

Midwest Sociological Society Board Meeting II
Friday – Saturday, Sept. 23-24, 2016 Hilton Milwaukee City Center

EXPECTATIONS

Board members are expected to read and thoughtfully consider all documents in advance of the board meeting. Please bring on your tablet or laptop -or print -any documents you might wish to refer to during the meeting.

ABOUT THE CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed on the consent agenda can be moved to the regular agenda for discussion at the request of any board member. All items remaining on the consent agenda will be approved as a group in a single vote, with no discussion. All items on the regular agenda will be discussed.

Lunch available at 11:30am

FRIDAY 12:00-5:00PM

Present: Phyllis Baker, Pamela Emanuelson, Xavier Escandell, Michael Haedicke, Peter Hall, Doug Hartmann, Geoff Harkness, Erin Hoekstra, Meggan Lee, Laurie Linhart, Marlynn May, Lee Miller, Megan Nielsen, Julie Pelton, Diane Pike, Tim Pippert, Meredith Redlin, Diane Rodgers, Jennifer Talarico, Ted Thornhill, Lisa Thrane, Deb White, Akiko Yoshida

President Deb White calls meeting to order at 12:02pm.

- 1. Welcome and call to order/introductions/housekeeping details [5 min]** President Deb White
 - Call for items to be moved from consent agenda to regular agenda.
 - Call for changes/additions to the agenda or the order of the agenda.
 - Request to all board members: When making / seconding / amending a motion, please state your last name first, to assist the secretary.
 - Welcome to new board members

- 2. Approval of all consent agenda items. [<5 min]**
 - a. Minutes of Board Meeting III, by Secretary Lee Miller [Doc 1]
 - b. Minutes of Board Meeting I, by Secretary Lee Miller [Doc 2]
 - c. Report on statistics from the 2016 Annual Meeting, by E.D. Jennifer Talarico [Doc 3]
 - d. Membership report and renewal statistics, by E.D. Jennifer Talarico [Doc 4]
 - e. Report on *The Sociological Quarterly*, by outgoing publisher Wiley-Blackwell [Doc 5]
 - f. Requests for life membership [Docs 6A, 6B, 6C]
 - g. *The Sociological Quarterly* Transition and Strategy Overview by publisher Routledge [Doc 26]

Pelton notes a revision of a name correction in Board III minutes. Miller will highlight names for action items. Minutes will be sent to board by ED as soon as possible.

Call for items to be moved from consent agenda to regular agenda. Hearing none...
Redlin moves to approve Consent Agenda. Hoekstra seconds.
No further discussion. Motion carries (unanimously).

3. Officers' Reports [60 min]

- a. President's Report
- b. Reports on the Upcoming Annual Meeting (Doc 7A)/
Proposed schedule [Doc 7B]

President Deb White
Pres-Elect Phyllis Baker,
Student Director Meggan Lee,
LAC Celeste Campos-Castillo

Baker reports on upcoming meeting. Same submission process as last year. Volunteer session organizers will group papers into sessions. Baker handed out list of session topics, asked for those interested in organizing a session(s). There will be three plenary speakers. Doug Hartmann and Lee Miller will offer "Sociology Under Siege" on Thursday afternoon. ASA can't do the AKD workshop this year because they are doing it elsewhere at that time. Teaching workshop of some sort will be organized internally. Submit ideas to Phyllis. Presidential address will be Friday afternoon. Schedule for awards ceremony was discussed. Routledge is interested in sponsoring an event, possibly the welcome reception. Pub crawl on Friday after the Presidential reception. Thursday night is Trivia night. SSSI banquet is Saturday. Baker will organize morning runs. Linhart will organize early morning yoga. Thornhill suggests *Evicted* author Matt Desmond, author since we are in Milwaukee. He is willing to work on pulling something together. Escandell will work with him.

Laurie Linhart reported on the Couch Stone Symposium: the submission process will be through MSS. One room set aside for Couch Stone/SSSI sessions. Young SI folks will be presenting on a lot of topics exploring SI's importance to sociology and culture. Typically, 100-120 attend the Couch Stone Symposium. Many people belong to both organizations so may not be unique individuals.

Meggan Lee reported that over 150 students attended the student suite. Student Issues Committee will sponsor several sessions. Workshops: "Is graduate school right for me?" and "Applying to grad schools."

Celeste Campos-Castillo – handout on local arrangements. Tours include pub crawl, art museum. Discussion about legal liability for the pub crawl. The Executive Director should look at liability issues and will inform Celeste.

Hartmann mentions digital mini-conference idea. Postponed to future years. Baker already has great program.

