

**WSCA Legislative Assembly Minutes**  
Monday, February 18, 2013  
John Ascuaga's Nugget Resort Hotel and Casino  
Ponderosa B  
6:40-8:10 p.m.

- I. Meeting Called to Order by WSCA President Lisa Flores at 6:49 p.m.
- II. Announcement by Lisa Flores of Recording Secretary, Pamela Pareno-Elkind, and Parliamentarian, Pat Ganer
- III. Review of Legislative Assembly Procedures by Lisa Flores  
The WSCA Legislative Assembly follows the most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*. Flores explained that individuals in the front rows of the meeting room were voting members of the assembly and individuals located in separate seats at the rear of the meeting room were nonvoting guests.
- IV. Credentials Committee Report -- Credentials Committee (Jone Brunelle, Elizabeth Drioane, Meghann McGuire). At the time of announcement, there were 45 voting members present.
- V. Approval of 2012 Legislative Assembly Minutes  
--Moved (Allen) and seconded (Yoshimura). Motion passed (44 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention).
- VI. Information Items
  - A. Results of Association-wide elections (President Flores):
    - First Vice President— Paul Mongeau
    - Second Vice President— Fran Dickson
    - Delegates-at-Large to the Legislative Assembly: Marlia Banning, Sarah Blithe, Amy Fara Edwards, Marnel Niles Goins, Tara McManus, Kent Ono
  - B. Results of Association searches (Past President Ganer)
    - Searches for WSCA News Editor and new Executive Director were not completed, but pending searches are underway with nominations welcomed
  - C. Executive Council actions (Executive Director Reinard):
    1. Budget review was completed in general terms. Details follow under consideration for the action item (Item VIII A) of budget approval.
    2. The Executive Council began discussions of revisions to the Conflict of Interest policy to deal with potential conflicts related to voting by Executive Council members for nominees for appointed offices.
    3. Recommendation was made by the Publications Committee to the Executive Council to return the total for the *WSCA News* budget category for \$1000 to expenses for the Editor
    4. It was decided to withdraw an article from publication in the *Western Journal of Communication* following learning that the copyright was owned elsewhere

5. A discussion was held regarding whether to maintain our current hotel services provider. It was decided that although we will gladly review different service providers in the future, we are happy with our current provider.
6. There is a search for a new Executive Director. John Reinard will stay for one additional year. The new Executive Director should start at the end of summer 2014.
7. Actions as part of a membership drive were aggressive. A Facebook advertisement was placed, which was not overwhelmingly successful. We received only 188 clicks out of 919,000 who saw the ad. As part of preconference registration, new members were asked to identify the persons who sponsored them. The reward for sponsoring new members was a \$5 gift card for the Nugget Hotel. Eighteen gift cards were awarded (Executive Council members were excluded).

D. 2016 Convention hotel (Executive Director Reinard):

- We decided to go to San Diego at the Bahia Hotel for 2016 .
- We had to change the week of our convention to February 25 - March 2 because the hotels are booked for other conventions over President's weekend.
- The rooms are \$159.00 including parking.

E. 2017 Convention site (Time and Place Committee Chair, Pendell): The Time and Place Committee recommend and the Executive Council decided that Salt Lake City, Utah should be the location of the 2017 WSCA Convention. Pendell asked for input into this decision. There were no suggestions from the floor.

F. Report about having a cruise meeting (Time and Place Committee Chair, Pendell): A written set of materials was distributed.

- Advantages included that: conventioners are captive; it should actually cost less money to attend the convention on a cruise since food is included; room cost comparisons are favorable (the most expensive room on a cruise has room rates comparable to those paid in Monterey).
- Disadvantages included that: WIFI is very expensive on a cruise; we would not have a convention lunch though we would have dinner; since there is no ship on the West Coast that can accommodate a group of our size, it would be necessary to depart from an East Coast location; since there would not be a local host on a cruise, there would be no volunteer student workers..
- Characteristics of the cruise: though there are no children's rates, the more people in a room, the cheaper it is per person; daycare is available; the meeting place and A/V equipment are included in the cost of the cruise; conferees will need to have passports.

Discussion from the floor included a number of questions raised as points of inquiry

- Q: Has anyone had any experience with universities paying for conventions that are on a cruise ship?

A (Pendell): Research suggests that there is no difficulty (in general) securing reimbursement.

Q (Edson): A consideration for me is that my travel office is cracking down heavily on things that do not look like a business expense.

A (Pendell): If there is a program corresponding with your receipts, it should be good. Of course, you may have to prove that you went to actual meetings and panels.

Q: One of the travel requirements some of us face is that we have to go through a travel review board. How do we assure they will support a WSCA cruise?

A (Pendell): There is no question that this is much different than anything we have done before where the intellectual value of the event must be justified.

- Q (Allen): What would happen to the WSCA Forensic Tournament that usually occurs at the same time and place of the convention?

A (Becker): The two functions have not always happened in the same location. When we went to Alaska, the tournament was at Seattle. When we were in Monterey, no nearby college could support the size of the tournament. So, it was held at the University of the Pacific. It would be necessary to find a sponsoring school close to the port of departure.

