

President-Elect Dorry Noyes called the Spring 2017 meeting of the American Folklore Society Executive Board to order at 9:10 am on April 7, 2017, in the library of the Indiana University Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Room 272, Classroom-Office Building, Indiana University, 800 East Third Street, Bloomington, Indiana.

Members present, Wanda Addison, Katey Borland, Norma Cantú, Guillermo de los Reyes, Lisa Gilman, Jim Leary, Dorry Noyes, and Jeff Todd Titon. Members absent: Barry Bergey, Olivia Cadaval, and Phyllis May-Machunda. President Kay Turner was present via Skype. Staff members Lorraine Walsh Cashman (Associate Director), Jesse Flvecoate (Graduate Assistant), Tim Lloyd (Executive Director), and Meredith McGriff (Membership Director) were also present.

Executive Director Tim Lloyd briefly outlined the voting procedures that would be used during the meeting. Every Board vote taken at in-person meetings will be conducted orally, and immediately after each vote the Executive Director (or other staff member) will confirm the vote tally orally with the Board. On any vote that is not unanimous, or for which any member is absent, the minutes will list all members who vote for and against the motion, abstain from voting, or are not present.

After discussion, **Katey Borland moved that the minutes of the Board's October 19, 2016, meeting be approved as presented. Norma Cantú seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, with 9 votes in favor (including Kay Turner by Skype) and 3 Board members absent.**

The Board temporarily set aside the presentation of the President's report for the next day, when Kay Turner would be present at the meeting.

Tim Lloyd then delivered the Executive Director's report, focusing on a financial report on fiscal year 2017 so far, the Journal of American Folklore, and the next phase of China-US folklore and intangible cultural heritage project, which just received 2017-2019 funding from the Henry Luce Foundation.

The Board then considered the recommendation of this year's committee (Jeff Todd Titon, representing the Board, and Luisa Del Giudice, representing the AFS Fellows) for the recipient of the Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award. [Norma Cantú, a nominee for the award, left the room before this discussion.] After discussion, **Dorry Noyes moved that the board approve the committee's recommendation to award Norma Cantú the 2017 Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award. Jim Leary seconded the motion, which passed, with 8 votes in favor (including Kay Turner by Skype), 1 conflict of interest, and 3 Board members absent.**

Norma Cantú returned to the meeting at this point. The Board then took a break from

Its agenda at 10:25 am and returned to its agenda at 10:55 am.

The Board then considered the recommendation of this year's committee (Lisa Gilman, representing the Board, and Elizabeth Tucker, representing the AFS Fellows) for the recipient of the Kenneth S. Goldstein Award for Lifetime Academic Leadership. [Jim Leary, a nominee for the award, left the room before this discussion.] After discussion, **Jeff Todd Titon moved that the board approve the committee's recommendation to award Jim Leary the 2017 Kenneth S. Goldstein Award for Lifetime Academic Leadership. Dorry Noyes seconded the motion, which passed, with 8 votes in favor (including Kay Turner by Skype), 1 conflict of interest, and 3 Board members absent.**

Jim Leary returned to the meeting at this point. Tim Lloyd then presented some information about proposed changes in the criteria for the Archie Green Public Folklore Advocacy Award for the Board's information. No Board action was required or taken on this matter.

Lorraine Walsh Cashman then made a report to the Board on the progress of work toward the October 2017 annual meeting in Minneapolis, focusing on statistics from the proposals that were submitted by the March 31 deadline, information from the survey of session attendance that we conducted during the 2016 meeting, and plans to work with Atanto—our annual meeting app provider for 2016—on an online submission, proposal review, and program book assembly tool for 2017.

The 2016 session attendance survey made clear that at any time, more than half of those attending the annual meeting were not in sessions. We interpret this finding to be a positive one, which makes clear that many kinds of professional business, including informal networking of all sorts, is taking place during the annual meeting.