First generation activities will again be offered. Rodgers will have an "I'm first" or similar booth. Hope to organize a panel on first generation issues.

- c. Treasurer's Report [Doc 8] / Budget Proposal [Doc 9]

Treasurer Tim Pippert

Overall view of what we are doing. Recognition of Pippert and Harkness for hard work to transfer funds to Vanguard.

Checking account balance \$104,000. Solid buffer. No income, just expenses. Might bring it down a bit. Capital One \$160,000. Deposited \$150,000 (signing bonus from Routledge \$100,000 and good financial year \$50,000) to generate some income on this amount. Old paperwork makes us less nimble. \$800,000 in endowment; \$434,000 in grants and awards; \$150,000 TSQ currently. Board has established

goals of \$2 million in endowment and \$700,000 for grants and awards.

\$1,736,000 in total assets

\$1,400,000 in Trustpoint. Trustpoint has done well by us, but we are moving to Vanguard. Calls for questions.

Discussed move to Vanguard. Past three years, we have discussed movement of funds. Trustpoint has done well for us, Finance Committee felt that \$12,000 in fees was too high. Voted a year ago to move. Did not have safeguards in place to move to Vanguard. Talarico (Executive Director) and Miller (Secretary) will have oversight. We move lines 200, 210, 220 to Vanguard. Finance committee has done a lot of research about how/when to move money. Advice was that as long as you are in the market, timing is less important. Money will be moved one business day next week. Accounts have same names and same exposure to risk. Vanguard does not provide hand holding, committee is not going to play around, there is a middle ground option that rebalances. What are we going to do with \$160,000 in savings account? Maybe put a portion in Endowment? Larger call for ideas? Need to make decision this meeting.

Learned a lot through this first run of budget. Fantastic year last year, overlap during ED transition was shorter than expected, therefore cost less. Routledge bonus made a big difference. Donations to endowment and a good annual meeting also contributed to the good year.

Proposed budget is \$15,000 in red. Reasons include: Agreement with UNO; increased the board meeting cost by \$5,000 (Milwaukee is expensive), Publishing income.

Board needs to vote on Peter Hall's request for an increase of \$2,000 for travel to promote TSQ since the journal is not receiving institutional support. If approved, the budget will automatically revert back to previous number after Peter Hall's tenure, assuming next editors will have institutional support. Discussion about overall support to editors. What is the market and what resources are available? ASA does not pay stipends for any of this, but claims that they provide more office support. Hard to evaluate without any comparison information. Several calls for comparisons to other journals. We need to take care of editors compared to other associations. Course releases and other resources. An awareness of what is happening broadly to the discipline and salaries is important.

Treasurer reviews numbers for TSQ. Can see fluctuations over time. Managing editor – paying two right now during the transition time. That number will decrease once previous editor is no longer working. See income and expenditures. Proposing in the red. Peter Hall request for travel/promotional money is new. Other new proposals: Past President (see new business) go to ASA meetings but don't fund, propose \$500 for travel costs. President Elect (Program Chair) pays own way to Annual Conference and stays longer. Check by-laws. Clarification: At annual conference, "worker bees" get hotel and transportation and expenses, President-Elect and President-Elect-Elect get hotel only.

Discussion: President Elect represents MSS at ASA. In by-laws, President Elect is to be liaison to ASA. Traditionally, no funding to support it. \$500 is not a lot. MSS should have a representative at ASA meeting, but can ask someone who is going anyway. Not critical that it be President Elect.

Suggestion that MSS find out about members' funding levels. We would have more information. Lack of travel money has been a concern for the last 30 years. Ask "How much do you receive annually for travel?" on member survey. MSS needs to offer something that makes people prioritize travel to our conference.

Motion to approve budget as presented made by Hartmann. Baker seconded.

Additional clarification: Peter Hall's funding is in there. President Elect is allowed 3 nights in hotel room for annual conference only.
Budget passes unanimously.

Follow-up question: Why hasn't MSS paid the minority fellowship? Maybe they haven't billed us. In transition. New director and staff changes. They are behind. ED will follow-up with ASA.

4. Committee Chair and Editor Reports [60 min]

- a. Annual Meeting Chair Proposal for 2021 [Doc 10] / Chair Laurie Linhart
2016 Meeting Evaluation [Docs 11A [exec summary] and 11B [complete]]

Laurie Linhart – days of \$129 a night will end soon. Omaha Hilton in 2020. Need to decide for 2021. 2022 will be Chicago. Laurie visited Des Moines and Minneapolis for 2021. Action item: which site for 2021? Hyatt Regency (Minneapolis) proposal conflicts with Passover and Easter. Marriott Downtown Des Moines will be improved. Very eager for our business. See document for two options. Meeting will be at Hyatt Regency Minneapolis in 2018. Laurie recommends Des Moines. March 18-21, 2021. Baker moves to hold 2021 in Des Moines. Redlin seconds. Discussion ensues regarding location options, upcoming locations and cost of conference in given cities. Calls for vote. Motion approved unanimously.

