

WSCA Legislative Assembly Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 8, 2010
6:35-8:00 p.m., Alaska Room

Dan Canary, President called the meeting to order at 6:40pm

Announcement of Recording Secretary, Robin Heaton; and Parliamentarian, Pat Ganer.

President Dan Canary provided handout and Reviewed Legislative Assembly Procedures

The WSCA Legislative Assembly follows the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order (10th edition).

Chair of the Credentials Committee Reported 27 members in attendance.

2009 Legislative Assembly Minutes approved at 6:46pm.

Information items

1) President Dan Canary reported the results of Association-wide elections:

First Vice President—Lisa Flores

Second Vice President—Michelle Holling

Delegates-at-Large to the Legislative Assembly:

Eric Aoki

Teresa Bergman

Kurt Lindemann

Cindy Koenig Richards

Erin Sahlstein

2) President Dan Canary reported the results of Association searches:

Bill Eadie (San Diego State University) – Editor-Elect, *Western Journal of Communication*

Michele Horner Jackson (University of Colorado) – Editor-Elect, *WSCA News*

3) Executive Council Actions

Derek Buescher reported on the standards of promotion and tenure committee failed action item.

Committee investigated the possibility of publishing our conference proceedings online. This action would cost \$6,000 to publish 300 pages online and was unanimously voted down.

Finance committee will double the audio visual fee in order to increase income and cover expenses.

\$13,780 to be transferred to Executive Director in order to find appropriate investment for Executive Director Funds.

Elementary and Secondary Interest group on probation.

Futures committee will continue to pursue a local host but this will no longer be a requirement.

Convention locations will be chosen based on a draw.

4) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom reported on the 2013 convention hotel.

Selection visits for Sacramento and Reno completed by Dan Canary, Mark Bergstrom and John Reinard.

Executive Council voted unanimously to hold the 2013 convention in Reno, NV.

5) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom and the Time and Place Committee reported on the 2014 convention location. The 2014 Convention will be held in Long Beach, CA. After this location is voted on, the search for a hotel will begin.

- 6) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom reported 391 total conference registrations for Anchorage, AK.
- 7) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom reported 887 total WSCA memberships.
- 8) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom reported on WSCA's assets.
Total assets are at our highest level. We have recovered from the economic downturn.

Report from NCA Legislative Council—Belle Edson , representing 4+ year institutions, 2007 through 2009
Lea Gilinets, representing Community Colleges, 2008 through 2010 Robert Stockton, representing K-12, 2009 through 2011.

Reported on a lengthy discussion regarding the issue of whether or not to require panel participants to pay early so that NCA will know who is coming. Council decided not to require early payment for at least the time being.

Action Items

- 1) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom reported on 2009 actual & 2010 Budgets.
WSCA made money last year.
Budgets for WJC, CR and the newsletter were carried forward from last year.
Budgets for Officers and Interest groups will stay the same.
The budget for AV has been doubled in order to get the budget in line with what is being spent.
The budget for postage has been reduced from \$1800 to \$500. Only papers mailing will be sent out to department chairs from now on.
Printing and copying budget reduced to \$1,000.
The Executive Club budget has been brought back to WSCA.
The contract with Taylor and Francis has been increased to \$30,400.
The WSCA contract with EBSCO has 3 years left.

Budget approved at 7:03pm
- 2) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom sought approval for the elimination of paper mailings.
WSCA will eliminate all paper mailings except to chairs and graduate directors and members who opt in for reason of ability.
There was a lengthy discussion regarding use of the language “for reasons of ability.” It was suggested that using the word “ability” discriminates against members who just prefer paper. The assembly voted to replace the word “ability” with “accessibility” – approved at 7:25pm.
Motion to eliminate paper mailings with the amended language approved at 7:26pm.
- 3) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom sought approval to change the by-laws and Policies and Procedures manual on
Election Language.
Mark proposed that WSCA move to online voting and change the language of the by-laws and policy and procedures manual to reflect this change.
Approved at 7:28pm
- 4) Executive Director Mark Bergstrom proposed a Western States Communication Association Code of Ethical Behavior be added to the Policies & Procedures Manual.
Based on significant occurrences of plagiarism, WSCA needed to adopt a specific statement about ethical behavior. It was suggested that WSCA base our statement on NCA's statement.
Lengthy discussion ensued regarding NCA's statement and the lack of a provision for action if there is a violation.
Move to amend: “Violations of such policies to be referred to appropriate WSCA bodies for action.”

Discussion continued with regard to who refers and who decides in these instances. It was suggested that a more general statement would give more latitude to refer to an outside body if necessary.

This amendment was withdrawn and the ethics statement was approved with a vote of 25 yay, 1 nay and 1 abstention.

5) Proposed changes to the Nominating Committee

Rationale: As we discussed at the November, 2009 Executive Council meeting, one way to insure there is a diversity of candidates for Executive Council members-at-large is for the Nominating Committee to bring a slate of candidates to the Legislative Assembly meeting. Nominations from the floor (with required documentation of willingness to serve; see Nominating Candidates for Elected Offices in the Policies and Procedures Manual) will continue to be accepted.

Policy changes approved at 7:54pm.

6) Proposed Increase of Life Membership Fee

The fee for WSCA Life Membership is being increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000. A newsletter will be sent out to notify members of the increase and give them time to join at the old rate.

Propose increase was approved at 8:00pm.

7) No Resolutions from Interest Groups

8) Resolutions from the Floor

Futures committee Chair Sara Hayden proposed that WSCA further its commitment to being a “family friendly” association.

