



MID-SOUTH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
Notes of Executive Council Meeting
Saturday, February 2, 2008, 8:30 am
Holiday Inn, Huntsville, Alabama

Present were: Carl L. Bankston	Past-President & Chair, Budget Committee
Sahadeo Patram	Secretary-Treasurer
Kimberly A. Davies	President-Elect & Program Chair
Shirley Rainey	Vice-President
Mark Konty	Chair, Committee on the Profession
John Lynxwiler	Co-Editor, Sociological Spectrum
Nicole Carr	Chair, Nominations Committee
Kathy A. Smith	Co-Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges
DeMond S. Miller	Co-Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges
Dana M. Greene	Chair, Committee on Minorities
Larry D. Hall	Vice-President-Elect
Jackie Eller	Coordinator, Stanford M. Lyman Memorial Scholarship
Rhonda Evans	Committee on Women
Tina Deshotels	Committee on Membership
Nancy Finley	Local Arrangements Committee
Jamie Baird	Associate Secretary-Treasurer
Absent Were: Obie Clayton, Jr.	Hotel Contract Negotiator
Timothy Gongaware	Editor, Forum

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-President Shirley Rainey at 8:15 am. The VP thanked the members for attending and that she would be presiding since Keith Durkin could not attend because of weather. She noted that Demond Miller was on his way to the meeting, but had not yet arrived at the hotel. The following member could not attend the meeting: Tim Gongaware, Dr. Obie Clayton, Jr.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 24 & 26 2007

The minutes of October 23, 24 & 26, 2007 were approved.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS

Report from the President

The President, Dr. Keith Durkin, was unable to attend the meeting. No report was submitted

Report from the Past-President

The Past-President, Dr. Carl Bankston, III, noted that meeting registration and membership in 2007 had dropped significantly from those in recent past years. He urged Executive Council members, especially the Chair, Committee on membership, to become more pro-active in increasing membership in 2008 and onwards and to get more members to attend the Annual meetings.

Report from the Vice-President

The Vice-President, Dr. Shirley Rainey, informed Council that an announcement, encouraging participation in the Graduate Student Paper of Distinction would be sent to institutions with graduate programs. She planned to solicit judges for the competition in March. She also planned to inform the Dr. Kim Davies, President-Elect & Program Chair, on graduates sessions by Sept. 12, 2008. She urged members to empower their students to participate in the sessions and submit papers for presentation at the October meetings.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Vice-President-Elect

The Vice-President-Elect, Dr. Larry Hall, informed Council that he intended to pursue the following course of action for the both the competitive and non-competitive Undergraduate Student Paper sessions:

- Contact Alpha Kappa Delta for list of chapters in the MSSA 13 state region.
- Ask AKD about their participation ideas and plans for the MSSA meetings.
- Contact the Secretary-Treasurer for list of MSSA members and colleges and universities within the MSSA region states.
- Contact MSSA members to encourage participation by their undergraduate students.
- Organize an undergraduate poster session.
- Solicit MSSA members to serve as judges for the competitive and non-competitive paper and poster sessions.

The report was accepted.

Report from the President-Elect & Program Chair

A printed report on the Program and Theme was distributed to Council. Highlights of the report were:

- Theme of the 2008 meetings – “Sociology in and Increasingly Virtual World.”
- Thirty-seven regular paper/panel sessions, three workshops, and 3 student sessions were identified on the first call for participation.
- Brainstorming on a keynote speaker and welcomed suggestions from members of the Executive Council.
- Requested assistance in obtaining advertisements for inclusion in the Program.
- Calls for papers would be put on MSSA’s website. Also, contact ASA and other organizations to place an announcement of Annual Meetings in their publications. Post calls to the MSSA listserv and other listserves on which she is a member.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Sahadeo Patram, circulated a financial report for fiscal year 2007, budget analysis for 2007, Balance Sheet as at December 2007, Income and expenditure for fiscal year 2007, and Budget for fiscal year 2008. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that the Association was financially sound.