Cashman closed by noting that Buffalo would be the annual meeting site for 2018 and Baltimore for 2019, and that the staff was about to investigate Tulsa, Oklahoma, for the site of the 2020 annual meeting.

The Board then broke for lunch at 12:00 pm and resumed its agenda at 1:10 pm. Kay Turner left Skype at the beginning of this break to travel to Bloomington, Indiana, for tomorrow's meeting.

After the Board reconvened, Tim Lloyd then presented a list of proposed Society committee membership for 2017. After discussion, **Jim Leary moved that that the membership of all these committees be approved as presented. Jeff Todd Titon seconded the motion, which passed, with 8 votes in favor and 4 Board members absent.**

Tim Lloyd then moved ahead in the agenda to note that the Society's promotion and tenure statement and statement of ethics and professional responsibility were both out of date and in need of revision over the next year. No Board action was required or taken on this matter.

Tim Lloyd then made a report and PowerPoint presentation to the Board on the series of folklore archival- and library-related projects that the Society has pursued since 2000, showing the ways in which each of these projects had responded to the needs outlined in the report from the Society's December 2000 conference on Folk Heritage Collections in Crisis.

Meredith McGriff then delivered a report to the Board on possible membership development and recruitment priorities and strategies, describing to the Board the day-to-day work requirements of the Membership Director position, the recent membership data audit that she had completed, and outlining several near-term membership communications and development strategies for which funds had been included in the FY 2018 budget proposal, as well as ideas for constituencies that needed to be represented on the Society's Membership Committee. No Board action was required or taken on this matter.

The Board took a Break from its agenda at 3:00 pm and resumed its agenda at 3:15 pm.

Tim Lloyd then led a discussion of the upcoming 2017-2018 executive director transition, and a proposed position announcement that had been crafted by the Succession Committee that the Board had appointed in late 2016 to provide ED transition. After discussion, **Norma Cantú moved that the position description be approved for release, with a few recommendations for editorial changed that would be prepared by the staff and shared as soon as possible with the Board. Guillermo de Los Reyes seconded the motion, which passed, with 9 votes in favor and 3 Board members absent.**

The Board concluded its business for the day at 4:00, to resume the next morning.

President Kay Turner returned the Spring 2017 meeting of the American Folklore Society Executive Board to order at 9:35 am on April 8, 2017, in the library of the Indiana University Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Room 272, Classroom-Office Building, Indiana University, 800 East Third Street, Bloomington, Indiana.

Members present, Wanda Addison, Katey Borland, Norma Cantú, Guillermo de los Reyes, Lisa Gilman, Jim Leary, Dorry Noyes, Jeff Todd Titon, and Kay Turner. Members absent: Barry Bergey, Olivia Cadaval, and Phyllis May-Machunda. Staff members Lorraine Walsh Cashman (Associate Director), Jesse Flvecoate (Graduate Assistant), Tim

Lloyd (Executive Director), and Meredith McGriff (Membership Director) were also present.

Kay Turner then delivered her President's report, focusing on six items: 1) special diversity-related activities in at the 2016 Miami annual meeting, 2) the partnership AFS is brokering between the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage and the folklore program at the University of North Carolina to pair Smithsonian internships and UNC financial support for minority graduate students, 3) her Presidential initiative to encourage discussions about incorporating critical race theory and other contemporary forms of theory into folklore curricula, 4) the "Why I Am a Folklorist" short video series she is producing, 5) the progress of work on her project for a Narrative Year, and 6) the issues raised at the Miami annual business meeting in 2016.

The Board discussion that followed centered primarily on the annual business meeting, and the most effective ways to encourage members to raise issues there for later Board consideration. There was general agreement that more careful framing, along the lines of "This part of the meeting belongs to you," would be helpful, as would a report each year on the outcomes of issues that were raised the previous year, which could provide an example of how the process is supposed to work.

