



Annual Business Meeting

Minutes of Friday, February 19, 2016

12:30 PM

Charlotte, NC

Conference Title: Exploring New Paths in Graduate Education

President's Report

The President of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS), John Kiss, called the annual business meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the 44rd Annual Business Meeting held in New Orleans at the InterContinental New Orleans Hotel on March 7th were placed in each attendee's program materials. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. With no deletions, additions, or modifications, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

A. Sustich delivered the Treasurer's report pointing out the deficits that we have been accruing during the past two years. He made comparisons between last year and this year explaining that our dues level does not cover our expenses. The Treasurer's report covered the period of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. There was a beginning cash balance \$96,313.68 compared with last year's cash balance of 114,504.38. Our total revenue this year was \$119,843.06 compared with last year's at 89,082.23. Our total expenses were \$142,398.88 giving us a net loss of \$22,696.32. Our cash balance is 73,617.36 and this compares with last year's ending cash balance of 96,313.70.

Proposal to raise dues (from \$150 to \$150-\$250)

President J. Kiss introduced the motion to raise the dues from \$150 to a tiered system beginning with \$150 for institutions with graduate enrollments up to 999, \$200 for institutions with enrollments between 1000 and 3999, and \$250 for institutions with enrollments greater than 4000 graduate students. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the new dues structure. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Audit Committee Report

B. Melhart reported that after a review of the finances of the organization, the committee found no discrepancies and that the revenue and expense statement accurately depicts a healthy financial situation.

Faculty Awards Committee Report

B. McNamara reported on the two CSGS faculty awards. After introducing the committee members, he gave background information on the evaluation of the

awards. There were 11 nominees for the mentor award and 4 nominees for the contributions award. The winners were:

2016 Award for Faculty Excellence in Mentoring Graduate Education
Dr. Douglas Masterson, University of Southern Mississippi

2016 CSGS Award for Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education in the Southern Region
Dr. Karen DePauw, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Thesis Awards Committee Report

S. Montas-Hunter reported that 23 applications were reviewed. After introducing the committee she announced the three winners in the area of Social Sciences, Business, and Education:

Andrew MacLarsen, Automated Detection of Rare and Endangered Anurans Using Robust and Reliable Detection Software, Texas State University
Advisor: Dr. Michael Forstner

Gandalf Nicolas, Confrontation of Prejudice Towards Miltiracials and Monoracials, The College of William and Mary
Advisor: Dr. Cheryl L. Dickter

Sergio Carvajal-Leoni, The Texan Italian Stores Documentary Series: Fostering Social Connections Among Members of a Geo-Ethnic Community Through the Process of Media Creation, Texas State University
Advisor: Dr. Sandy Rao

Elections:

By acclamation, Dr. Flowers elected to the position of Treasurer.

The Nominees for each position were introduced as follows:

Nominees for President Elect

F. Douglas Boudinot
Ernest I. Brothers

Nominees for Executive Committee – 4 members for 3-year terms & 2 members for 2-year terms

Lori Mann Bruce, Mississippi State University
Michael Cunningham, Tulane University
Jack Derochi, Winthrop University
Jessica Efenbein, University of South Carolina
Peter Harries, North Carolina State University
Kim Needy, University of Arkansas
Robert Sanders, Appalachian State University

Membership Committee Report

D. Campbell reported on the activity of the Membership Committee. He introduced the committee and explained that the committee had discussed the need for the change in the dues structure. The committee also approved two new member institutions during the year. D. Campbell reported on the Committee's efforts to improve communications with members of CSGS. As part of this effort the Committee created a Linked-In account to complement the existing listserv. The next task of the Committee will be to send out reminders to those who have not sent in their dues.

Nominating Committee Report

P. Gemperline gave the final report from the nominating committee. He announced the results of the vote of the members:

President-elect:

Ernest I. Brothers

Executive Committee

Three Year Terms Ending in 2018:

Lori Mann Bruce, Mississippi State University

Michael Cunningham, Tulane University

Peter Harries, North Carolina State University

Kim Needy, University of Arkansas

Two Year Terms Ending in 2017:

Jack Derochi, Winthrop University

Jessica Elfenbein, University of South Carolina

J. Kiss asked those who want to serve on committees to contact President McCandless.

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Passing of the Gavel

President Kiss handed over the gavel to our new President, Amy McCandless.

A plaque was presented to John Kiss by President McCandless in honor of his service as president.

The Meeting was next adjourned at 1:00.

Prepared by William Wiener,
Secretary