Linhart discusses meeting evaluation survey. Low response rates. Notes need to recruit community colleges. See summary report.

General discussion of last spring's meeting. Poster session resulted not well attended. Commons were well attended. Maybe survey is not the best way to get at attendance numbers. Lack of ice cream at ice cream social was noted. If we want it, we need to serve enough ice cream. Or, do it differently. Response rate concerns. Maybe get survey out sooner? Keep an eye on response rate and then see if we need to offer an incentive to respond.

Baker: asks for suggestions for plenary speakers.

- b. Report from Nominations & Elections Committee [Doc 12] Chair Doug Hartmann

Recommendations from committee. Board needs to vet, edit, make changes, and then approve the slate.

Incoming President: Tom Gerschick, Sheryl Grana

Iowa: Patrick Archer (from committee); Regina Matheson (Dean from same institution as Patrick A.); Patrick Inglis

Kansas: Susan Williams; Jennifer Pearson; Eve Blobaum;

Missouri: (Michael Stout has withdrawn from state director, moved); Joan Hermsen (interim) temporary; Ali Kamali

Discussion includes need to consider diversity of representation on the Board. Table Kansas until tomorrow to allow for further research and review candidates' past participation in MSS.

Doug Hartmann moves to approve the slate (except for Kansas)

Verification of candidates' MSS membership status. Patrick Inglis (IA) is not a current member of MSS.

Jennifer Pearson (KS) has been member most continuously.

Hartmann moves to approve slate (except for Iowa)

Pam Emanuelson seconds.

Further discussion on motion (slate of candidates, excluding Iowa)
Motion is approved (unanimously).

Continued discussion regarding Iowa nominees: The general consensus of the Board is that it does not feel right to nominate a candidate who is not an MSS member (Inglis). Discussion ensues regarding placing two nominees from same institution on the ballot.
Baker moves to suspend by-laws to offer a single person slate for Iowa state director.
Hartmann seconds.
Motion carries (unanimously).

Call for Motion to approve Patrick Archer as sole candidate for Iowa.
Baker so moves.
Hartmann seconds.
Motion carries (unanimously).

FINAL SLATE OF NOMINEES:
Incoming President: Tom Gerschick, Sheryl Grana
Iowa: Patrick Archer
Kansas: Jennifer Pearson; Eve Blobaum;
Missouri: Joan Hermsen; Ali Kamali

c. TSQ Editors Report [Doc 13]

Ed. Peter Hall

Peter Hall circulates several historical issues of TSQ: 1960 (first issue of TSQ) and 1975 (best issue of TSQ).

Hall reports that the editors are working hard to improve the speed with which articles are reviewed. Reviewers declining means longer response times. We have not rejected as many articles. Interested in giving people a chance to publish and would like to give exposure to broader interests. They are trying to make the journal more interactive, and create opportunities to explore controversies/discussions. Hall is interested in getting people outside our network and perhaps outside of sociology to contribute to inform us about things sociologists ought to know. There may be something on the Sociology of Canada in advance of ASA's Montreal meeting. Big board of people prominent in the discipline. Advisory editors who really do the work of reviewing. Douglas Harper on visual sociology (special issues). Special issue articles will run through the same review process. Cover ideas from Routledge: he likes number 5. Its design communicates a break from the past. Routledge is also going to do a big splash at ASA meetings in Montreal. Would like the MSS Past-President to be present at booth. Bottom line, Hall asks for Board's willingness to review for journal. Volunteer and ask your colleagues. Routledge provided a marketing report indicating that Social Forces was only sociological journal to increase impact factor. Goal is to publish interesting, different articles that people want to read. This will positively impact the journal's ranking. Budget issue: MSS is September to September and Colorado State University, the journal's home, is January to December. This has meant issues in paying managing editor.

Discussion: Some years ago TMS ran an article about how to do a review by TSQ editor(s). Session on how to review a journal entry suggested. Would Peter Hall be interested in doing a session? Peter indicated that he would. Positive reception of the idea of other disciplines updating us on issues.

BREAK [15 MIN]

Break: 3:09; Resume at 3:22.

