

Minutes

WPSA Executive Council Meeting Saturday, September 2, 2000 Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C.

Members Present:

President Ann Crigler; Program Chair Timothy Kaufman-Osborn ; Treasurer Gilbert St. Clair; Executive Director Elizabeth Moulds; and Council Members Manuel Avalos, Harold Clarke, Diana Dwyre, Ken Godwin, Fernando Guerra, Barbara Morris, Barbara Norrander, and Stephanie Witt.

Guests Present:

Bill Haltom, University of Puget Sound; and Ron Schmidt, California State University, Long Beach.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Ann Crigler, WPSA President, at 5:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 24, 2000 Executive Council meeting in San Jose were approved unanimously.

Reports:

- A. Local Arrangements, Long Beach, 2002 annual meeting. Ron Schmidt is talking with hotels and is close to completing a contract with the Hilton in Long Beach. In order to get the \$121 room rate, we need to move to a Friday, Saturday, Sunday schedule instead of a Thursday, Friday, Saturday schedule. The meeting dates will be March 22, 23, 24, 2002. It was noted that the 2001 Las Vegas WPSA meeting conflicts with the Southwest meeting, and we should avoid conflict in the future.
- B. Executive Director's Report.
 - Executive Director Betty Moulds reported that the WPSA has signed the contract for the Denver meeting in 2003 and will sign one soon for the 2002 Long Beach meeting. She has met with folks in Portland, and Portland State University colleagues are interested in hosting a future meeting.
 - Betty Moulds noted that the WPSA will soon receive a letter from the IRS granting the association permanent non-profit status.
 - She reported that she and WPSA Treasurer Gil St. Clair are concerned about the financial standing of the association because currently we are not paying any expenses for the Executive Director and will have to in the future. Moreover, membership dues and convention income are down, but demands for services, and therefore costs, are up (e.g., we are charged a fee for credit card conference registration on the Web).
 - Issues to consider between now and the March meeting:
Michael Alvarez, chair of the Membership Committee, will collect data from our members. Consider handling finances out of Sacramento rather than on site at the conference.

- C. Program Chair's Report for Las Vegas 2001. Tim Kaufman-Osborn announced that the Las Vegas meeting will be March 15-17, 2001. He met with the section chairs on Sept. 1, and 14 out of the 20 attended. We may have as many as 168 panels.
- D. Local Arrangements, San Jose Final Report, 2000. Betty Moulds distributed the final report of the 2000 meeting in San Jose. The following items were highlighted:
- We will work to get more book exhibits at future meetings.
 - Some years, the host institution absorbs the professional fees (for assistants for the convention). This item cost \$4,917 for the 2000 meeting.
 - We spent approximately \$18,000 on food, drink and entertainment.
 - We should continue the Nova Credit Care Service to allow members to register on the Web.
 - We usually average \$8,000- 10,000 of profit, so at \$3,398.56, the San Jose meeting was low.
- E. Local Arrangements, Las Vegas Planning Report, 2001. Ted Jelen is the Local Arrangements Chair. Rooms will be \$115 per night, and they are all suites. The hotel is about 5 blocks off of the Strip.
- F. Local Arrangements, Denver 2003. We have signed the contract with the Denver Hyatt. The meeting will be March 27-29, 2003. Room rate is \$129/night guaranteed. Local arrangements are being handled by Dan Smith and Andy Bush of University of Denver.
- G. Nominating Committee. Nominating Committee Chair Christine DeStefano presented the following nominations for approval:

Amy Bridges, Vice President, 2002

William Haltom, Vice President 2003

Peregrine Schwartz-Shea, Recording Secretary, 2001-2004

Executive Council 2001-2004

*Mary Caputi, Region A
 *Mark Petracca, Region A
 Dianne Long, Region A
 Howard Gilman, Region A
 David Camacho, Region B
 *Valerie Martinez-Ebers, Region B
 *Andrea Simpson, Region C
 Susan Burgess, Region C

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Eric Patashnik, Region A
 Sally Fairfax, Region A
 *Raphael Sonenshein, Region A
 *Al Harris, Region A

*Victoria Farrar-Myers, Region B
 Lonna Atkeson, Region B
 *Ann Costain, Region C
 Clive Thomas, Region C

The Executive Council voted unanimously to accept the report of the nominating committee. President Crigler noted the wonderful diversity of the nominations.

Note: Subsequent to the receipt of the nominating committee report, it was discovered that the number of names submitted for Executive Council positions was twice the required number. Subsequently, the nominating committee reconvened to reduce the number of recommended names to the appropriate number. The names on the final list are those designated with asterisks above. The Nominating Committee has asked that the Executive Director forward the remainder of the names to the next nominating committee.