The Board then reviewed and discussed the proposed policy statement about appropriate annual meeting behavior. There were a few typographical errors that require correction, and the URL for the annual meeting policies page needs to be included in the annual meeting program book. After further discussion, **Guillermo de los Reyes moved that the Board approve the proposed policy statement about appropriate annual meeting behavior, with the typographical corrections already noted. Dorry Noyes seconded the motion, which passed, 9 votes in favor and 3 Board members absent.**

The Board took a break from its agenda at 11:00 am and resumed its agenda at 11:20 am.

Lorraine Walsh Cashman then presented the annual meeting social media policy she had drafted, which was an elaboration and refinement of more informal policies we have used in the past. After discussion, **Lisa Gilman moved that the Board approve the proposed annual meeting social media policy statement as presented. Kay Turner seconded the motion, which passed, with 9 votes in favor and 3 Board members absent.**

Jeff Todd Titon then raised several issues about Board position statements on political issues. He believes that membership is supportive of our issuing these sorts of

statements, but how do we determine that in a particular case? There was general agreement that we should not ask for member comments or opinions on an issue in such a way as to suggest a membership referendum, since the Board has the authority to act on behalf of the organization. We could use the survey tool on our website to solicit member comments. The Board also agreed that any Board action on an issue should not absolve members from the responsibility of taking their own actions on that issue.

The Board then broke for lunch at 12:00 pm and resumed its agenda at 12:45 pm.

Tim Lloyd then presented the budget proposal for fiscal year 2018 (September 1, 2017-August 31, 2018), noting a projected deficit of just over 1% (\$8,500 on a \$700,000 budget). The Board raised and discussed questions about continued AFS participation in the MLA Bibliography project and about proposed Cultural Diversity Committee activities at the annual meeting. After discussion, **Lisa Gilman moved that the FY 2018 budget proposal be approved as presented with one exception: that the Cultural Diversity Committee's budget for annual meeting activities be increased from \$2,700 to \$3,000. Norma Cantú second the motion, which passed, with 9 votes in favor and 3 Board members absent.**

The Board then turned to a discussion of AFS professional development and alt-ac activities at the annual meeting and throughout the year, led by Dorry Noyes. Folklore programs can be exemplars of what humanities programs can do to more broadly prepare their graduate students for productive careers outside the academy, and AFS can position itself as an exemplary provider of such professional development activities, with our annual meeting serving as a career networking node. Tim Lloyd briefly described the recent survey of AFS graduate student and early-career members about their highest-priority professional development needs, and noted that the Minneapolis annual meeting would feature sessions developed to serve those needs. AFS is also planning an alt-ac professional development session at the 2018 annual meeting of the Modern Language Association.

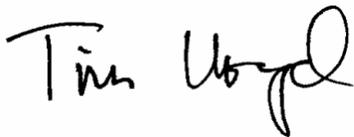
Tim Lloyd then made a brief report on Society work since the Miami annual meeting on contingent workforce issues. The Board created and empowered an ad hoc AFS committee on these matters, which will sponsor a workshop at the Minneapolis annual meeting and will submit an interim report to the Board in October 2017 and a final report with recommendations in spring 2018. At the macro scale AFS can approve (based on recommendations from this committee) a policy statement and advocacy position that contingent workers in our field can use in discussions and negotiations with their home institutions. AFS will also continue to participate in the activities of the Coalition on the Academic Workforce, but it was noted that this collective seems to have "run out of steam."

Under the heading of new business items for possible future Board consideration, the Board discussed a number of communications issues, including effective advocacy, the idea of folklore as a “listening discipline,” and potential ways to cumulate the activities and insights of AFS and the field as a whole.

There being no further items for discussion, **Lisa Gilman moved that the Board meeting be adjourned. Jim Leary seconded the motion, which passed, with 9 votes in favor and 3 Board members absent.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



2017

October 6,

Timothy Lloyd
Executive Director

Date

Approved by the American Folklore Society Executive Board:

October 6, 2017

Kay Turner
President

Date