5. Old Business

- a. Executive Office Liaison Position description [Doc 14] **[15 min]** Julie Pelton

Julie Pelton gives some background on new agreement with ED of MSS and UNO. Provides a general sense of what the Executive Office Liaison position would entail. Wording is general to be able to move if institution changes. Liaison will help with institutional memory and policies and procedures. Liaison completes evaluation paperwork and additional paperwork required by UNO. Liaison is a PI on a grant from MSS that pays Jennifer as ED.

Discussion: clarifies that this is an entirely new position. Working on developing this new model. Include a real annual evaluation of the ED. Liaison is not supervisor. The MSS Board is the supervisor. Will bring forward more detailed document to spring board meeting.

Request that Board determine when the Past-President will begin evaluation of ED (according to by-laws). **Executive Committee** will discuss since by-laws do not specify timing of annual evaluation.

- b. Student Director Position Description [Doc 15] **[15 min]** LRP Chair Diane Pike

Diane Pike: Student directors have been engaged in drafting this. This needed to be done once the Meeting Savvy role was eliminated from student director role. Confirmation that Student 1 is selected by Program Chair (grad student is preferred). Their membership, registration, and hotel for annual meeting is paid for by MSS. They should attend spring meeting. Do we want student directors make reports at Board Meetings? If yes, which one gives a report? Language added to student director manual about expectations. Motion to approve document: Hartmann, Seconded by Yoshida. No discussion. Motion carries (unanimously) Board asks that student director manual be revised according to this document. Thanks to all involved for the work put into this. Erin Hoekstra has gone above and beyond.

- c. Future joint meetings with NCSA or other groups **[15 min]** President Deb White

Board should continue to discuss whether or not to have joint meetings. Need to decide about NCSA partnership in 2022 now before Laurie Linhart goes to Chicago to negotiate contract. RFPs go to hotels in January. Joint meetings offer some advantages in terms of contract negotiations and meeting promotion. However, it is more work to organize. Discussion ensues. Positives and negatives of joint conferences. NCSA is in flux and has no ED. Joint meetings mean more work and complications for MSS staff.

Decision is to keep this in mind for tomorrow's LRP discussion.

- d. Dakota merger bylaws change [Doc 16] **[15 min]** President Deb White

Deb White: we voted as a Board to make these two changes to by-laws. Redlin and Emanuelson, as the State Directors from the Dakotas, were contacted to provide feedback.

Redlin proposes the addition of a sentence. From two to one shared memberships. "The directorship shall remain in one state for no more than two consecutive terms."

Confusion about which version of document is the most recent. Tabled until tomorrow to review revised document.

e. Retirement Task Force recommendations [Doc 17] [30 min] President Deb White

Request that the ASA ORN group sponsor a session/discussion for representatives from regional sociological organizations at the 2016 ASA meeting. The session would provide an opportunity for sharing strategies currently used or proposed for supporting retired members. Ted Waggener is willing to represent the MSS. Voted on this in the spring. Ask for a list of ORN members to be used to determine names of MSS members who are involved with the ASA initiative. This can be used by Task Force members as it (or some replacement group) moves forward to implement recommendations. Should have voted on this in the spring. Marlynn May offers clarification. Tuck Green was at ASA meeting learned about this.

White: ASA wanted MSS to act on this during the summer (publicize all of the recommendations).

Hartmann: Bring this to Karen Edwards. So now that we have all the recommendations, what do we need to do?

ASA had a panel and workshop on ORN this year. That group is publishing a book Sociological Journeys (Temple University Press).

Proposal to look at each recommendation individually.

1. Provide lifetime membership information

Lifetime memberships do not make a huge difference in costs. If MSS does not want people to apply for lifetime memberships, we should eliminate category.

2. Provide clearer guidance and criteria for life membership.

Question arises, why make people apply? Some form of application demonstrates commitment to the organization and a desire to become a lifetime member. Suggested that we add the sentence the task force suggests. We could develop a set of criteria, but we don't have them now. Lifetime membership was developed as an honor for those who have long-term contributions/service to MSS. This is a category of retirees. Maybe two different categories. Lifetime members different from retirees.

Suggestion to send back to committee, maybe need to consider different categories.

Motion that Membership committee consider this. Establishing criteria for lifetime membership.

Could accept recommendations for retirees from ORN.

Membership Committee should look at lifetime membership criteria

Emanuelson moves that **Membership Committee** make recommendations to the Board about membership. See recommendations related to Membership and Annual Meeting Fees see ORN items: 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Nielsen seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

3. Recommendations for annual meeting sessions.

Note that group can organize sessions just like anyone else. Brief discussion of forming a standing committee on Retirees in the Discipline and changing dues for retirees. Both would require by-laws changes.