- Q (Allen): What would this cruise setting add to the convention experience?

A: This would be a change. This would also save the Association money.

- Q (LeMaster): What would happen with undocumented students and undocumented attendees?

A: They would need to have valid passports or not travel.

Q: As another matter related to passports, one of this year's presenters was from Indonesia and steps had to be taken to get a visa to enter the US. If we were on a cruise, would this person have to get additional visas?

A: To exit the ship, plans would have to be made in advance to secure proper papers.

- Q (Oft-Rose): Are any of the ships we are considering registered in the United States?

A: No.

- Q (Cloud): Are the ships welcoming to GLBT people?

A: Yes.

- Q (Sahlstein): Many students can attend for only a day. Wouldn't a cruise make it impossible for them to attend?

A: A cruise is not unlike other places we have been in the past, such as Anchorage or Washington when students had to take a bus to the convention.

G. Convention Registration (Executive Director Reinard): The total number of conferees who preregistered was 462. The on-site registration was 180. Thus, the total number was 633.

H. WSCA Membership (Executive Director Reinard): The total number of WSCA members of all types stands at 1009. The number will drop when nonrenewing members are dropped after the Convention.

I. WSCA Assets (Executive Director Reinard): We tend to keep between \$60,000 to 120,000 in ready cash in checking and savings. Currently, we have close to \$120,000, which will drop after we pay for remaining Convention expenses. At the end of the previous year, the total assets of the organization from all sources (including mutual fund investments, but excluding the Executives Club) was \$370,800.40.

## VII. Report from NCA Legislative Council:

- (Robert Becker, WSCA Representative for Community Colleges, 2011 through 2013): The big issue in the NCA Legislative Assembly was the proposal to alter membership in the Legislative Assembly to reduce its size. In addition, it was emphasized that all members of the Legislative Assembly have a fiduciary responsibility in NCA.

- (Belle A. Edson, WSCA Representative for Four-Year Universities and Colleges, 2010 through 2012): no report
- (Robert Stockton, WSCA Representative for K-12, 2012 through 2014): The failure of the proposed changes occupied the attention of all NCA Legislative Assembly members. A total of 188 participants serve on the NCA Legislative Assembly and there was a committee formed two years ago to make changes. New changes are under discussion and may be more extensive than the previous proposals.
  - A word of warning may be helpful. The upcoming NCA Convention will use two hotels in Washington DC because space is limited—thus, WSCA members should make plans early. Following Washington, DC in 2013, the conventions move to Chicago in 2014 and Las Vegas in 2015.

## VIII. Action Items

- A. Report on Actual 2012 Budget and approval of the 2013 proposed budget (Executive Director Reinard): The budget spreadsheet was distributed and was brought to the Legislative Assembly with the recommendation of the Executive Council. The motion comes with an automatic second. Attention was drawn to changes from previous budget amounts.
- There was a recommendation to add a new line for the First Vice President of \$500.00 to permit travel to work with the President Elect to learn how the current program planner works to prepare the convention program.
  - There was a recommendation to increase the keynote speaker line to \$7000 to cover a one thousand dollar increase for one year to secure George Lakoff as keynote speaker. Part of the expense of this matter is covered by a two-to-one matching grant given by the California State University System.
  - The line item for Convention Planning was increased by \$5000 to cover the deposit for the Bahia Resort for the 2016 Convention. In the future, this item may be suggested as a separate line item.
  - The Executive Director Administrative Assistant support was been increased to \$9500, which is the equivalent amount the assistant would have earned if teaching one two-semester course.
  - The line for insurance showed a drop of \$1000 of our expenses since we dropped our fire and theft insurance because it was more expensive than self-insuring our property.
  - The proposed budget included a transition budget for the Executive Director to handle the changeover.
- Discussion involved:
- Q (Canary): Does the financial allocation for the *WSCA News* Editor apply only to the new Editors, but not the other editors?
- A (Flores): There is money provided to other editors to “buy them out” of one class per semester. Until this proposal, there has been nothing to provide for expenses or time release for the *WSCA News* Editor.
- Budget passed unanimously.
- B. Proposal from Executive Council to Amend Article IV, Section 2 of the WSCA Bylaws (changes indicated by strikethroughs and italics) (changes to the Bylaws require a two-thirds vote in favor):

The Legislative Assembly shall elect, at its annual meeting, two members of the Association's Nominating Committee, two Members-At-Large to the Executive Council, and representatives to the National Communication Association Legislative Council Assembly as specified by the Constitution of the National Communication Association. *If an elected representative to the National Communication Association Legislative Assembly is unable to attend the annual meeting, the WSCA President will appoint a replacement from the constituency category from which the representative was originally appointed.*

Since the motion was from the Executive Council, it came with an automatic second.

--Flores: We do not currently have any procedure if someone cannot attend NCA. Of our three representatives, one member could not attend this year and requested a substitute.

--Oft-Rose: I can understand emergency, but the person should resign if he or she cannot attend.

