



OFFICERS AND BOARD MEETING MINUTES 2014

MEETING INFORMATION

Date: April 3, 2014
Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Location: Sierra Vista room, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, NM, USA
Prepared by: Jussi Laine

Attendees: **OFFICERS**
X Victor Konrad, President
X Martin van der Velde, President-Elect and Program Chair
X Christine Thurlow Brenner, Past President
X Akihiro Iwashita, First Vice-President
X Martha Patricia Barraza de Anda, Second Vice President
X James Scott, Executive Secretary
X Jussi Laine, Treasurer and Vice Executive Secretary
X Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, JBS Editor

ABS BOARD
 Benjamin Muller
X Guadalupe Correa-Cabrera
 Sandra Bustillos-Duran
X Francisco Lara-Valencia
X Kathleen Staudt (replacing Jussi Laine)
 Naomi Chi
X Paul Richardson
 Anne-Laure Amilhat Szary
X T. Mark Montoya

1. Welcome

- 1.1. Call to Order: **at 1:06 pm**
- 1.2. Attendance: **quorum is declared**
- 1.3. Introduction of Board Members: **ok**
- 1.4. Approval of the Agenda: **approved unanimously**

2. Review of Previous Minutes

- 2.1. Approve/Edit Previous Minutes: **approved unanimously**
- 2.2. Matters arising from the last meeting: **ok**
- 2.3. Actions Taken Since Previous Meeting
 - 2.3.1. *President*: **Task Force recommendations, broadening the scope of ABS, visibility in China, etc. Recruiting opportunities, growing recognition of ABS worldwide, need to commit time (future presidents) for events making ABS more know**
 - 2.3.2. *Executive Secretary, Vice Exec.*: **Secretariat transferred work intensive, smooth transfer, now fully installed and operational at UEF**
 - 2.3.3. *Nomination Committees*: **ok**
- 2.4. Items to be Completed
 - 2.4.1. Membership dues review: **No need to adjust now, revisit annually, faze out print copies postponed by one year by executive decision. Fees now in Euro. JBS paper copy termination decision has been postponed by one year. 2015 we will propose the option to choose paper copy for an extra fee. More benefits (travel grants) will necessitate more revenue.**
 - 2.4.2. Reevaluation of the proposal for new ABS Exec position: **Postponed, no urgent need.**

3. Annual Report 2013-14

- 3.1. Treasurer's Report Accepted
 - 3.1.1. *Update on transfer of the funds from Uvic to UEF* OK, 32 000 CAD transferred from Uvic to UEF on Dec 2, 2013. 2000 Cad remain on Uvic account, will be transferred to UEF as pending payments have been made. ABS account set up ok at UEF, now fully operational.
 - 3.1.2. *ABS 2013 accounts*: **Revenue 19 000, 92 CAD, expenses 13 498, 60 CAD, 32 000 transferred to UEF, 2113, 84 CAD remains at Uvic account. 2014 finances looking good. Royalties received in addition to the regular payment.**
 - 3.1.3. *Routledge Agreement*: **To be renegotiated in the near future, preparations under way, Routledge contribution based on mutual agreement**
 - 3.1.4. *Web Site*: **New website fully operation, developed continuously, performance tracked and analyzed**
 - 3.1.5. *ABS Self Care*: **New online payment system created, most initial problems now fixed, alternative payments options sought in order to allow easy payments.**
- 3.2. Secretary Report
 - 3.2.1. Membership update: **Dec 31, 2013: 237 members, April 3, 2014: 281 members**
 - 3.2.2. Membership fees and collection: **Most by the new online system, cash payments accepted at the Annual meeting, check no longer in use, bank transfers accepted, new methods sought, Paylpal coming up**
 - 3.2.3. Future plans/cooperation with UACJ: **Plans to be concretized in the very near future**

3.3. Policy Proposals

3.3.1. Routledge – phase out print copies: new schedule: **To be implemented this year**

3.3.2. Routledge – phase in addition fee for print copy: **To be implemented this year**

4. Sponsoring

4.1. Review of the protocol for funding requests: **add condition: require report to be published in La Frontera**

4.2. Funding Requests

4.2.1. *BRIT XIV Conference France-Belgium Nov 4–7, 2014*: **Board recommendation: Move to authorize \$1000 for the BRIT XIV conference**

4.2.2. *ABS World Conference Finland-Russia June 9-13, 2014*: **Board recommendation: Move to authorize \$1000 for the ABS World conference**

5. Journal of Borderlands Studies

5.1. Routledge/ABS business, update on current state of affairs **Emmanuel ask whether to pre-select papers that go out for review? The review process as it is now is too slow. Emmanuel suggests the pre-screening by editors in order to speed things up and make them more manageable.**

5.2. Annual report from the Editors

5.3. Reappointment of the editors **Emmanuel suggests to expand renew the editorial board, create a regional focus in editorial oversight with the possible participation of the following persons**

- North America (Emmanuel)
- Africa (Olivier Walther)
- Arctic (Heather Nicol)
- Europe (Henk van Houtum and Sarah Green)
- Asia (Alexander Bukh)
- Latin America (Tony Payan)

Suggestion: develop a review process for of about 20 papers a years in order to assure balanced geographical distribution

Christine suggests a woman for North America, this suggestion is accepted.

