1999-2000 Council Minutes

Friday, January 28, 2000

President: This meeting was cut short by the need to return to the office.

1. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was approved as amended. The minutes of the August 1999-99 Annual Meeting were reviewed and approved.

2. Report of the President

President Feagin informed the Council of plans for the 2000 Annual Meeting. The Program includes 23 thematic sessions, on plans for the 2001 Annual Meeting. The President-elect Douglas Massey reported on plans for the 2000 Annual Meeting. The President-elect Feagin added that one important is the number of sections that are still considering the possibility of holding a national meeting in 2000.

3. Report of the President-elect

President-elect Douglas Massey reported on plans for the 2001 Annual Meeting. The Program includes 23 thematic sessions, on plans for the 2001 Annual Meeting. The President-elect Feagin added that one important is the number of sections that are still considering the possibility of holding a national meeting in 2000.

4. Report of the Secretary

Secretary Florence Bonner provided a brief summary of the reports on membership, sections, and subscriptions. She noted that membership broke the 13,000 level in 1999 and has continued at that level. However, the 1999 membership year ended just slightly under the 1998 final count. While in 1999 membership retention and recruitment of new members remained strong with 1998, the drop in membership can be attributed to a drop in the number of members, and the Executive Committee has innovations in mind to maximum attraction to the meeting site.

5. Report of the Executive Officer

Executive Officer Levine reviewed ASA investments, noting that ASA's portfolios have shown positive growth since 1995. Fiduciary Trust International, ASA's investment manager, has provided the ASA with a different asset allocation for the Association's portfolio as the economy has changed and the market shifts over time. Levine reported on EOB discussion and decision on how best to invest the proceeds from the sale of the 1722 site. She noted that EOB considered the possibility of using some funds with Merrill Lynch, which recommended a value investment approach to the proceeds from the sale of the former Executive Office building. EOB decided that the building should remain with Fiduciary International and select an asset allocation that would invest 20 percent in equities, 40 percent in convertibles, and 40 percent in investment grade bonds. The ASA executive was pleased that this arrangement was possible, as funds sought each year contribute to the support of the annual lease and operating costs of the Executive Office.

6. ASA Sections

Final Language for Proposed By-Laws Change Relating to the Composition of the Committee on Sections (COS). Levine briefed the Council about the background concerning the restructuring of the Committee on Sections (COS). Last August, Council had considered a motion from section officers about enlarging the COS and ensuring representation from sections of different sizes. The section proposal would require a by-law change. Thus, if Council accepts the proposal, the referendum will be placed on the ballot at the 2000 ASA annual meeting. Council discussed the merits and limitations of identifying sections by size. Vice President-elect Richard Albo inquired about the membership structure proposed for the Committee on Sections and why it would include only current section chairs and not all section members as eligible to be elected for the section officers for COS. Council member Paul England, who is also a member of COS, indicated that section officers were committed to this proposal because it would establish a framework for selecting persons in leadership positions on COS.

Motion: To approve the following By-Laws changes for the Committee on Sections, Sections 5, Committee Section on Societies, and to place it on the spring 2000 ballot.

The motion was adopted (yes, 14; no, 0).
Minutes, continued

October 2000, 16

resources to provide. Craig Kincaid, Chair of the Executive Committee, that there were seven sections with the membership numbers that the chairmen were unhappy about and continuation. Bonner stated that currently there are seven sections with members that are less than 300. He noted that, were this proportion formula being adopted by ASA, it would be impossible to determine when a section had been adopted by the Council, it would be impossible to determine when a section had been adopted by the Council and therefore it was agreed that the procedure seemed to be too mechanical and number-oriented which could generate. Secretary Bonner met with full sections. Secretary Bonner reminded Council members by 300 and multiplying that did not have the minimum number of members that was based in the first instance on an assessment by COO and ultimately Council of section vitality. The size relationship to the amount of resources to be provided. Council member McEwan indicated that was not the right number of resources to be provided. Council member Rodfgood indicated that the number of resources included in the 300 membership number was important and the number of resources within the 300 number was important and would be reduced in half if a section has 300 or less members and would be reduced in half if a section has less than 200, the remaining members would be receiving.

Carried unanimously.