--Q (Canary): Should there be formal language that "the WSCA President will consult with the EC and will appoint a replacement?"

A (Flores): That practice would occur unless there were insufficient time.

Motion passed (43 ayes, 1 nay)

C. Resolutions from Interest Groups

No resolutions were received from Interest Groups.

D. Resolutions from the Floor

No resolutions were presented from the floor.

E. Resolutions of Appreciation

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

Pat Ganer, Immediate Past President of WSCA,

Lisa Flores, President of WSCA,

Brian Ott, for convention program planning,

Christina Yoshimura, 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,

Amy M. Pason and Gwen A. Hullman of the Local Host Committee, and the faculty, students, and staff of the University of Nevada, Reno Department, for convention arrangements,

Robert Becker for coordinating the Western States Communication Association forensic tournament, and

Amanda Flangas and the staff and management of John Ascuaga's Nugget for their outstanding service and hospitality.

Be it resolved further that the outgoing President of WSCA be instructed to write letters communicating the appreciation of the Legislative Assembly to the above named persons and to their appropriate administrators.

Moved (Dorjee) and seconded (Fletcher).

Robert Becker requested to amend the resolution to add Jeannie Hunt to the list of people coordinating the Western States Communication Association.

--Flores: Amendment ordered without objection (there was no objection).

Resolutions passed unanimously.

## IX. Elections

- A. At-Large Representatives to Executive Council—two members (to serve 2013-2015, 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). Two nominees from the Nominations Committee were: Daniel Robert Dechaine and Tenzin Dorjee.

Flores: Nominations from the floor are open.

Motion to close nominations (moved by Pendell and seconded by Becker)

Point of information: Why is it necessary for elected representatives to attend the morning Executive Council meeting on Tuesday? It is hard for some people to stay until Tuesday.

A: The reason the Tuesday meeting is obligatory is that it provides a lot of information.

For instance, committee appointments for incoming delegates are made at that time and questions may be answered about duties.

Point of information (Ono): At some point, will we ask these nominees to talk about themselves?

A: Nominees need not even be in attendance at this meeting (though in this case, they are). Nominees need to have been advanced by the Nominating Committee or, if nominated from the floor, the nominees need to indicate in writing their willingness to accept election. If nominees are present at the Legislative Assembly meeting, they can indicate a willingness to serve with an oral declaration.

Flores: The motion on the floor is to close nominations.

Motion failed (3 ayes, 41 nays).

Flores: We are back to taking nominations. As requested, nominees who are present are invited to say a few words about themselves.

DeChaine and Dorjee described their background experiences and preparation.

Flores: At National Communication Association Convention, the Executive Council meets from 5 to 10 p.m. At the WSCA Convention, we meet on Friday from 2:30 to 10 p.m. and Tuesday in the morning. This term is for two years. The term starts tomorrow, primarily in a listening role. Voting privileges start after tomorrow. Nominations from the floor are open.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion to close nominations (moved by Yoshimura and seconded by Hubbell). Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to elect nominees by acclamation (moved by Yoshimura and seconded by Hubbell).

Motion passed unanimously.

- B. WSCA Nominating Committee—two members (to serve in 2013-2014).

Nominations:

1. Julie Shields
2. Rebecca Roberts
3. Ann Darling
4. Patrick Barton

Motion to close nominations (moved by Becker and seconded by Pendell). Motion passed unanimously.

Nominators offered comments in support of the nominees.

Ballots were distributed by the Credentials Committee. Rebecca Roberts and Ann Darling were elected.

- C. WSCA Representative to NCA Legislative Assembly—one member representing K-12, Community College, or Universities (to serve 2013 through 2015 starting with NCA in Washington, D.C., including Wednesday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday morning meetings). The appointment should be considered an academic year appointment. It begins after this Convention and includes a place on the agenda of the WSCA Legislative Assembly to report events from the preceding NCA Legislative Assembly. Thus, this delegate will invited to report at the 2016 WSCA Convention completing the 2015-2016 academic year.

Nominations:

1. Dana Cloud
2. Anne Hubble

Motion to close nominations (moved by Barton and seconded by LeMaster). Motion passed unanimously.

Nominators offered comments in support of the nominees.

Ballots were distributed by the Credentials Committee. Dana Cloud was elected.

- D. WSCA Scholar Award Committee—one member to serve 2013-2015 starting after the current Convention.

Nominations:

1. Erin Sahlstein
2. Kent Ono

Motion to close nominations (moved by Pendell and seconded by McManus). Motion passed unanimously.

Nominators offered comments in support of the nominees.

Ballots were distributed by the Credentials Committee. Kent Ono was elected.

- E. Distinguished Teaching Award—one member to serve 2013-2015 starting after the current Convention

Nominations:

1. Toniesha Taylor
2. Stephen Hartnett

Motion to close nominations (moved by Harro and seconded by Becker). Motion passed unanimously.

Nominators offered comments in support of the nominees.

Ballots were distributed by the Credentials Committee. Toniesha Taylor was elected.

- X. Adjournment