter: Leave it to whoever we pick. Gary: do we assume any funds from institution, or do we pay as we go? Peter: this will be negotiated. Lisa G: there's not much money out there at most universities to tap into.

H. PRQ: Burke Nagy.

Staff changes at Sage: Burke Nagy will be replaced as PRQ Publications Manager by Jaclyn Huntling. Huntling distributed a 17 page report.

Val: concern from Ken Meier about the review process; about having to sign up to be a reviewer. Does it request too much information? Amy M: we're working on that.

John B: new process caught some people off guard. Amy worried about reviewer fatigue, reminds all that reviews can still be emailed, in addition to being posted on web site.

III Old Business: 2011 Meeting Site. Elizabeth Moulds

Discussion of meeting site rotation: do we stick with southwest for 2011 or change the rotation? An alternative would be go to Portland for 2011 (or LA, or Long Beach), then do SW in 2012.

Elsa working on possible deals with San Antonio at \$199 p night. Dallas \$169 p night. Austin \$209 Maybe Vegas? Another option would be go in mid to late April for better rates.

Gary: Motion to see if we can get San Antonio @ \$199, or explore Portland.

Discussion.

Val: There is nothing in Dallas after 5. Not a good city for us. Comment in favor of Portland.

IV. New Business

A. Mid Year Budget Report. Gil St. Clair

Gil reported that we cleared \$45,000 in Las Vegas and have spent \$45,000 of the \$101,000 in the 2007-2008 budget to date.

B. Bylaws Change

Betty and Peter recommend reducing the number of standing committees as in the proposed Bylaws change distributed with the agenda.

Motion. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

C. Policy Change on PRQ award. Amy and Cornell want to limit each award to a single paper (don't give award to multiple papers if a 'tie). Amy: huge backlog of issues to publish. Motion and unanimous vote that we don't draft a new rule , but use 'moral' persuasion with Award Committee that the sense of the Executive Council is that there should be 1 paper per award.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.