



MID-SOUTH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Executive Council Meeting
Saturday, February 4, 2006, 8:30 am
Hilton Lafayette, Lafayette, Louisiana

Present:	Tom C. Calhoun	President
	Duane A. Gill	Past President & Chair, Budget Committee
	Sahadeo Patram	Secretary Treasurer
	Carl Bankston	President-Elect & Program Chair
	Kimberly A. Davies	Vice-President-Elect
	Shirley Rainey	Chair, Committee on the Profession
	Kathy A. Smith	Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges
	Earl Wright, II	Chair, Committee on Minorities
	J. Kenneth Davidson, Sr.	Hotel Contract Negotiator
	Jackie L. Eller	Past-President & Chair, Budget Committee
Absent:	Keith Durkin	Vice-President & Editor, <i>Forum</i>
	DeAnn M. Kalich	Editor – <i>Sociological Spectrum</i>
	Cheryl Brown	Chair, Committee on Women

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President Dr. Thomas C. Calhoun at 8:30 am. The President welcomed members to the meeting. He noted that the worst natural disaster in U.S. history which devastated major cities and other locations in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi did not deter our members from attending the meetings in large numbers. He noted that this was due to the magnificent efforts of all members of the Executive Council and, in particular, those of the Secretary-Treasurer. The President thanked everyone for their support.

APPROVAL OF NOTES

The Secretary-Treasurer apologized for presenting hand written notes on proceedings of the meetings on October 26, 28, and 29, 2005. The notes for the meeting were approved.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS

President's Report

The President noted that his report was presented in his call to order. He added that from his experiences, the Program Chair, Dr. Carl Bankston, III, would require the assistance of every member of the Executive Council. He promised to pass over to the Program Chair all files and materials he collected during his term in that office.

Report from the Past President

The Past President's report was deferred and would be taken together with that from the Budget Committee.

Report from the Vice-President

The Secretary-Treasurer informed Council that the Vice-President, Dr. Keith F. Durkin could not attend the meeting because of ill health. The Vice-President sent an email indicating that the next issue of *Forum* would be ready for publication during the first week in April 2006. He urged members to send him summarized versions of their current reports for inclusion in the April issue. The Secretary-Treasurer reminded members that Council required such reports to be presented at the winter and annual meetings.

Report from the Vice-President-Elect

The Vice-President-Elect, Dr. Kimberly A. Davies, reported that announcement about the Undergraduate Student Paper competition would be circulated to colleges and universities in February 2006. July 30, 2006 was set as the deadline for submission of papers. She planned to send the undergraduate session(s) report to the President-Elect no later than September 15, 2006.

Report from the President-Elect/Program Chair

The President-elect/Program Chair, Dr. Carl L. Bankston, III, introduced Ms. Danielle Hidalgo to Council. Dr. Bankston reported that Danielle would be assisting him with preparations for the annual meetings in October 2006. An advanced doctor student at Tulane, Ms. Farah Gafford would also be assisting with the preparations. The President-elect reported that response to the first call for session organizers was very encouraging. So far, proposals for 17 sessions were received.

The President-elect expressed uncertainties in the level of support from Tulane. But base on his discussions with the Interim Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, James Maclaren, he remained optimistic.

Tom Brignall, of Tennessee Tech has agreed to serve as Chair of the Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award Committee.

Report from the Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer reported that the Association performed well in 2005 and was financially sound.

Current assets as of December 31, 2005 were \$84, 637.53. The assets are in the following accounts:

Capitol City Bank - Certificates of Deposits	\$30,250.00
Capitol City Bank - Operating Fund Account	\$ 3,907.42
Capitol City Bank - Reserve Fund Account	\$ 5,952.80
Spectrum - LA Petty Cash	<u>\$ 1,883.65</u>
SUB-TOTAL	\$41,993.87

Stanford M. Lyman Memorial Scholarship Fund

Lyman MSF Account	\$ 1,541.71
Certificates of Deposits	\$41,101.95
	<u>\$42,643.66</u>

TOTAL **\$84,637.53**

In 2006, the Secretary-Treasurer estimated investments in MSSA CD Accounts at approximately \$1,400.00. Interest on the Lyman CD accounts would yield approximately \$1,900.00. Interest on CDs in the Lyman account yielded \$1,101.95 in 2005. Sufficient funds were available to make the Lyman Award in 2006 and 2007.

The proposed budget for 2006 was presented. The budget was approved with minor amendments. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that rental of equipment for sessions was getting very expensive. The cost of equipment rental (Standard Overhead Projectors and Screens) at the meetings in October 2005 was \$1,825.00. He suggested that participants who required equipment for their presentations pay the rental cost. Council agreed to examine the suggestion at the annual meetings in October 2006.

