



Annual Business Meeting

Minutes of Saturday, February 16, 2019

1:30 p.m.

Crown Plaza Hotel

Knoxville, Tennessee

Conference Title: Enhancing the Graduate Student Experience

President's Welcome:

David Berkowitz called the meeting to order at 1:25pm. He thanked the host committee for all their efforts on the 2019 annual meeting. It has proven to be another successful meeting. He also thanked the CSGS officers, executive committee and other committee members for their service during the past year. He stated that at the Executive Board Meeting that the board decided to have at least one Executive Committee Board member on each committee for continuity and improved communications. This practice may be added to the by-laws for future consideration.

Nominating Committee:

Ernest Brothers gave the Nominating Committee report and distributed the ballot, one to each university member. A full slate was considered with one nominee for President-Elect, one nominee for Treasurer and five nominees for the Executive Committee (to fill five vacancies).

President-Elect: Jack DeRochi, Winthrop University

Treasurer: George T. Flowers, Auburn University

Executive Committee: Mary Farmer-Kaiser, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Lisa Sperling, University of Georgia
Sharon James McGee, East Tennessee State University
W. Constina Charbonnette, West Virginia University
Catherine Pagani, University of Alabama

Approval of Previous Year's Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes from the 2018 Annual Business Meeting were distributed and reviewed. Brian Kloepfel made a motion to accept the minutes, Jon Hakkila seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Membership Committee:

Victor Prybutok gave the Membership Committee report for Dean Campbell who was not able to attend the business meeting. The committee would like to expand to have greater outreach. They continue to work with non-member institutions to get them to join CSGS.

Treasurer's Report:

George Flowers reported on the finances for calendar year 2018. On December 31, the balance was \$168,031.42. Total Income was \$129,960.79, Total Expenses were \$109,497.92, with Net Income totaling \$20,462.87. George credited sponsorships to our strong financial position.

Audit Report:

Paul Gemperline gave the Audit Report for Lori McMahan who was not able to attend the business meeting. He reported that the audit showed no financial discrepancies and that everything looked to be in perfect order. He thanked Treasurer, George Flowers, for his service.

3MT Committee:

Jean Van Delinder reported on the 3MT competition. She thanked her committee members including Ruth Bahr, Amanda Cantu, Peter Harries, Karen Coats, Jeannine Perry, Ernest Brothers and Sean Hendricks. Participation was very successful once again this year with 46 students competing in four heats. The top two winners from each heat will advance to the final. She reminded us that it's always important to have someone from the local host committee assist with securing judges and other various arrangements.

Sponsorship Committee:

Kim Needy thanked her co-committee member George Flowers and reported that to date we raised \$27K in sponsorships. The final number is still being determined. Sponsors included 3 platinum, 4 silver and 13 member sponsorships. Support by sponsors helps to offset the registration cost to our members.

Student Awards Committee:

Peter Harries thanked the Student Awards Committee consisting of Ethan Carver, Karen Coats, Jon Hakkila and Cathy Pagani. In the area of Math, Physical Science and Engineering, there were 9 nominations. Scott "Andrew" Holcomb from the University of Kentucky was the winner for his thesis titled *Initial Microseismic Recordings at the Onset of Unconventional Hydrocarbon Development in the Rome Trough, Eastern Kentucky*. For Humanities and Fine Arts, there were 14 nominations. Laura Nelson from the University of George was the winner for her thesis titled *A 'Miserable Creature' or 'Remarkable Man': Wilkes Flagg and the Ambiguity of Race in the Nineteenth-Century Middle George*. There were no nominations for the Digital category. There was a discussion that this category could be used for things that don't fit neatly into a master's thesis category such as for an MFA. Proquest would support a change in this category. Paul Gemperline made a motion that the Student Awards Committee redevelop the digital thesis category award into a non-traditional thesis award category. Victor Prybutok seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. It is hoped that this can be resolved and put in place by next year.

Faculty Awards Committee:

Michael Cunningham thanked the Faculty Awards Committee consisting of Robert Doerksen, Andrea Golato, Andrew Goodliffe and Patricia Koski. He stated that there were no nominations for Outstanding Contributions and 6 nominations for the Outstanding Mentor Award. Sarah Morgan from Southern Mississippi was the winner of this award. It is recommended that the committee get the word out sooner for nominations, revise the selection rubric as it does not align with the award criteria, and enlarge the committee in the case of conflicts of interest with nominations for the committee member's home institution. He also suggested that a "process manual" be created for the award including timing.

Election Results:

David Berkowitz announced the election results. Congratulations to the following new officers/Executive Board members:

President-Elect: Jack DeRochi, Winthrop University

Treasurer: George T. Flowers, Auburn University

Executive Committee: Mary Farmer-Kaiser, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (until 2022)
Lisa Sperling, University of Georgia (until 2022)
Sharon James McGee, East Tennessee State University (until 2022)
W. Constina Charbonnette, West Virginia University (until 2020, fulfilling a vacated position)
Catherine Pagani, University of Alabama (until 2022)

Passing of the Gavel:

President David Berkowitz handed over the gavel to the new President, Kim Needy. Kim presented a plaque to David in honor of his service as president. She remarked that under his leadership he had successfully advance the CSGS. She invited everyone to join her next year at the next annual meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, March 5-7, 2020.