Discussion: Prioritize retired members. Joint meeting of Membership Committee and Retirement Task Force. We do have MSS committees that don't have Board representation.

Can't we make a committee on retirees? See language on handout about responsibilities of committee, if committee is created.

Question: How soon could the dues structure change? Because by-laws changes require membership approval, at least a year.

Discussion continues regarding how to provide a voice to retired members. Ideas include a retiree director and a joint meeting of Membership Committee and retirement group meeting together.

We need communication between the Retiree Task Force and the Board. First, meeting between Membership Committee and Task Force to flesh out how to move forward on making these institutional changes.

In general, the Board supports a lot of what the Task Force proposes, but want the Task Force to work with Membership Committee. Task Force will work with Program Chair to organize a joint meeting with Membership Committee. Deb White will contact Sue Wright about this and annual meetings and events.

f. Recommendation from LRP re: certificates [Doc 18] **[30 min]** LRP Chair Diane Pike

Diane Pike: needs decisions from Board. Problem that they were trying to solve was proliferation of certificates with no guidelines since these are MSS certificates. Some were overlapping. Varied in terms of committee wanting to do the certificates or would ask the ED to do certificates rather than do it themselves. May be seen as too directive or too authoritarian. Hopes the Board can come up with some guidelines/suggestions so committees can go forward for the upcoming annual meeting.

Discussion: suggestion of a moratorium on certificates for the time being, tabling this for at least a year. Allow ED to be in the job a while before we move forward. The Board should be involved in oversight of certificates. Others note that we have postponed this for a while already.

Board does not want certificates to mean additional work for the ED.

Guidelines are in proposal. Program Chair and Program Committee would follow the criteria that the document proposes.

Agreement that this has been terribly problematic in the past. If a committee wants to offer a certificate, they have to gather signatures, they have to follow through, etc. If they don't do it, they would lose approval of certificates. This offers more oversight than in the past. LRP comes back with ways to solve the problems.

Question about the utility of certificates. People use the certificates in portfolios on job market, and for P&T.

The enforcement of the guidelines for certificates is a concern. Program Committee Chair would be approached by committee Chairs to schedule a certain number of sessions for certificates. Can't offer a certificate unless the Program Committee Chair approves the proposal.

One certificate program this past year ran through NCSA. Program was already in place, then committee selected sessions for certificate. Assume choices legitimately fit the certificate. Form is turned in at the time the provisional program is published. No form is available to list the sessions for certificate.

What about sessions that are cancelled?

More on certificates tomorrow.

*****Breakfast available at 7:30am*****

SATURDAY 8:00AM-12:00PM

****Lunch available at 12:00pm****

SATURDAY 12:30-4:00PM

CERTIFICATES, CONT.

Diane Pike confirms that she heard that the Board wants to clarify deadlines, form lists of sessions for each certificate, have some kind of consistency across this and not only Program Chair duty, establish a process in which the committees would do most of the work, and follow through. Committees proposing certificates would communicate to Jennifer Talarico the names of people who then qualify to receive the certificate from MSS.

Clarification on number of sessions needed to earn a certificate. Five might work well, maybe a range 5-7, fewer than 5 looks light. Should we ask for some reflection?

There are 12 time slots in the program. If someone has 7 sessions that means that one half of the sessions attended are for the certificate. Consensus is that 7 seems steep, maybe 5 or 5-7? What happens if some of the sessions are not offered? Do contingencies need to be included in the list? Typically, there are many more sessions than needed so this hasn't been a problem. Guidelines for certificates could be supplied to committees to avoid this problem.

Diane Pike will send draft. No further discussion on certificates at this time.

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| a. Social media recommendations [Doc 19] | [30 min] | Michael Haedicke,
Jennifer Talarico, and
Julie Pelton |
|--|-----------------|---|

Julie Pelton – moved away from paper TMS, proposal presents the idea of a social media coordinator, primary person to create and provide content on the website, Facebook, and Twitter. Content would be similar to TMS in the past. (Note that Julie Pelton, Michael Haedicke, and Jennifer Talarico drafted proposal.) This coordinator would have access to the website and would run Facebook page and Twitter.

Discussion - there are multiple channels of communication, need to coordinate communication across channels. Website has the potential to enhance the membership experience in a variety of ways. Social media plus website represent MSS externally. Think about who will represent MSS on these channels. Need to represent MSS consistently. The home of digital presence needs to be with the ED.