Report from the Editor, *Sociological Spectrum*

The Editor of *Sociological Spectrum*, Dr. DeAnn M. Kalich, could not attend the meeting because of ill health. She, however, sent a report which was presented by Dr. Jackie L. Eller. Highlights of the report were:

1. The Editorial Board extended an invitation to Dr. Duane A. Gill to Guest Edit a Special Issue on Environmental Sociology. The Special Issue would include Dr. Gill's Presidential Address at the Mid-South Sociological Association's annual meeting, October 27, 2005. The Special Issue was projected for publication in 2007.
2. A proposal for a Special Issue on Deviance by Thomas C. Calhoun and Mark A. Konty. The Editorial Board required Drs. Calhoun and Konty to have an open call for papers.

3. Dr. Kalich would be resigning as Editor of *Sociological Spectrum* effective December 31, 2006. Dr. Kalich will complete five years as Editor at the time of her retirement.

Report from the Editor, *Forum*

Report on *Forum* was presented under report from the Vice-President.

TOUR OF HILTON LAFAYETTE

Dee Dee Schexnader, Sales Manager, Hilton Lafayette, joined the meeting at 11:30 am. She took the Executive Council members on a tour of the hotel facilities. The tour ended at 12:00.

LUNCH BREAK: 12:00 NOON – 1:00 PM

Report from the Budget Committee

The Chair of the Budget Committee, Dr. Duane A. Gill, reported that the accounts of the Association were examined and found to be in order.

Report from the Committee on the Profession

The Chair, Committee on the Profession, Dr. Shirley Rainey reported that the committee accomplished much during 2005. Highlights of the accomplishments were:

- Panel session at the annual meetings on the theme “Are African American Professional Organizations a Necessity in the 21st Century?”
- An On-Line Employment Exchange Link was created on MSSA’s homepage. The link was developed to list and advertise job vacancies for member institutions. Prior to the October 2005 meetings, over 12 vacancies were posted.
- An Employment Display was set up at the annual conference. More than ten persons filled out forms with vitae attached. These were later sent to the institutions for further inquiry.
- Graduate Student Recruitment Display was also set up with information about various sociology graduate programs. Over 25 institutions sent materials for the display.

Report from the Committee on Minorities

The Chair, Minority Committee, Dr. Earl Wright II., reported that the committee was actively engaged in finding funds for underrepresented minority students.

Report from the Committee on Small and Community Colleges

The Chair of the Committee on Small and Community Colleges, Ms. Kathy A. Smith, reported that very little was accomplished since the last meeting in October 2005. She indicated that the major issue was getting members to participate in the Committee.

Report from the Committee on Membership

The Chair of the Committee on Membership, Dr. Herman “Doc” Gibson, informed Council that he was working on putting together a Committee consisting of members from all the major states for the MSSA. The response was slower than he expected.

Report from the Nominations Committee

The Chair, Committee on Nominations, Dr. Diane Keithly, was absent due to illness. The Committee’s report was presented by Dr. Duane A. Gill. Dr. Gill reported that the committee was still looking for candidates for a few positions. He expected that a slate of candidates would be available soon.

Report from the Stanford M. Lyman Scholarship Committee

The Coordinator of the Stanford M. Lyman Scholarship, Dr. Jackie L. Eller, submitted proposals for a constitutional amendment to Article IV, Section 2 and proposed additions to the Operations and Procedures manual that would include rules for managing the scholarship.

Council approved both proposals. The Secretary-Treasurer was directed to include the Constitutional Amendment on the ballot for the 2006 elections. Additions to the Operations and Procedures Manual would be effected after the approval of the constitutional amendment.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report from the Local Arrangements Committee

The Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, Dr. C. Eddie Palmer presented a detailed report on local arrangements. Highlights of the report:

- Dean David Barry, College of Liberal Arts, University of Louisiana, would locate and pay for the services of a local band to perform after the Thursday banquet.
- LAC would provide a minimum of five door prizes.
- DOWNTOWN LIVE: LAC would arrange transportation to and from the Downtown live event on Friday, October 27, 2006.
- Local folklore session – if program permits.

Report from the Hotel Contract Negotiator

The Hotel Contract Negotiator, Dr. J. Kenneth Davidson, Sr., informed Council that he was working to get contracts firmly in place to 2010. He was involved in negotiations with several hotels in the Mid-South region.

Dr. Davidson also indicated that this term of office would expire on December 31, 2006. The Association would need to appoint another member to serve as Hotel Contract Negotiator..

OLD BUSINESS

EBSCOHOST Update

The President, Dr. Thomas C. Calhoun informed Council that he communicated Council's decision not to pursue further any action on this matter to the representative of EBSCOHOST.

Honorarium for the Secretary-Treasurer

No action was taken on this issue. Council would consider it again at the Annual Meetings in October 2006.

NEW BUSINESS

Membership Paper Records

Membership records are currently stored electronically. The Secretary-Treasurer recommended that the paper records be destroyed after a period of one year. Council approved the recommendation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.