“Whereas WSCA is a family-friendly association, and whereas WSCA is committed to making association activities accessible to all members, and whereas some members are precluded from participating in WSCA activities due to family responsibilities, be it resolved that WSCA commits to considering issues of family responsibilities when identifying and implementing association activities.”

Questions were brought up from the assembly regarding practical implications of this resolution. It was determined that this is a committee resolution not a resolution from the floor. A vote from the legislative assembly would make this a more binding resolution to the Executive Council.

Resolution approved at 8:13pm

9) Resolutions of Appreciation

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

Sue Pendell, Immediate Past President of WSCA,
 Dan Canary, President of WSCA,
 Heather Hundley, for convention program planning,
 Cindy Griffin, 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,
 Doug Parry and David Stevenson, Chair of the Local Host Committee, and the faculty, students, and staff of all the participating departments, for convention arrangements,
 Derek Buescher for coordinating the Western Forensics Association tournament,
 The staff and management of the Hilton Anchorage for their service and hospitality.

The Assembly suggested that Mark Bergstrom's name be added to this list.
 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.

Elections

- 1) At-Large Representatives to Executive Council—two members (to serve 2010-2012, 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; Nancy Oft-Rose and Sara McKinnon elected by last year's Legislative Assembly to serve 2009-2011).

Brian Heisterkemp, CSU, San Bernardino and Karen Lovass, SFSU accepted by acclimation at 8:16pm.

- 2) WSCA Nominating Committee—two members (to serve 2010-2011 with Dan Canary, Immediate Past President, Chair; two members elected by the Executive Council (Heather Smith serving 2009-2010 and one member elected for 2010-2011), and members from the Associations' Interest Groups as specified in the Constitution & Bylaws: for 2010-11, one representative each from Communication & Instruction, Freedom of Expression, Health Communication, Organizational Communication, Western Forensics).

The assembly voted for 2 of 3 nominated members: Rodney Reynolds, Lin Allen and Diane Blair. Votes were counted by John Reinard and Heather Hundley resulting in the election of Lin Allen, UNCO and Diane Blair, CSUF.

- 3) WSCA Representative to NCA Legislative Assembly—one member representing 4+ institutions (to serve 2010 through 2013 starting with NCA in Chicago, including Wednesday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday morning meetings).

Belle Edson, ASU approved by acclimation at 8:25pm.

- 4) WSCA Scholar Award Committee—one member (to serve 2010-2012 with Lisa Flores, First Vice President, Chair; Karma Chavez, elected to by last year's Legislative Assembly to serve 2009-2011); one previous Editor of *WJC* or *CR* appointed by the incoming President; and one member appointed by the Executive Council).

The assembly voted for 1 of 2 nominated members: Greg Dickinson and Nick Zoffel. Votes were counted by John Reinard and Heather Hundley resulting in the election of Greg Dickinson, CSU.

The 2010 Legislative Assembly meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

WSCA Constitution and Bylaws

Section 1. The Legislative Assembly shall be the principal policy-making body of the Association and shall approve the annual budget.

Section 2. The Legislative Assembly shall consist of the Chair and Vice-Chair of each interest group (or designees), two representatives of each association which holds an organizational membership in the Association, ten delegates at large (five elected each year to serve for two years), and one member from each educational institution with five or more Association members.

Section 3. The Executive Council shall administer the affairs of the Association and shall execute the policies adopted by the Legislative Assembly. Between conventions it shall act for the Association on an interim basis and report such actions to the next meeting of the Legislative Assembly.

WSCA Policies and Procedures Manual

Legislative Assembly: The Legislative Assembly is the principal policy-making body of the Association and meets annually at the WSCA convention. It consists of Interest Group chairs and vice chairs, two representatives of each association which holds an Organizational Membership in WSCA, ten delegates elected at large (each serving two-year terms) (see Nominating Candidates for Elected Offices in this Manual), and one member from each department with five or more association members.

The Legislative Assembly approves the annual budget; forms, combine, or dissolves Interest Groups; approves amendments to the Constitution prior to voting by the Association's members; approves Bylaws changes; establishes the rights, privileges, services, and obligations of each membership category; determines membership dues; and elects two members of the Association's Nominating Committee, two members-at-large to the Executive Council, and representatives to the NCA Legislative Council. (See Nominating Candidates for Elected Offices in this Manual.)

Legislative Assembly Steering Committee: The Committee solicits resolutions and proposals to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly and works with the President in setting the agenda for conducting the annual Legislative Assembly session. It consists of five members appointed by the President who designates one member of the Committee as the chair.

At least two months prior to the convention, the chair should contact Interest Group chairs and officers of the Association to obtain proposals and resolutions and should advise chairs and officers concerning procedures, forms, and deadlines for submissions.

With the assistance of the Committee, the chair prepares the final written form of all resolutions and proposals for action to be considered by the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Assembly Credentials Committee: The Committee certifies delegates to the Legislative Assembly and establishes procedures for seating delegates at the annual Legislative Assembly session. It consists of three members appointed by the President who designates one member as chair.

At least one month prior to the convention, the President should contact Interest Group chairs, officers of Organizational members, and chairs of departments in educational institutions with five or more Association members to obtain the names of delegates.

The chair of the Credentials Committee should obtain the names of the delegates designated by those constituent groups and prepare a roster of delegates to be used by the Committee in certifying and seating delegates at the annual session of the Legislative Assembly.

When the President convenes the Assembly, the Committee reports the certification and seating of delegates and provides a roll to be used in the event of a roll-call vote during the session.