Does this require a by-laws change? By-laws state that MSS will publish TMS. If TMS is on the website, does that still meet the by-laws? Do the entitlements for TMS editor transfer to the social media coordinator? Board needs to determine if MSS wants the position first, then discuss entitlements.

Against hiring someone, retain as a volunteer position, bring new people into the organization. Media Editor could be the position title.

TSQ will have a website through Routledge. Hall would like a Facebook page for the TSQ. Looking at other organizations and journals feels that this is something that should be done. Make certain that the people who only consult website have all the same information so we do not leave people out. ASA has some good models. Phyllis Baker has someone on Program Committee who will work on social media for annual meeting. Would work with Media Editor?

Maybe have an interim person until we find someone. Discussion of process to find someone.

Michael, Julie, Jennifer could develop a timeline for posting material on various media. We need nominations. Recruitment should not be a barrier. Very important and strategic to the MSS. Board asks Michael, Julie, and Jennifer to move forward on this, develop job description, timeline, study whether or not we have to change by-laws to spring meeting. It would be preferable to have a tighter timeline. New person on board for spring conference. Consensus that this change seems clearly in line with the by-laws. No by-laws change. Board asks for committee (Michael, Julie, Jennifer) to do the work. Board agrees to work on recruiting. Any MSS member in good standing is eligible. Phyllis Baker thanks committee, will ask Program Committee person tasked with social media to talk to committee.

The by-laws still show TMS under Publications Committee although we shifted it under the Membership Committee. We need to clean up the by-laws, change some of the language to reflect the more expansive scope of the new position of Media Editor. Move of TMS has not officially changed since it has not been approved by membership yet.

We have come to a resolution on social media, but we do need the committee to continue working on this.

The Student Issues committee wanted to have a Facebook group. However, in the past the Board has said no to other Facebook pages. Would the Media Editor run these or oversight of these? Student directors wish to communicate throughout the year, conversations among students and not for full membership. Can that happen through the MSS Facebook as a closed group? Previous ED was opposed to this because of control of branding of MSS.

MSS needs a communication plan and strategy. Can the Board task the ED to draft a plan?

TSQ wants to create a Facebook page. Has to work with Routledge on this, too. If students want to have a closed group to discuss, not represent MSS, they may go ahead and create it. Peter Hall still needs feedback on Facebook page. Might go ahead and MSS could monitor. He is willing to wait for plan.

Hartmann moves that Board ask ED (Jennifer Talarico) to draft communication plan.

Thornhill/Escandell second.

No further discussion.

Motion carries unanimously.

6. New Business

- a. Appointment of new committee chairs & members, exhibit mgr, President Deb White
poster session coordinator [Doc 20] [30 min]

Meggan Lee chair of local arrangements for Chicago 2018-2019

Eve Blobaum appointed as interim Exhibits Chair until spring 2017 meeting. Any suggestions should be forwarded to Deb.

Marlynn May asks about local arrangements chair for 2018 conference.

LRP - Replace Joan Hermsen with Matt Lammers.

Michael Stout stepped down for State Director for Missouri, Joan Hermsen is interim and is on ballot for the position.

Minority scholars – Ted Thornhill

By-laws suggest 6-9 committee members for minority scholars and this is large. Rather than cut the committee, if they are comfortable, propose to continue as a larger committee.

Is it a problem for someone to have two positions? No.

Discussion of Ted's position as at-large. He is filling a position that was vacated. May run for full term next time.

Board needs better communication to committees about when they need to forward suggestions for new committee members.

Nominations and Elections

Illinois: Bill Lovekamp; Megan Burke, Paul Croll

Minnesota: Sadie Pendaz is not finished on LRP, and is also in charge of Meeting Savvy, could add Sadie to Nominations and Elections. Is this too much?

Leave it vacant for now.

Consensus that we need to keep diversity and inclusion in mind, not doubling up on the same people.

Hartmann and Pike will make suggestions to Deb.

Carla Corroda, Ohio, at-large position

South Dakota member is stepping down, leave vacant given the combined state directorship.

Professional Issues and Standards

Matt Lammers will serve another year and then will find someone else to chair.

Begins 5-year term on LRP.

Leave Ali Kamali on ballot until we know the outcome of the election.

Kim Lloyd is suggested.

Publications Committee

Chair resigned. Kevin Leicht interim chair will work with the Publications Committee to recommend someone as Chair and one new member. Deb White gave Kevin names of people who have indicated an interest. New person will begin after the 2017 annual meeting.

Note that this committee is different. It is not elected, nor appointed, it is self-sustaining. Selective because experience is necessary to serve on this committee.

Scholarship Development – remains at six members.

