

Minutes of the Spring Executive Committee Meeting, February 22, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:43 p.m. by Akshaya Kumar and the minutes from the fall 2016 Executive Committee Meeting were approved. [Minutes on the Academy Website]

Attendees:

Larry Krannich
Akshaya Kumar
Mathew Edwards
Jack Shelley-Tremblay
Matthew Edwards
Malia Fincher
Ellen Buckner
Ketia Shumaker
David Nelson
Ken Marion
Mike Moeller
Bettina Riley
Nixon Mwebi
Brian Lahaie
Clark Lundell
Jane Nall
Donna Cleveland
Bryan Kennedy
Susan Herring
Mel Blake
J. Wayne McCain
Morgan Ponder
Brian Burnes
Brian Toone
Drew Hataway
Ketia Shumaker
Cameron Gren
Akshaya Kumar
Mark Jones
Adriane Ludwick

Drew Hataway moved to approve minutes. Ketia Shumaker seconded. Minutes were approved.

1. Akshaya Kumar addressed our list of outstanding action items:
 - a. Brian Toone reported that we need more activity on the Facebook Page. May establish a Twitter account.
 - b. Brian Toone reported that he and Jack Shelley-Tremblay have looked into indexing the journal, assessing the effectiveness of the journal, and how it is published. There are requirements for indexing that the journal must meet. Brian is incorporating these requirements into the operations manual for the AAS. DOAJ – Directory of Open Access Journals is the indexing site under consideration. Other sites have prohibitive criteria in terms of impact factor and number of readers. Jack Shelley-Tremblay reported on new options available to publish the journal through the Wordpress platform used for the website. There was discussion of whether the journal needs to be physically printed at all. Mel Blake raised a question about whether libraries need a physical copy. Larry Krannich reported that roughly 32 libraries have subscription, which Brian Toone estimates might be printed for approximately \$150 per issue. Ellen Buckner suggested that providing the option of paying for a hard copy would be an option. Drew Hataway questioned whether we should solicit input from the broader membership before a vote. Drew Hataway moved that we offer the electronic journal to all members and allow members to elect to pay more for a print subscription. Libraries will continue to receive paper copies. John McCall seconded. The motion passed.
 - c. Change of name for the bioethics committee. The name will not be changed.
 - d. Fundraising for student research awards. Drew Hataway moved that the AAS waive the page charges for publishing papers in the journal by undergraduate and graduate student award winners after peer review. John McCall seconded. The motion passed.
 - i. Student research award proposals for this year were all funded, providing evidence that fundraising for these awards is not currently necessary.
 - ii. Jack Shelley-Tremblay suggested that the Development committee solicit donations from former award winners and beneficiaries of the AAS via a donation link on the website and on the dues page.
 - iii. The Long Range Planning Committee is recommending that the Development Committee be dissolved. The Development Committee consists of all past presidents, but they do not have development experience. Matthew Edwards suggested that this may be a necessary committee. The Mason Scholarship event did not generate much success with fundraising. Jack Shelley-Tremblay suggested that we identify causes that may move people to donate (for example, evolution in textbooks, climate change, student research, etc.). Adriane Ludwick suggested that the committee identify 5 issues of interest to add to the website and the dues page. John McCall suggested that the Development Committee be reduced to recent past presidents. Larry Krannich suggested that the AAS needs professional help. John McCall will assist Larry Krannich to rethink the role of the Development Committee. Jack Shelley-Tremblay suggested that the Development and Public Relations committees be merged.
 - e. Prepare an argument to remove the anti-evolution disclaimer from state science textbooks. No action has been taken and this item is being removed from the action item list.
 - f. Approve and respond to the formal offer of Samford University's College of Health Sciences to host the 2018 Annual Meeting. Ketia Shumaker moved to approve. Ken Marion seconded. The movement was approved.
 - g. Identify a mechanism to assess the success of the journal in the next one to two years. This Ad-Hoc Steering Committee is to develop a mission statement and objectives for the journal. Their discussion will address associate editors, online JAAS publication, and Journal Indexing. This effort is ongoing. Will report more in Fall 2017

- h. Creation of an AAS mini-grant program to fund small initiatives for STEM outreach. Mel Blake and the STEM education group would like to create a small grant program to fund outreach (in the range of \$300 per grant) available to all science fields. The program would be paid for by selling a calendar showing research by scientists from the AAS. Each calendar page would have a QR code that would take you to the page of the scientist. Jack Shelley-Tremblay seconded. Ketia Shumaker asked for more details about the calendar. Jack Shelley-Tremblay suggested that we could host a slideshow of these kinds of pictures and small research narratives on the website. The motion passed. The award will be managed by the STEM section.