Motion is made to approve the editorial renewal. Motion seconded and approved

5.4. Supplemental funding request of \$1000 to update the reviewers' list and database. **approved unanimously**

6. Task Force Report

6.1. Introduction: **Victor refers to the two recommendations published in La Frontera: 1) the establishment of a Committee to revise the ABS by-laws and a proposal of potential members Irasema Coronado, Christine Brenner, Patricia Barraza as members and Jussi and James as ex-officio participants**

2) to reconstitute the Visioning Committee to see if ABS is moving ahead in the right direction.

Christine B. requests her name not be suggested for the by-laws committee due to commitments at her university. Guadalupe Correa Cabrera suggests her name instead and Kathy Staudt is named as an alternative to Irasema if she cannot take part.

Visioning: the question is raised how to involve people from Latin America, Africa, Asia in order to expand geographical coverage. This is a complicated but important issue because it involved resources. New revenues would help develop all-year and more inclusive ABS activities.

Christine B.: we could do this via regional implementation and creating thematic/disciplinary teams.

A motion is made to establish a By-laws Committee with Guadalupe and K. Staudt as fall-back for Ireasema as well as to include 3 regional and one disciplinary team member. Motion is seconded and approved.

6.2. Actions to be taken **Board recommendation: Move to establish a Committee to Revise the ABS Bylaws: Chris B, Irasema (alt. Kathy), Guadalupe, Patricia, James & Jussi)**

Board recommendation: Move to reconstitute Visioning Committee Stage II: Guiding ABS Growth and Diversity

Existing visioning committee members + addition members from the general membership

Motion: implementation strategy with sub areas: South America, Africa, Asia, disciplinary diversity

7. Presentation by WSSA Executive Secretary

7.1. WSSA-ABS relations

(For time reasons item 7 was moved forward) Larry Gould, Executive Secretary of WSSA gave some background on the relationship between ABS and WSSA. In his assessment, this is functioning quite well, largely because there it a considerable degree of a mutual responsiveness. WSSA continues to provide a good operating environment and the fact that LCDs are now available in all conference rooms (a 10,000 USD cost item). While costly, this was an important decision and was reached in conjunction with ABS.

Larry stated that we will need to discuss a hike in conference fees to cover additional costs. In addition, the discussion of future conference venues is important: here, political issues matter just as much as logistics and accessibility. This was the reason for postponing the San Francisco venue until the Hyatt labor dispute was settled.

Larry asks about other potential sites. Victor asks whether cities in Canada or Mexico might be considered for future venues. El Paso/Juárez is an example; here, strong partnerships would be necessary for it to work, perhaps with 2 years lead-time. Tijuana/San Diego could also be considered. WSSA took a financial hit with the Calgary meeting but Larry confirms that international venues are important for the association. Mexican partnership is an important issue and we have seen a large Mexican participation in the 2014 conference.

Christine Brenner moves to hold ASB/WSSA in Mexico in 2020. The motion is seconded and approved.

7.2. Future conferences, other issues **Issues with hotel rates: it is important to consolidate papers to reduce the overall number of panels and thus cut down on conference room use. At the same time it is important to maximize discounts on room rates. Hotels look at catering as a major negotiating factor. Catering costs are going up, but so is the quality. Still, the catering bill has to be taken seriously. By the San Diego meeting in 2019 we will be operating with a catering budget estimate of about 75,000 USD and about 9000 USD in room rate subsidies are part of the contractual deal.**

2017 in San Francisco is now on schedule as the union dispute has been resolved (move back to Item 2.3 with short reports from Victor, James and Jussi)

8. ABS Awards

8.1. Lifetime Achievement Award: **This year: Ed. J William. Next year: Chair Christine, two years from presidency**

8.2. Student Paper Award: **Process to the updated**

8.3. Best Paper Award: **No submissions, no award this year. New protocol: ask sessions chairs to nominate papers, nominate only people who actually submitted a paper.**

8.4. Past Presidents' Book Awards: **problematic year, but decision reached**

8.5. Reevaluation of the procedures: **Motion – change the procedures to a nomination procedure, make vice President responsible for all awards (Patricia will put together a committee).**

9. Nominating committees and Procedures

9.1. Reconsideration of the current selection and election system: **to be worked on by the Bylaws committee, add to bylaws, utilize Aki's experience**

9.2. Nominating committees (9.2.1-9.2.5): **include board members, min 3 for every committee, Victor will nominate chairs, be attentive to gender, geography**

10. ABS 2014 Annual Meeting Program Report

Highly successful! 160 papers in all; 72 from Mexico. We had 48 panels, 2 plenaries. Martin is to be thanked for his good work in putting the program together.

11. ABS 2014 World Conference Report

11.1. Update: **Very briefly by Jussi for time reasons, move to business meeting**

11.2. Prospects for the next World Conference **Postponed**

12. Other Notes or Information N/A

13. Adjournment at 3:34