



MID-SOUTH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Executive Council Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2009, 9:45 am
Hilton Lafayette, Louisiana

Present were:	Kimberly A. Davies	President
	Jamie P. Baird	Secretary-Treasurer
	Ollie G. Christian	President-Elect
	Larry D. Hall	Vice-President
	Timothy B. Gongaware	Vice-President-Elect, Editor, Forum
	John Lynxwiler	Editor, Sociological Spectrum
	Tina Deshotels	Chair, Committee on Membership
	DeMond S. Miller	Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges
	Jackie A. Eller	Coordinator, Stanford Lyman Memorial Committee, Chair, Nominations
	Rhonda Evans	Chair, Committee on Women
	Roma S. Hanks	

Not Present were:	Ana Marie Gonzales Wahl	Chair, Committee on the Profession
	Dana M. Greene	Chair, Committee on Minorities
	Keith F. Durkin	Past-President

CALL TO ORDER

The adjourned meeting of November 4, 2009 was called to order by President Kim A. Davies at 9:45 am.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS

Report from the Editor, *Sociological Spectrum*

Editorial Update:

Sociological Spectrum has been included in the ASA's Publishing Options: An Author's Guide to Journals.

In addition, Routledge Publishing, of the Taylor & Francis Group, is creating a Sociology Archive. The archive will be offered to institutional libraries and would include backfiles of key journals spanning Sociology and related disciplines. All the included articles will have full cross-searching capability, article abstracts, and hyper-linked references. Their goal is to increase accessibility to research that would otherwise only be available in print. They have requested that Sociological Spectrum be included in this project. We have consented to their request.

Managing Editor Update:

Lauren Rowland is the new Managing Editor for Sociological Spectrum. She now serves as the contact person for manuscript submissions. Lauren is working on her M.A. in Sociology at UCF.

Spectrum Article of the Year:

Erin Robinson has been selected as the winner of the 2009 Sociological Spectrum Article of the Year award for her article "*Competing Frames of Environmental Contamination: Influences on Grassroots Community Mobilization*" (Sociological Spectrum Volume 29, Number 1:3-27).

Submissions to Spectrum:

Between October 2008 and October 2009, Spectrum received 79 manuscripts, which represents a nine percent increase over last year. Of this total, 10 have been accepted for publication, 15 have been returned as Revise & Resubmit, 27 were rejected, and 27 currently are under review. Thus, the journal's current rate of acceptance is 19 percent, which is down from the 33 percent reported at this time last year.

Thank you to members of the editorial board:

Along with a special note of appreciation to our editorial board members, I want to thank those members of the MSSA who provided timely reviews during the past year. Your willingness to support Sociological Spectrum through detailed reviews has really helped out and we thank you. I also want to thank our out-going managing editor, Sara Neuenschwander for her support and hard work, which has kept everything running smoothly. She not only managed the journal for the past three years, but she also managed to complete her M.A. thesis and obtain university funding for her Ph.D. degree.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Coordinator, Stan Lyman Memorial Scholarship Committee

The scholarship award was announced through MSSA, *Sociological Spectrum*, the Forum, and SSSI. Further graduate program directors for all PhD granting institutions in our member states were sent two different emails asking them to advertise the scholarship to their students. The final result was that the committee received three strong submissions for the scholarship and chose the following for the award:

**Negotiating Gendered Conflict:
Identity Dilemmas and Emotion Work in Women's Flat Track Roller Derby**

Kylie L. Parrotta, North Carolina State University
(Michael Schwalbe, Advisor)

The second and third submissions were from Amanda Koontz, Florida State University – "Constructing the Florida Highwaymen" – and Stephanie Medley-Rath, Georgia State University – "Memorializing the Self, Doing Family, and Building Community: Scrapbooking (In) Everyday Life." Once again the decision was not an easy one as each of these projects was well conceived and within the Lyman tradition. Despite the strength of the three papers, we continue to hope that we will receive more applications in the future.

The \$1000 scholarship awards will be made at the annual banquet, Thursday, November 5, 2009.

Other business:

1. The following still needs to be ratified at the membership meeting this November.
 - a. The Coordinator, Stanford Lyman Scholarship Committee, Dr. Jackie L. Eller, proposed the following amendment to the Constitution: Article IV, Section 2 (Changes noted in italics)
 - b. The appointment of officers of the Association shall be the Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor or Co-Editors of the official journal of the Association, the Editor of the official newsletter of the Association, *and the Coordinator of the Stanford Lyman Memorial Scholarship*. The Secretary-Treasurer and editors shall be appointed for three year terms. *The Coordinator of the Scholarship shall be appointed for four years.*
 - c. This amendment adds the Coordinator, sets term of appointment.

