

WSCA Legislative Assembly Minutes
Sunday, February 18, 2018
7:00-8:30 pm Winchester
Hyatt, Santa Clara, CA
Approved Feb 24, 2019

President Michelle Holling called the meeting to order at 7:05pm
Holling announced the Recording Secretary, Jennifer Fowlie, and Parliamentarian, Antonio De La Garza. She then reviewed the Legislative Assembly Procedures.

Holling made motion to amend the agenda to include an announcement section at the end of the meeting. The motion passed.

Holling asked for approval of the agenda as amended. The amended agenda was approved.

Holling asked for the Credentials Committee Report. Chair Alvarado reported 48 voting members were present and we had quorum.

Holling asked for approval of 2017 Legislative Assembly Minutes following no revisions. The minutes were approved.

Holling provided the results of the association-wide elections:

First Vice President: Marnel Niles Goins

Second Vice President: Justin Boren

Delegates-at-Large to the Legislative Assembly: Maria Blevins, Santhosh Chandrashekar, Benny LeMaster, Kathleen McConnell, and Pavithra Prasad

Hundley reported the following Executive Council action items:

- WSCA will waive three convention registrations for K-12 Awardees and Model Communication Program Award.
- Edits were made to the *WSCA Policies and Procedure Manual* as per changes.
- Emergency funds were offered to officers and voting members affected by the CA ban on state funds; however, all officers/members were able to find alternative funding, so no disbursement was necessary.
- The convention program printer changed to Sheridan Press who also prints the WSCA journals. Early estimates show a \$1000 savings compared to Cadmus, the previous printer.
- The new *Western Journal of Communication* editor is Amy Johnson, University of Oklahoma.
- A new interest group, Communication, Identities and Difference, is on a two-year probationary term.
- New Speech Activities Coordinator is Carlos Tarin, University of Texas at El Paso
- 2021 Irvine Convention Hotel is the Hotel Irvine at \$159/night, no food/beverage minimum.
- 2022 Portland Convention Hotel will be the Portland Hilton at \$182/night-\$32,000 food/beverage minimum.
- Prospective 2023 Convention City locations are Albuquerque, Tucson, and Bay Area.

- 2018 WSCA Convention registration is 690.
- 2018 WSCA Membership is 767.
- 2017 Budget - The association is in good financial shape. The gross income for 2017 was approximately \$172,000; expenses were approximately \$153,000. WSCA made \$19,000 in 2017.
- WSCA 2017 Assets - The investments are sound and upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approval from the Executive Council. Hiring a professional investor has been researched with the next action coming later as a motion from the Executive Council.

Reports from NCA Legislative Council:

Representatives: Robert Stockton, representing K-12 2015-2017, Nina Reich representing Four-year Universities and Colleges, 2016-2018; Colleen McGoff Dean, representing Community Colleges, 2017-2019. Stockton was present and details are available on the NCA website.

Action Items

Hundley reported that the Executive Council proposes the use of Attendee Interactive which is the convention software program that NCA uses. The cost for WSCA is \$6871/per year and would start with a 1 year trial period. Cost would include training for Hundley, Reynolds, and Interest Group planners. WSCA would be added on to NCA's license and other regionals are considering it. The motion passed.

Hundley reported the Executive Council makes a motion to accept the proposed January 1 to June 30, 2018 budget to close out calendar fiscal year prior to switching to a July 1-June 30 fiscal year. The motion passed.

Hundley reported the Executive Council makes a motion to accept the July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 budget. The motion passed.

Hundley reported the Executive Council makes a motion to increase fees for Exhibitor tables at convention new rates of \$300.00/1 table, \$500.00/2 tables, and \$100 more for each additional table. The President tasked the Finance Committee to compare WSCA pricing with other regional pricing. The pricing offered is in line with the other regional associations. The motion passed unanimously.

Hundley reported the Executive Council makes a motion to recognize convention sponsors by including the names and links on the WSCA website as a thank you. The motion passed.

Hundley reported the Executive Council makes a motion to add a page on the website to highlight WSCA Public Statements and Resolutions. Holling explained how and what would be included on the page including public statements and organizational beliefs and Hundley provided a few examples. The page will allow WSCA values to be easily identifiable and will help to guide WSCA decision-making. The motion passed.

Hundley reported the Executive Council makes a motion to adopt a Statement of Anti-Discrimination and Diversity for WSCA. Holling explained the purpose of the statement and a copy of the statement as approved by Executive Council was distributed to Legislative Assembly for review and discussion. A motion was made by Kevin Ayotte and passed by majority to use the Oxford comma throughout the statement. Much discussion was provided regarding the “rationale” of the statement. Questions arose as to whether the “rationale for the Statement” would be part of the Statement of Anti-Discrimination and Diversity. The motion was solely about the Statement and not about its rationale. The rationale provided context for the impetus of the Statement. Yet the rationale would be part of WSCA’s public record accessible in the association’s archives. Benny LeMaster, Bernadette Calafell, and Santosh Chandrashekar requested the word “descent” be struck from line 6 of the rationale. A motion was made by Heather Canary and 2nd by Melissa Tafoya to table the resolution until next Legislative Assembly and the motion failed. At this time a motion was made to suspend the rules and extend the meeting another 30 minutes. Motion passed to extend the meeting. Robert Layne made a motion to call to question and end debate 2nd by Duncan Stewart. Motion passed by majority. The proposal to adopt the Statement of Anti-Discrimination and Diversity for WSCA passed with majority support. Remaining in question is where/if the “aims of the statement” will be codified anywhere. This was not discussed or passed by Executive Council; therefore, it will be re-directed to them and may appear on the 2019 LA agenda.