Ketia Shumaker moved to create a silent auction as a fundraiser at the annual meeting each year, starting in 2018. The fundraising target will be identified by the Development Committee each year. Drew Hataway seconded. The motion passed. Ketia Shumaker will identify a group to work on a silent auction for the 2018 AAS meeting.

- i. Recommendations from Long Range Planning Committee regarding certain committees. The committee has identified certain committees that have not reported on activities consistently or that lack membership. They propose adding the resolutions committee as a standing committee. Malia Fincher moved, John McCall Seconded. The motion passed. The membership committee has no participating members. Ellen Buckner pointed out that some committees have historically reported only once a year. She also suggested that some person should take on the role of coordinating membership networking with the section chairs. She advocates for retaining the membership committee, and reformulate the charge to the committee. Jane Nall suggested that we recruit more student members. Jack Shelley-Tremblay added that the website can host web conferences. Malia Fincher suggested that we eliminate the committee and rely on section chairs and individuals to coordinate recruitment. Nixon Mwebi suggested that we need more periodic updates about the academy, so that each member is better able to represent the AAS and recruit. John McCall suggested that Development and PR committees need to be involved with recruitment, as well. Jack Shelley-Tremblay suggested that the scope and mission of the membership committee be reconsidered but that the committee be retained. Drew Hataway suggested that we don't have sufficient membership to support the number of committees that we currently sustain. Brian Toone suggested that the president elect assume membership leadership duties. Drew Hataway moved to dissolve the membership committee. Malia Fincher questioned whether the second vice president attempts to find nominees for each of these committees each year. Larry Krannich indicated that they do. Mel Blake asked how nominees are sought. Larry Krannich explained that the second vice president is chair of the nominating committee, which includes all section chairs. Jack Shelley-Tremblay suggested that we could use the website to generate surveys to the membership as a whole to facilitate the nomination process. Nixon Mwebi suggested that we need a contact person in each institution of higher education in Alabama to facilitate nomination. Discussion about whether the AAS has active members at each institution. John McCall suggested that a contact person at each institution could coordinate with the development committee each year. Jack Shelley-Tremblay suggested that we move the charge, duties, and responsibilities of the membership committee to the development committee and have the first vice president chair that committee. Adriane Ludwick moved that we consider this issue at the fall 2017 executive committee meeting. Jane Nall seconded. The motion passed.
- j. Nominations. More nominations will be sought during the meeting.
- k. Ellen Buckner pointed out the AMSTY and Science in motion programs are in danger of losing funding. These are internationally recognized programs. Lee Meadows is on the relevant committee. A resolution is being drafted to encourage continued funding. Jack Shelley-Tremblay will put the resolution on the website for the membership to sign. David Nelson moved to support continued funding for these programs. Jane Nall seconded. The motion passed. Text 507-609-3322 and put your zip code in the message to receive a text with info about all of your state and federal representatives.

- l. Resolutions. Resolution to thank the University of South Alabama for hosting the AAS meeting 2017 and the local arrangements committee. Malia Fincher moved, John McCall seconded. The resolution passed. Resolution to thank Mr. Steve Ricks for his service with the AMSTY program. Malia Fincher moved, Drew Hataway seconded. The resolution passed. Resolution of thanks to Dr. Safaa al Hamdani for his service as the editor of the AAS Journal. Malia Fincher moved, Drew Hataway seconded. The resolution passed.
- m. The officers reports were considered. B10 needs a correction – In the first paragraph Jacksonville State University hosted state science Olympiad (not UWA).
- n. The committee reports were considered.
- o. Mike Moeller pointed out that two applications for the Mason scholarship came in after the report was submitted, so they will be making an award this year.
- p. Motion to adjourn by Drew Hataway. Seconded by Malia Fincher.

