

WSCA Legislative Assembly Meeting Minutes
Monday, February, 2011
6:30-8:00 p.m.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by WSCA President Heather Hundley
- II. Announcement of the Parliamentarian and Recording Secretary
 - A. Parliamentarian: Donna Gotch
 - B. Recording Secretary: Pamela Pareno
 - C. The Credentials Committee Report was made by Kimberly Aguilar and Stephanie Gomez
Present are 42 people composed of 11 university delegates, 8 members-at-large, 22 representatives from WSCA Interest Groups, and 1 additional attendee
- III. Review of Legislative Assembly Procedures (Heather Hundley)
 - A. Departments that have 5 or more WSCA members are entitled to one delegate.
 - B. Delegates-at-large are elected by the WSCA membership.
 - C. Interest Group Chairs and Vice-Chairs are delegates.
 - D. The presidents of officially affiliated organizations also are represented.
 - E. The WSCA Legislative Assembly follows the most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*.
- IV. Approval of 2010 Legislative Assembly Minutes

President Heather Hundley asked members to review the minutes to identify any areas for correction. A reference was made to *Communication Research Reports*, when our journal is called simply *Communication Reports*. No further corrections were identified. The minutes were approved with the correction.
- VI. Information items
 - A. President Heather Hundley announced the results of Association-wide elections. They were:
 - First Vice President— Brian Ott
 - Second Vice President— Ann Darling
 - Delegates-at-Large to the Legislative Assembly: Belle A. Edson; Amy Bippus; Robert G. Leonard; Michele L. Hammers; Pamela Lutgen-Sandvik
 - B. President Heather Hundley reported that 709 people had registered for the Convention. In addition, the number of members of the association now stands at 942 members of all types.
 - C. Executive Director John Reinard reported on:
 1. The 2014 convention hotel.
Selection visits to Long Beach and Anaheim revealed that there were great difficulties finding a suitable hotel in Long Beach. The recommendation was made to hold the Convention at the Anaheim Hilton (one and a half blocks from

Disneyland). Faculty members from California State University, Long Beach will be the local hosts.

This location was the least expensive room rate of all hotels visited (\$129 per night) In Long Beach, many suitable (i.e., large meeting spaces) were outside our price range. The Hyatt Long Beach refused to negotiate that far in advance. The corporate owners of the Hilton property are experiencing severe labor difficulties (they were fined by the NLRB last summer for unfair labor practices and boycotts of them currently are being conducted against them by two separate community groups).

2. The Time and Place Committee recommendation. The Committee has recommended Spokane, Washington for the 2015 Convention site. A hotel has not been selected
3. Membership facts. The membership has shown growth in its numbers over the last few years. If those who were purged for not paying their dues had renewed membership, the current numbers would reveal more than 1100 members.
4. WSCA assets. The organization's assets are at a very healthy level. Our assets from all sources (mutual funds, memberships, convention registrations, income from sponsorships, etc.) now are \$307,412.15.

Robert Stockton asked what the prices would be for rooms at the Albuquerque Convention. Reinard demurred that he was unsure, but would get the information (\$139.00).

A request was made that the names and email addresses of purged members be kept so that individual interest group planners could include them in calls of for papers.

Pamela Pareno responded that she would supply those names to Interest Group chairs who contact her requesting that information within the next two months.

VII. Report from the WSCA Representatives to the NCA Legislative Council.

Belle Edson reported that the main issue in NCA Legislative Assembly involved the NCA unit structure. Since there currently are 57 sub-units in NCA, restructuring is viewed as essential. The specific proposals were sent back to the task force for further discussion and to secure relevant information about the opinions that different organization members have about ways to improve organizational structure.

Robert Stockton (the K-12 Representative from WSCA) reported that several new groups were requesting a place in NCA. He stated that WSCA members with strong feelings about this matter should communicate them to the NCA office. The NCA Legislative Assembly also discussed ways to improve registration procedures. In addition, they discussed what to do when panel presenters cannot attend the convention. Representatives on the Council discussed whether there should some electronic alternative provided for them. There also was discussion that a fee hike in NCA membership rates may be coming.