Lisa Cort-Butler will act as Chair

Social Action

LaShaune Johnson will extend by one year, and act as Chair.

Social Practice Committee has full membership but no Chair yet. Wait for input from Committee.

Student Issues – two new appointments.

Committee on Teaching & Learning, Bridgette Diamond-Welch was not a member last year, committee wants her to be Chair, if she becomes a member. She did not attend the meeting.

Rachel will Chair next committee meeting.

Motion to pass new Committee members and Chairs made by Redlin

Nielsen seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

Poster session coordinator postponed. Phyllis Baker has someone organizing posters for the meeting.

b. Proposal on public engagement [Doc 21] [30 min] Doug Hartmann

Note that conversations this morning (LRP session) linked to this and may change the proposal.

The Society Pages builds pages for sociological organizations. Proposal to build a site and platform to feature articles from TSQ, from Midwest researchers, toolkit for sociologists interested in doing public engagement/outreach activities (linked to ASA's resources). Once site is built, develop a plan, work with state directors, work with Media Editor, etc. this morning a larger Board strategy, creating an RFP process on public engagement, social media, public engagement, strategically spend bonus from Routledge. Webinar series, digital component for 2018 conference, other ideas...

We feel membership wants to be supported in disseminating their research and public engagement. MSS could provide this as a member service. MSS is positioned well to be a leader among regionals. ASA has no mechanisms to do engagement/outreach at local and regional levels, but they want it to be done. We could develop some model programs. Then take the model to other regionals to network. Ask for Board's commitment to this idea, direction to move forward. May says this fits with his ideas for program in 2018. He would write an RFP to support his annual meeting.

Only request at this time is Board's approval for RFPs. No limit is established.
Maybe \$5,000-10,000 in a Pilot phase.
Request Board's position on public engagement as a priority.
\$7-10,000 up-front costs for Society Pages.

Involvement of committees is suggested: social action, sociological practice, publications, membership. The idea is that the journals of the societies in consortium of regionals would be supported so that each editorship does not have to create media outlets themselves. ASA has a good looking website, thin on content because they have limited staff and limited contacts. We could provide content to them. Board wants to make strategic investments in initiatives that advance strategic priorities.

"Public engagement" (not public sociology) has a variety of meanings: for some it is action, advocacy (more political). MSS can support members so they can do this. We think of advocacy, but also promotion of sociological research, and the discipline in general. Let the ASA take the lead on this. Could use the site to engage students in new ways.

Refer to previous conversation about the research grants and what the Board could expect from people who receive those grants. If MSS is considering RFPs, how would the proposals be evaluated, what would the expectations for deliverables be? The evaluation piece is important, a lot of research in public health is about engagement. This initiative could be a way to reach out to other constituencies. Web presence could be a way to further internationalize TSQ, and MSS, lots of opportunities to disseminate research and engage with new audiences. Site for MSS, collaboration with The Society Pages with established visibility. Traffic is mostly sociology instructors.
We have a good idea, we have money, desire for media presence, etc...where do we go from here?

Hartmann withdraws Society Pages proposal.
Hartmann moves that the Board request proposals to use some of the bonus from Routledge to fund pilot projects focused on public engagement, outreach, and social media.
Meggan Lee seconds.

Timeline: proposals to review at spring meeting.
Limit: max \$10,000 per proposal;
Grants of this size need strict oversight.

Note that Finance Committee has been told to get Endowments to \$2 million. We may need to adjust that and spend some of the money. Board needs to decide priorities. ASA's small grants up to \$8,000 for the advancement of the discipline could be an option.

The committee was wanting the Board to commit serious resources to public engagement. We have been talking about this for some time. This is a significant amount of money to spend so everyone needs a chance at the \$100,000. Need to make the RFPs more collaborative to bring more people in and spread the money around.

Start with smaller amounts to begin with as trial. Two of these grants to get the ball rolling.

Revisit motion, do we need a cap on projects?

Board Sub-committee would develop RFP for Board approval.

Motion to amend motion: up to \$7,500 per proposal.

"Up to three proposals will be funded."

Jennifer suggests that this go back to sub-committee to draft RFP to connect to other priorities. Consult with Finance Committee. This process needs to be done electronically.

Motion carries unanimously.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| c. Executive Director reports and action items | [30 min] | ED Jennifer Talarico |
| i. 2017 annual meeting registration rates [Doc 22] | | |
| ii. Review draft covers for TSQ [Doc 23A, 23B] | | |
| iii. Insurance [Doc 24] | | |
| iv. 501(h) election [Doc 25] | | |

2017 annual meeting registration rates [Doc 22] No changes in rates from last year.