Action Items Spring 2017 Executive Committee Meeting

Action Item	Person Responsible	Due Date	Update Spring 2017
Create Facebook and Twitter presence for the AAS	Brian Toone	Soon	Need to solicit more likes for Facebook page. May establish a Twitter account.
Potential Indexing for the Journal.	Brian Toone and Jack Shelley-Tremblay	Spring 2017	Efforts are under way to ensure that the journal meets the standards required for indexing by the DOAJ.
Consider a name change request for bioethics section. Section does not want a change.	Section X	Spring 2017	No name change is desired by the section.
Discuss fundraising for student research awards	Brian Burnes	Spring 2017	Not needed
Prepare an argument to remove the anti-evolution disclaimer from state science textbooks	Committee on Science and Public Policy	Spring 2017	No action.
Approve and respond to the formal offer of Samford University's College of Health Sciences to host the 2018 Annual Meeting	Exec. Committee	Spring 2017	Approved.
Identify a mechanism to assess the success of the journal in the next one to two years. This Ad-Hoc Steering Committee is to develop a mission statement and objectives for the journal.	Drew Hataway, Ellen Buckner, Cameron Gren, Jack Shelley-Tremblay, Jim Bradley, Akshaya Kumar, Adriane Ludwick	Spring 2017	Ongoing. Will report more in Fall 2017
Ad-Hoc Committee for Electronic Media to consider Bylaw Concerning Associate editors, online JAAS publication, and Journal Indexing.	Brian Toone, John Shelley-Tremblay, and JAAS Editors	Spring 2017	Ongoing. Will report more in Fall 2017

Creation of an AAS mini-grant program to fund small initiatives for STEM outreach (See B-12,VII report)	Exec. Committee	Spring 2017	Two motions passed. The STEM section will develop a calendar fundraiser to support the mini grant program for outreach. Ketia Shumaker will identify a group to work on a silent auction for the 2018 AAS meeting.
Recommendations from Long Range Planning Committee regarding certain committees (See C-5 report)	Exec. Committee	Spring 2017	To be considered in Fall 2017 Exec Committee Meeting.
Recommendations from the Archives Committee (See C-11 report)	Exec. Committee	Spring 2017	
Reappointments (Nominations Committee, See C-16 report)	Exec. Committee	Spring 2017	More nominations are being sought

Action Items
Fall 2017 Executive Committee Meeting

Action Item	Person Responsible	Due Date
Reconsider the role of the Development Committee	Larry Krannich and John McCall	Fall 2017
Identify a mechanism to assess the success of the journal in the next one to two years. This Ad-Hoc Steering Committee is to develop a mission statement and objectives for the journal. Will address Associate editors, online JAAS publication, and Journal Indexing.	Drew Hataway, Ellen Buckner, Cameron Gren, Jack Shelley-Tremblay, Jim Bradley, Akshaya Kumar, Adriane Ludwick	Fall 2017
Creation of an AAS mini-grant program to fund small initiatives for STEM outreach	STEM section	Fall 2017
Creation of a silent auction for the 2018 meetings	Ketia Shumaker and others	Fall 2017
Consider the recommendations of the long range planning committee. Move the charge, duties, and responsibilities of the membership committee to the development committee and have the first vice president chair that committee.	Larry Krannich	This will be the focus of the fall 2017 exec committee meeting.

Alabama Academy of Science Journal

Scope of the Journal:

The Alabama Academy of Science publishes significant, innovative research of interest to a wide audience of scientists in all areas. Papers should have a broad appeal, and particularly welcome will be studies that break new ground or advance our scientific understanding.

Information for the Authors:

- Manuscript layout should follow the specific guidelines of the journal.
- The authors are encouraged to contact the editor (E-mail: brtoone@samford.edu) prior to paper submission to obtain the guidelines for the author.
- At least one author must be a member of the *Alabama Academy of Science* (except for Special Papers).
- The author(s) should provide the names and addresses of at least two potential reviewers.
- Assemble the manuscript in the following order: Title Page, Abstract Page, Text, Brief acknowledgments (if needed), Literature Cited, Figure Legends, Tables, Figures.

Review Procedure and Policy:

Manuscripts will be reviewed by experts in the research area. Manuscripts receiving favorable reviews will be tentatively accepted. Copies of the reviewers' comments (and reviewer-annotated files of the manuscript, if any) will be returned to the correspondent author for any necessary revisions. The final revision and electronic copy are then submitted to the *Alabama Academy of Science Journal* Editor. The author is required to pay \$100 for partial coverage of printing costs of the article.