VIII. Action Items

- A. The 2010 actual and 2011 proposed budgets – John Reinard. The year-end budget and the proposed budget were distributed to members. The proposed budget: was recommended by the Executive Council, which asks the Legislative Assembly to give its consent.

Though most of the budget is the same as last year's a few changes have emerged.

- The Executive Director and Editor transition amounts occur only in some years when a changeover is involved.
- *WSCA News* has a new: Editor who has been given approval to experiment with a web-based newsletter. The upshot of this effort is that emails will be received by subscribers letting them know that new stories are available on the *WSCA News* website. To set up this alternative publishing form requires an investment of \$164 up-front fee for the domain name, and \$1000 to establish the editorial office. The Executive Council increased the requested amount to support web development work.
- In the previous year, the funds for the keynote address were used for the train excursion in Anchorage. In the new budget, it will return.
- The Memorial Fund travel award provided scholarships to needy students to attend the Anchorage convention. As soon as the amount builds up again, renewed scholarships for student travel will be able to be budgeted.
- The Executive Director class buyout amount of \$12,500 was reduced to \$6,250 because John Reinard has been given a sabbatical leave for one semester. Thus, the reduction is temporary.
- Interest income continues to be low. The Executive Council requested that a financial planner provide guidance in placing at least \$50,000 in an interest bearing alternative to ordinary savings.
- Though the budget projects a deficit, in the past we usually end up in the black anyway. On the other hand, given our available cash, if we ran deficits as projected, it would take 9 years before the Association would have to make withdrawals from its mutual funds. Hence, raising fees is not required of our members at this time.

Motion to accept by Ann Darling, seconded, and passed unanimously.

- B. Changes to *Spectra*. President Heather Hundley asked Teresa Bergman to discuss *Spectra*: and what the new publication would be. The new *Spectra* will be a printed publication that comes out four times a year. If anyone has ideas for stories that should appear in the new *Spectra*, they should be shared with Teresa and NCA. Fundamental questions have been raised including, whether this new format will meet a meaningful purpose for NCA members, whether candid feedback is requested, or whether there is another agenda at work in this revision of *Spectra*.

Lin Allen: There should be an exploration of what the logic is of changing the focus for *Spectra*.

Teresa Bergman: The next national meeting on the subject is in April. Please contact me before then with your ideas.

- C. Motion to change the payment plan for Life Membership. Executive Director John Reinard explained that the Finance Committee recommended that the payment plan for the Life Membership should be altered to the following options: \$2,000 payable at one time; \$2100 payable over 2 yrs. (\$1100 & \$1000); payable over 3 yrs. (\$800 & two payments of \$650); payable over 4 yrs. (\$600 & three payments of \$500); payable over 5 years (\$500 & four payments of \$400).

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- D. No Resolutions from Interest Groups
 E. No Resolutions from the floor
 F. Resolutions of Appreciation:

Be it Resolved that the Western States Communication Association expresses its heartfelt appreciation to the following for their service:

Dan Canary, Immediate Past President of WSCA,
Heather Hundley, President of WSCA,
Pat Ganer, for convention program planning,
Michelle A. Holling, Second Vice President, for planning the Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference, the Graduate Student Workshop, and the Graduate Programs Open House, and for membership efforts,
All committee members who have served during the year,
Marnel Niles, Chair of the Local Host Committee, and the faculty, students, and staff of all the participating department at CSU Fresno for convention arrangements,
Robert Becker for coordinating the WSCA Forensic tournament,
The staff and management of the Hyatt Regency at Monterey for their service and hospitality

IX. Elections

- A. At-Large Representatives to Executive Council—two members (to serve 2011-2013, starting with the meeting tomorrow morning, including an annual meeting at NCA the evening prior to the convention and an annual meeting at WSCA the day prior to the convention. Mary Claire Morr Serewicz & Greg Dickson were elected.
- B. WSCA Nominating Committee—two members (to serve 2011-2012) with Heather Hundley, Immediate Past President, Chair.
Pam Lutgen-Sandvik and Melissa Tafoya were elected
- C. WSCA Scholar Award Committee—one member (to serve 2011-2013) starting in the fall.
Beth Bonnstetter was elected.
- D. WSCA Representative to NCA Legislative Council (representing Community Colleges (2011-2013). Robert Becker elected by acclamation

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Minutes approved February 20, 2012