Review draft covers for TSQ [Doc 23A, 23B] Board will vote via email.

Insurance [Doc 24] – employee dishonesty insurance, what level of coverage does the Board want. Tim notes that Treasurer could only get his hands on \$150,000 without anyone knowing.

Thrane moves to renew the existing \$250,000 coverage. Nielsen seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

Revisit of investment request by treasurer:

Tim Pippert needs to know what to do with the \$160,000. Can he take the \$50,000 surplus and invest in endowment? (Not the Routledge money.) Would this be a permanent investment in Endowment or can it be spent? Historically we don't remove money from the Endowment, but we can.

Treasurer recommends investing.

Discussion includes the following considerations: Keeping money in savings might mean losing money in market, or maybe lessens exposure to risk. MSS Board needs more of a plan for spending the money. Need to have a plan, maybe reevaluate our investments. We have the money, it fits with strategic priorities, pilot, ... What do we gain from sitting on this for 6 months? Let's look at draft RFP and suggestions for spending money. Board members will get a document that reviews all of strategic priorities, and the RFP info, we could then have the broader discussion for the spring meetings.

Finance Committee will bring a strategy for investments. They will reassess the investment strategy. Finance Committee was told to build enough of a buffer to survive for two years if open-access happens. They will evaluate and make suggestions. Board will then need to prioritize.

Minutes to this point Respectfully submitted,
Lee Miller, MSS Secretary

501(h) election: Pelton and Talarico went to a workshop on lobbying and nonprofits. There are two ways the IRS allows for reporting of lobbying – default and 501h. Under default, MSS is liable and required to report any item that might look like lobbying – significant grey area with regard to what to report and how to estimate the portion of money/time spend on lobbying. We could be audited. Jennifer proposes we elect 501h – protects us from liability and risk of audit. We wouldn't have to report as long as we do not spend more than \$56k. (On behalf of or associated with MSS). Election will not alter/raise our risk of being audited. MOTION: Doug Hartman - motion to approve 501h election. Megan Nielsen seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- d. Support for past president to represent MSS at ASA **[15 min]** President Deb White

Agenda item discussed earlier in meeting.

- e. Distribution of student and adjunct travel grants **[15 min]** President Deb White

DECISION: ED is directed to distribute student and adjunct travel grants.

- f. MSS Visiting Scholar fund **[15 min]** President Deb White

ED received 2 requests to bring this fund back. Speaker funds were suspended because money wasn't being used. Funds are a form of professional development but distribution process has been problematic — committees weren't advertising, promoting the funds. This lowered demand. DECISION: revisit process, expectations, guidelines. FURTHER DISCUSSION: Need to create process for advertising, perhaps using social media. Previous treasurer favored 0-ing out line items. Current treasurer is in favor of looking back at this practice. Suggestion from the board is to revisit this issue, consider reconstituting the funds, reformulating the process.

- g. State director exchange **[60 min]** State directors

At Large: Ted Thornhill—data management is important to state directors, etc. Does Jennifer need new software for membership database? We need to collect better data on members. Talked about affiliations (ASA style) and forming groups based on this.

NE: Megan Nielsen— State association/undergrad conference is in November at Wayne State's campus.

ND: Pamela Emanuelson— North Dakota is at 90% of budget, cutting 409 faculty positions. NDSU is focusing on reorganization, shielding faculty for as long as they can. Faculty have input into decisions. Economy is actually good, ironically.

WI: Akiko Yoshida— Second year of budget cuts. Do not know what is coming. State system campuses are losing faculty – retirees are not being replaced. BOR is mandating post-tenure reviews (every 5 years). Campuses are communicating about process, peer review, checklists, etc. Faculty senate is constructing review on UW-Whitewater. Expedited review in consultation with Dean gives 18 months to correct if bad review. Would possibly remove tenure in practice. Seeing this in a lot of states but WI seems to be worst—affecting recruitment because situation has been publicized a lot.

IL: Diane Rodgers— IL released part of budget which is creating more problems. Enrollment in almost all IL schools is down drastically. Other states have been actively recruiting students from IL. MO is giving IL residents in state tuition. NIU has enough money to get through the academic year, we being informed on a semester by semester basis. Interest on debt incurred in meantime will never be recouped

KS: Lisa Thrane— KS has a budget, but significant budget cuts. KS is also offering instate tuition to increase enrollment. Sociology has some potential – issues facing state present opportunities for our subject matter to speak to.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: Number of majors and faculty FTE with state directors remaining.

Meeting Adjourned (approx.4:30pm).

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Pelton, Liaison to the Board