Hundley reported the Executive Council makes a motion allowing the Executive Director to hire a professional investor. Concerns were addressed regarding the selection of investments to include only those investments deemed “socially responsible” and in line with WSCA values. Additionally, all investments would be approved through WSCA. The motion passed.

At this point another vote was taken to suspend the rules and extend the meeting another 30 minutes. The motion passed.

Holling asked for Resolutions/Actions from Interest Groups. Shinsuke Eguchi raised a question regarding the lack of a gender-neutral bathroom at this year’s convention. Holling explained her interactions with the hotel and their lack of support to create gender neutral bathrooms for the convention. Hundley proposed the inclusion of adding a clause to the contract requiring a gender-neutral bathroom at all future convention sites. However, contracts were signed through 2022 so the policy can be implemented after that.

Pavithra Prasad reported that the Intercultural Comm. Interest Group will be updating their bylaws and making nominating committee revisions. Hundley reminded the Legislative Assembly that interest groups are empowered to amend or update their bylaws without Executive Council or Legislative Assembly approval. The interest groups just need to send the updated bylaws to the Executive Director to post on the website.

There were no Resolutions/Actions from the floor.

Holling offered the following Resolutions of Appreciation:

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

Mark Bergstrom, Immediate Past President of WSCA;

Michelle Holling, President of WSCA;

Brian Heisterkamp, for convention program planning;

Rodney Reynolds for membership drive efforts;

Donna Gotch, Second Vice President, for planning the Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference, the Graduate Students Workshop, and the Graduate Program Open House;

All committee members who have served during the year;

Felipe Gomez, Kathleen McConnell, and Tabitha Hart, the Local Host Committee, and the faculty, students, and the staff of San Jose State University Department of Communication Studies for convention arrangements;

Jason Jordan for coordinating the Western States Communication Association tournament;

Sahar Amin, Laura Smeal, Leslie Salazar, and the staff and management of the Santa Clara Hyatt 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.

Holling opened elections

At-Large representatives to Executive Council **two members** (to serve 2018-2020, starting with the meeting tomorrow morning, including an annual meeting at NCA the evening prior to the convention and an annual meeting the day prior to the convention). These representatives are required to be at the WSCA conventions in Seattle and Denver as well as the NCA conventions in Salt Lake City and Baltimore. Stepping off are Heather Crandall and Jacob Jenkins. Continuing are Audrey Deterding and Derek Buescher. Two nominees recommended from the Nominating Committee: Colleen McGoff Dean and Wendy Hine. They were accepted by acclamation.

WSCA Nominating Committee- **two members** (to serve in the 2018-2019 starting after the current convention). The current members ending their terms are Richie Hao and Claudia Anguiano. The committee members consist of Michelle Holling (chair), Valerie Manusov (Elected by EC), 2 newly LA elected members, 1 newly EC elected member, and the following Interest Groups' Chairs: Gloria Pindi Nziba Intercultural Communication, Julianna Kirschner Language and Social Interaction, Amira de la Garza Performance Studies, and Roberta Chevrette Rhetoric & Public Address. Michael Walker and Pavithra Prasad were nominated and accepted by acclamation.

WSCA Representative to the NCA Legislative Assembly- **one member** (to serve 2018-through WSCA Convention in 2020 starting with the NCA Convention in Salt Lake City, including Wednesday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday morning meetings). This is a three-year term and the representative is required to attend the next three NCA conventions (Salt Lake City, Baltimore, and Indianapolis) and WSCA conventions (Seattle, Denver, and Irvine). Stepping off the committee is Robert Stockton. Other members include Nina Reich and Colleen McGoff. Robert Stockton and Melissa Tafoya both self-nominated and Robert Stockton was elected by majority vote.

WSCA Scholar Award Committee- **one member to serve 2018-2020** starting after the current convention. The member ending his term on this committee is Greg Dickinson. Other members include Bernadette Calafell, a newly LA-elected member, a newly EC appointed member, a newly Presidential appointment of a past *WJC* or *CR* editor, and an At-Large Representative to Executive Council. Jose Angel Maldonado was nominated and accepted by acclamation.

Distinguished Teaching Award-**one member to serve 2018-2020** starting after the current convention. The member ending her term in Jennifer Asenas. Other members include Audrey Deterding (chair), Shinsuke Eguchi, a Presidential appointment, and a newly LA-elected member. Benny LeMaster was nominated and accepted by acclamation.

Holling adjourned the meeting at 9:12 pm