Total assets at the end of 2007 was \$105,745.01. The assets were held in 7 different accounts. The major portion of assets were in the Operating Fund CD Account (\$43,951.02) and in the Stanford Lyman CD Account (41,293.49). The Income and Expenditure Statement for 2007 showed Income at \$34,446.13 and Expenditure at \$27,430.430.36. Realized ordinary net income for 2007 was \$7,015.77.

The Secretary-Treasurer informed Council, on the basis of his projected budget for 2008 that expenditure would exceed income by approximately \$1, 560.00. This was likely to occur by low levels of advertisement in the 2008 Annual meeting program. The Secretary-Treasurer also noted that deficit could grow if participation and registration in Huntsville did not meet our accustomed level.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Editor, *Sociological Spectrum*

The Editor, *Sociological Spectrum*, Dr. John Lynxwiler submitted notes on *Sociological Spectrum* for production year 2007. Seventy-seven manuscripts were processed with the following outcomes: 11 accepted for publication, 22 outstanding rise and resubmit, 25 rejections, and 19 under review. Issues 28: 1 and 8:2 for 2008 have been released. Issue 23:3 was in production and on time and Issue 28:4 was on schedule. Note: the Special Issue, 28:5 on Religion, edited by Christopher Ellison and Darren Sherkat., received 40 submissions. The Editor has initiated discussions with the UK Routledge office to review *Spectrum's* Special Issue on "Religion in the 21st Century" (28:5) for possible publication as an edited book.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Editor, Forum

A report was sent via email to committee members prior to the meeting because Tim wasn't able to attend.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Coordinator, The Stanford Lyman Memorial Scholarship

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)

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.*

This amendment adds the Coordinator, sets term of appointment.

The amendment was approved. The amendment would have to be ratified by the membership at the Annual meetings in October 2008.

The Coordinator proposed the following addition to the Operations & Procedures Manual:

The Coordinator of the Stanford Lyman Memorial Scholarship shall be appointed by the Executive Council to serve for a period of four years (2005-2008, 2009-2012, etc.). At the end of the third year, a general invitation to apply for the coordinator position shall be made. Such application should contain:

- a. a letter of interest
- b. any support materials detailing relevant experience.

Recommendations for five (5) SLM Scholarship committee positions will be made by the coordinator and submitted to the Executive Council for their approval. Appointments to the SLM Scholarship

committee shall be made in a manner to represent MSSA membership in PhD granting institutions (minimum of 3) and MA granting institutions (minimum of 1).

Appointments to the scholarship committee are for three year terms, which begin and end in the designated year at the time of the Annual Meeting.

The SLM Scholarship will be \$1,000.00.

The Coordinator and Committee shall:

1. Establish selection criteria and recommend to Council any changes to these criteria
2. Establish an application process and recommend to the Council any changes to these criteria
3. Solicit applications
4. Evaluate scholarship applications and choose a recipient
5. The first recipient of the SLM Scholarship will be presented at the 2006 Annual Business meeting of the MSSA. Subsequent recipients will be announced at the Annual Business meeting
6. Notify the Lyman family of each recipient.

The proposed additions to the Operations and Procedures Manual were approved.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget Committee Report

The Chair of the Budget Committee, Dr. Carl Bankston, III, reported that the books of the Association were examined and found to be in order.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Chair, Committee on the Profession

The Chair, Committee on the Profession, Dr. Mark Konty, presented his report on a sliding scale for membership dues. Council approved the following scale:

< \$30K: **\$35.00** \$30K - \$49,999.00: **\$40.00** \$50K - \$69,999.00: **\$45.00** \$70K+ \$50.00
Joint Regular Members: **\$20.00** Emeritus **\$35.00** Student Members: **\$20.00**
Joint Student Members: **\$5.00.**

Emeritus and Joint Members would not receive the Official Journal of the Association.

Dr. Konty reported that Dr. David LoConto, Co-Chair of the Ethics Committee would begin reviewing the Associations ethics policies and submit recommendations for revision to the Executive Council at the Annual Meeting in October 2008.