- d. The amendment was approved. The amendment would have to be ratified by the membership at the Annual meetings in October 2008 (November 2009).
2. As I included Danielle Hidalgo as an additional reader of the submissions, I request that this practice continue on an ad hoc basis providing a past winner is available and willing to “give back” to the organization in this manner.

There weren't as many papers submitted, maybe we should advertise in the Program and put an ad in Spectrum as standard advertising. Get more papers from active PhD programs and getting participants to become members.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Past President/ Chair, Budget Committee.

The Chair of the Budget Committee, Keith F. Durkin was not present, President Kimberly A. Davies and President-Elect Ollie G. Christian was in attendance for the budget committee meeting and reported that the financial records of the Association were examined and found to be in order.

The report was accepted.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report from the Chair, Committee on the Profession

The Chair, Committee on the Profession, Ana Marie Gonzales Wahl was not present and a report was not sent. There hasn't been any communication with the chair. The executive committee looked at the Constitution, Article VI, Section 3 and there are grounds to put out a nomination to the general membership. At the banquet it will be announced that the floor is open for nominations for this position. A person will be selected at the meeting Saturday, November 7, 2009

Report from the Chair, Committee on Women

In the 2009 Program there are a total of 62 sessions excluding the Executive Council meetings, graduate paper competition session and the plenary session. Of these 61 sessions, 41 are regular paper sessions, 7 are panel sessions, 5 are workshops, 5 are roundtables, 3 are strictly undergraduate paper sessions, and one is a poster session.

In sum, women are highly represented in all types of sessions on the 2009 Mid-south Sociological Association Meeting Program. Men are slightly more likely than women to have organized a regular paper sessions. However, women are more highly represented, than men, in panel and workshop sessions and women are more likely than men to be presenting a co- or multi-authored work.

The 2008-2009 Executive Council is comprised of 15 members, 9 (60%) of whom are female and 4 ex-officio members all of whom are male. Women are currently serving in top positions on the Executive council. The representation of women on the Council has increased slightly from 2007-2008 when there were 16 members and 8 were females and significantly from 2006-2007 when there were 16 members and only 6 were women. However, this progression has not been linear. In fact the number of women serving on the Council was approximately equal to that of men in 2005-2006 and 2004-2005, while they were underrepresented in 2003-2004, at only 5 out of 14 members.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Chair, Committee on Minorities

The Chair, Committee on Minorities, Dana M. Greene, was not present and a report was not sent.

Report for the Chair, Committee on Nominations

The Chair, Committee on Nominations, Jackie Eller , The following were elected:

President-Elect: Roma S. Hanks
Vice-President-Elect: David G. LoConto
Chair, Committee on Nominations: Carl L. Bankton, III
Chair, Committee on Minorities: Obie Clayton, Jr.
Chair, Committee on Membership: Tina H. Deshotels

Issues concerning the election process:

1. There was a tie in the member vote for President-Elect. In deciding how this should be resolved I consulted the Policy and Procedures statement on line, communicated with Jamie and did the following:

The Chair shall select an Election Committee comprised of self and two others. All shall sign a tally sheet. This sheet and both the Nomination Committee's ballots and the final ballots shall be submitted to the Executive Council at its first meeting at the Annual Meeting. **In case of a tie vote, the President of MSSA shall decide.** The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall inform the President, the President-Elect, and the Secretary-Treasurer of the election results in writing as soon as the ballots have been counted. The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall inform all candidates of the election results prior to the Annual Meeting.

2. The President was contacted, she voted, I informed the appropriate persons.
3. Due to a member question concerning this procedure, we discovered that the Constitution said the following:

The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall select an Election Committee comprised of self and two others. All shall count the votes and sign a tally sheet. This sheet and both the Nomination Committee's ballots and the final ballots shall be submitted to the Council at the first Council meeting prior to the general business session. **In the case of a tie vote, the Council shall break the tie with the President abstaining. In the event the tie remains, the President shall determine the outcome.**

4. Given the inconsistency I notified all persons involved, asked the Executive Committee to cast a vote for President. Nine votes were received and Roma Hanks was again declared the winner with 6 votes.
5. Recommendation: Change the Policy and Procedures to be consistent with the Constitution. Then discuss whether this is the most appropriate way to decide tie votes.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Chair, Committee on Membership

The Chair of the Membership Committee, Tina Deshotels, presented that the goal is to encourage non-renewals to come back to the fold, current members to stay, and increase members from new populations. The strategies were presented to complete these tasks. Also we should advertise in Forum.

Then there was discussion about a discount for departmental membership for West Georgia and if there are any other institutions we will look at them on a individual basis.

The report was accepted.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.