

Midwest Sociological Society 2015 Annual Business Meeting
Sunday, March 29th, 2015 8:00-8:30 a.m. Marriott, Kansas City, MO

Attendance: Phyllis Baker, Ron Berger, Regina Dixon-Reeves, Anne Eisenberg, Xavier Escandell, Tom Gerschick, Sheryl Grana, Michael Haedicke, Geoff Harkness, Doug Hartmann, Keith Johnson, Barbara Keating, Kevin Leicht, Laurie Linhart, Patrick McGinty, Julie Pelton, Tim Pippert, Meredith Redlin, Diane Rodgers, Jodie Simon, Marybeth Stalp, Lisa Thrane, Lauren Tiffany, Gail Wallace, Deb White

Call to Order and Minutes of the 2014 Annual Business Meeting

Kevin Leicht called the meeting to order and asked if there were any changes or additions to last year's Business Meeting minutes. Hearing none, Barbara Keating moved to accept. Phyllis Baker seconded. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Treasurer's Report

Tom Gerschick informed the membership that the MSS has had another very good financial year. Assets under management are close to \$1.6M. He noted that the Board's goal is to increase them to approximately \$3M. While MSS revenue is anticipated to remain relatively constant over the next several years, expenses over that timeframe are expected to increase significantly due to the Executive Director and *The Sociological Quarterly* journal editor transitions. The Board is going to have to remain vigilant regarding expenses. He thanked the Finance Committee, Lauren Tiffany and Tim Pippert for their significant support and assistance over the past three years.

Finance Committee Report

Tim Pippert noted that the Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Fall Board meeting whether to keep MSS investments with Trust Point or to move them. He also noted that the Finance Committee will consider ways in which the MSS can better support adjunct faculty.

Annual Meeting Report

Doug Hartmann thanked Erin Hoekstra and Lauren Tiffany for their considerable assistance in organizing this year's meeting and acknowledged the efforts of Eve Blobaum on local arrangements. He noted that the meeting schedule that Diane Pike created several years ago was working very well. Finally, he was looking forward to reviewing the comments on the annual evaluation to see what attendees thought about this meeting, including how the MSS can improve members' experience.

Past President's Report

Barbara Keating noted that her 4 years on the Board had been great and acknowledged the work of her colleagues who served with her. As the MSS liaison to the ASA, Barbara reported the following: 1) the new MCAT exam will have a significant amount of sociology on it, 2) the ASA is assessing new accountability measures for departments including how much money majors are earning and the degree to which they take career jobs, and 3) it is in the process of revising the Code of Ethics and IRB procedures. As past president, Barbara has been involved in establishing the retiree network along with Tuck Green. Finally, she noted that the reorientation of the Nominations Committee has gone very well and that the next election slate is shaping up nicely.

Report from the 2015 Exhibits Director

Anne Eisenberg noted that the number and variety of exhibitors increased this year. They will further increase next year because the meetings will be bigger due to being in Chicago.

Report from the 2016 Program Chair

Deb White announced the theme for the 2016 joint MSS-NCSA meetings in Chicago: “Inequality, Injustice, and Intersectionality.” She is looking forward to an interesting meeting and looks forward to seeing MSS members there.

Additional Business from the Membership

Patrick McGinty thanked the MSS for its support of the SSSI’s Peter Hall Lecture. He encouraged the MSS to consider how it could be institutionalized so that it perpetuates. As the Graduate Director at Western Illinois University, McGinty appreciated the opportunity to promote his program at the expanded Commons. He encouraged the MSS to enhance their outreach efforts to graduate programs throughout the MSS’s region.

Members transitioning off the Board

Monica Edwards, State Director, Illinois
Tom Gerschick, Treasurer
Betsy Lucal, At-Large Director
Sadie Pendaz, State Director, Minnesota
Tim Pippert, Treasurer-designate, Chair of the Finance Committee
Deb White, Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee

Members transitioning onto the Board

Sheryl Grana, State Director, Minnesota
Doug Hartmann, President
Geoff Harkness, Treasurer-designate/Chair of the Finance Committee
Michael Lacy, At-Large Director
Laurie Linhart, Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee
Diane Pike, Chair, Long Range Planning
Tim Pippert, Treasurer
Diane Rodgers, State Director, Illinois
Deb White, President-Elect, 2016 Program Chair

Kevin Leicht passed the gavel to Doug Hartmann marking the transition from the old MSS President to the new.

Anne Eisenberg moved to adjourn the meeting. Geoff Harkness seconded. Hearing no opposition, Doug Hartmann closed the meeting at 8:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Gerschick, secretary pro-tem