- H. Political Research Quarterly. The new editors, Harold Clarke and Ken Godwin, noted that they received much help with the transition from Arizona to North Texas thanks to Bill Dixon and Lynn Ragsdale. They did not shut the journal down during August and will not do so in the future. They submitted a list of the PRQ's Editorial Board. New Website is up: prq.unt.edu. The Executive Council was asked to encourage people to submit manuscripts.
- I. Membership Committee Report. Ann Crigler presented the Committee's report for Chair Michael Alvarez. Michael is working with the data to analyze the WPSA's membership for purposes of further recruitment. Send suggestions for recruitment to President Crigler.

Old Business

- A. Policy Changes regarding WPSA Awards – see Constitution and By-Laws Committee under New Business below.
- B. Cost of travel to Hawaii. Betty Moulds reported that the best price quoted for hotel rooms in Hawaii for a 2004 meeting is \$204 per night with a 5% per year increase between now and 2004. Average airfare from five Western cities is currently \$762.80. She suggested we not consider Hawaii for a future meeting.

New Business

- A. Motions from the 2000 WPSA Business Meeting. WPSA Counsel deemed Motions 1 to 9 to be without effect because the presence of a quorum of less than one third of the membership (330 members at the time of the March 2000 meeting) requires prior notification to the entire membership of the nature and content of the motions to be considered. No such adequate notice was given.

President Crigler informed the APSA of the sentiments of the assembled WPSA members. A July 2000 letter from APSA Executive Director Kathy Rudder indicates that the APSA already adheres to many of the standards mentioned in the resolutions (e.g., all APSA

meetings are open). It is not clear if the agenda of APSA business meetings are published before the meetings; Ann Crigler will ask Kathy Rudder about this. The Executive Council amended the WPSA Policies and Procedures to clarify this matter (See below). President Crigler will notify members this fall of the disposition of this matter.

- B. Constitution and By-Laws Committee recommendations. Chair of the committee, Bill Haltom, presented the report of the WPSA Committee on Constitution and By-Laws. The Executive Council approved two recommendations from the committee:
1. Annual Awards. The Executive Council made the following changes to the “WPSA Policies and Procedures” regarding annual awards:
 - Section 1.b.2.a of “Annual Awards” was amended: The Chair of each ~~status~~**award** committee shall be responsible for securing all papers eligible for the award.
 - Section 1.b.2.b was deleted entirely.
 2. Placing Items on the Business Meeting Agenda. The Executive Council accepted the committee’s recommendation that the following be added to the “WPSA Policies and Procedures” as new Section 2.f., to follow present Section 2.e. under existing Section 2 “Annual Meetings”: for a process to place items on the Agenda of the Annual Business Meeting:

The Executive Director shall, in fall preceding each annual business meeting, request items for the agenda of that meeting. Proposed items will be placed on the agenda of the next business meeting under “New Business” in the order in which proposals endorsed by at least twenty-five (25) dues-paying members of the Western Political Science Association from three or more separate institutions shall be received by the Executive Director. Such proposals must be received by the Executive Director on or before December 10. The Executive Director shall notify the membership of the association of all properly endorsed agenda items in the mailing that includes or notes the preliminary program of the meeting each spring.

- C. Convention Sites Beyond 2003. Colleagues in Portland are anxious to host a meeting in 2004 or 2005. Either the Marriott or Hilton will work and the room rates should be reasonable. The Council agreed to look into this possibility further. San Francisco is very expensive. Betty Moulds reported that we can try to piggy back onto what APSA negotiates for the 2001 APSA meeting. There was a suggestion that if we cannot afford San Francisco, perhaps we should change the policy that requires the WPSA to hold periodic meetings in Northern California. Yet it was the sense of the Council that people will pay quite a lot to go to the San Francisco, and Betty Moulds agreed to keep trying. Alternative sites include Pheonix.
- D. Proposal to Create a “Jim Lester Award for the best paper on Environmental Politics and Policy given at the WPSA Annual Meeting.” President Ann Crigler received an e-mail from Evan Ringquist proposing this award. There are two issues: (1) The cost of \$250 per year, but that is not an obstacle; (2) we do not have a status committee, or some other group, to implement this. Gil St. Clair expressed support for the award and suggested that the WPSA raise an endowment for the award before we proceed. We would need about \$5,000 for a

secure endowment. President Crigler said we should go ahead with fundraising and we will offer the award if we can raise the money. She will contact Ringquist to convey this information.

- E. WPSA subsidies for Caucus Receptions. Costs for these subsidies has gotten somewhat out of hand (e.g., at least one reception went over budget at the 2000 meeting in San Jose). It was suggested that we could agree to cover the costs for no-host bars, to cover only a specific amount per reception or to not offer subsidies at all. President Crigler expressed support for continuing subsidy for the Minorities Reception. Both Gil St. Clair and Betty Moulds agreed that whatever support we give should be capped at an amount and organizers can get other funding to cover any other expenses, though they acknowledged that it would be tough to institute a cap. It was also suggested that we ask Ph.D. departments to kick in \$50-100 each to support the graduate student reception.

Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Dwyre