The Committee would continue to display job postings at the Annual Meeting and organize a guide to graduate programs in the MSSA member States.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Chair, Committee on Women

The Chair Committee on Women, Dr. Rhonda Evans, reported that the Committee invited the membership to engage in discussions, with the purpose of providing support, mentoring, and resources to female undergraduates, graduates, and junior faculty members of the Association. The Committee also provided a list of online resources for this purpose.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Committee on Minorities

The Chair, Committee on Minorities reported that Grambling State University, Tuskegee University, and North Carolina Central University received minority grants. She also reported that an HBCU caucus would be held at the Jackson State University, MS., on April 19, 2008.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Co-Chairs, Small & Community Colleges

The Co-Chairs, Kathy A. Smith and Dr DeMond Miller reported that the committee has made progress on the following aims:

- Each member of the committee to invite their local college sociology/social and behavioral sciences faculty to join MSSA and attend the meetings.
- Encouraged more registered participation by using Each 1 bring one or 2 campaign.
- Conduct a survey to address the needs, concerns, and how the MSSA and the CSCC could better serve the needs of that group.
- Under Development: sponsor a workshop on teaching on-line course, panel and academic sessions that are related to pedagogy and the transition from 2 year-to 4 year colleges.

Dr. Miller undertook the duties of contacting all the Small and Community Colleges in the Huntsville area and encouraged them to actively participate in the 2008 meetings in Huntsville.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Chair, Committee on Membership

The Chair, Committee on membership, Dr. Tina Deshotels, reported that she had obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer a list of members who had not renewed membership in recent years. She planned to send the list to members on her committee with suggestions on ways to contact those individuals with the hope of enticing them back into the MSSA family.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Chair Committee on Nominations

The Chair, Committee on Nominations, Dr. Nicole T. Carr, reported that two calls were sent for nominations for the 2008 elections. At the time of the meeting the slate, after some changes, included the following nominations:

President-Elect: Ollie G. Christian , Roma S. Hanks Vice-President-Elect: Timothy Gongaware,
John Lynxwiler Nominations: Jackie Eller, Mark Konty Women: Rhonda Evans, Diane Keithly
Profession: Ana Maria Wahl, Kim Brackett, Greg Kowalski Small & Community Colleges: Maxwell
Kwenda, DeMond Miller.

The Secretary-Treasurer informed Dr. Carr that he would prepare a spreadsheet with membership information and current status of the nominees. Decision on the nominees was deferred pending the membership status report from the Secretary-Treasurer.

The report was accepted.

Report from the Chair, Site Selection Committee

The Chair, Site Selection Committee, Dr. Keith Durkin, was not present. No report was received.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report from the chair, Local Arrangements Committee

The Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, Dr. Nancy Finley, reported that she had started work in preparation for the Annual Meetings – October 22 – 25, 2008. The Secretary-Treasurer informed the chair that he would need registration assistance during the course of the meeting and suggest that the Huntsville Commerce & Visitors Bureau be contacted for support. Desk would be provided for book displays. Dana Greene & DeMond Miller agreed to serve as Book Exhibit coordinators.

Report for the Hotel Contract Negotiator

The Hotel Contract Negotiator, Dr. Obie Clayton, Jr., was not present. The Secretary-Treasurer reported on his behalf. The Association has contracts to 2011. Negotiations were ongoing with the Mobile Convention Bureau for site in Mobile for 2012 and 2014. The Association would be updated at the October meeting. Executive Council suggested that Birmingham should be considered for the 2013 meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

- A.** Secretary-Treasurer: An application for the position was received from Jamie Baird. Two other persons expressed verbal interest but failed to follow-up. Executive Council reviewed Baird's application and unanimously approved her appointment as Secretary –Treasurer. The appointment to take effect January 1, 2009.
- B.** The duties and responsibilities of Chairs of Committees would be review and updated.
- C.** Constitution amendment to Article IV, Section 2 and addition of rules governing the Stanford Lyman Scholarship were taken under report from the Coordinator, Stanford Lyman Scholarship Committee...
- D.** The procedures for Minority Fund Awards are in the report for C. on Minorities.
- E.** Membership Dues – Taken under report from the Chair, Committee on the Profession.

NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Registration Fees-Increase for 2009, discussed tabled until Oct. meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.