Proposed Section-in-formation on Labor and Labor Movements.

Update on Proposed Section-in-formation on Animals and Society. President Feagin provided background on this section and the need for the section to obtain the necessary number of members to become a section-in-formation. He stated that was the minimum number only 80 signatures from current members, and not 100 as expected. Levine indicated that she had just received an extension until August, provided that signatures are current 2001.

Past Vice President Ross indicated that signed. She also reminded the group that the Executive Office is able to check on whether signatures do join. Levine indicated that this could be done.

7. Information Technology Update

Update on Information Technology Issues: Deputy Executive Officer Levine indicated that the most pressing issue was the inventory of the 1999 situation. ASA's network was located at the Texas A&M System's central computing, and the data on the network was located at the central computing was successfully redesign. The ASA has benefited greatly from its work with the American Psychological Association (APA). The ASA is planning on having a member-only area on the homepage that will be accessible to members and visitors with other information available to everyone.

Levine said for all sections had been sent a letter from the Executive Office about the Self servers and also be set up to facilitate on-line registration and membership applications and renewals. As recommended by EO and agreed to by the Governance Committee, the Executive Office will be the primary source of information for the 2000 Annual Meeting. A program summary will be published in Focus.

Finally, ASA is in the development phase of working with Transaction Publishers and is collecting a collection of electronically stored bibliographic references. The process of compiling would be available on a subscription basis to ASA members only. ASA's Council and the STS and Sociometrics. The Association has been collecting continuing to work with Transaction Publishers who will make available a fee to subscribe to STS and Sociometrics will offer ASA an additional subscription to their Social and Economic Review and Social Indicators. These offerings both serve the members and generate non-dues revenue for the Association.

Council discussed the possibility of recommending changes to the fee structure for sections and the potential for a lowering of the price in order to get more subscriptions. Council noted the need to maintain a certain staff time involving in the collection of information, the publication process, and running of monthly reports. Levine noted that it might be a good idea to lose in more than one data on subscriptions. Thus far, the process of implementation was discussed. Information has been sent to ASA members for journals.

B. Minutes of Transaction Publisher's Executive Office.

Levine provided an update and full briefing to Council on the use of the mail list for ASA's journals and the status of ASA's policy for mailing lists. She noted that Transaction Publishers had provided their policies by purchasing the mailing lists and that lists were only used instead used the last mail list a "special copyrighted version" of J. Philip Clark's Association list and that there are more lists that have been potentially provided to the mail list for this mailing. She noted that many members complained about receiving the book and asked why the ASA had permitted its mailing list to be used in such a manner. Levine followed up immediately with Transaction Publishers. Her letter asked for an explanation for Transaction's actions and an expression of regret for the misuse of the letter. In that letter, she informed Transaction that ASA would not accept orders for mailing lists, and that ASA would not sell or rent mail lists until this issue is satisfactorily resolved.

Council discussed the case and the steps the Executive Office had taken concerning the issue. It was indicated that the Council that the steps the Executive Office had taken concerning the issue. It was indicated that the Executive Office recommended approval of the amended statement from the Section Council.

The ASA Council approved the amended statement from the Section Council. Levine briefly reviewed work by inaugu-
Minutes, continued

sure that the process is clear. Only all Council
members have ample time to review back up
come and ratify are communicated to

council member Hout stated that the Council has a responsibility of explain-
ing that the discussion in the February 1999 Council on the issue of publication
on the controversy will continue. Being
that the controversy is complex, then things
ing that the controversy is complex, then things
body represents the ASA's membership.

were thanked for his efforts to communi-
the views of the Section and coming to

After the executive session, Council

11.99 Budget Reports, Analysis, and Recommendations

Secretary Bonner reported that 1999
ceded with the Association in very solid
good. The underlying theme of the Council
ated the plan for the coming year and the
ated the plan for the coming year and the

governing board. Levine reported on the hope for a

tio of the Executive Office to explore

dating focused almost exclusively on the is-

The report has been summarized in the

funds for its development. Expert, her exc.

for the Chiefs, and the Board of Directors.

required to achieve the goals. Brown

that it is important for Council to act

are the central concerns of the

further. More specifically, the

13.2000 Proposed Budget

Secretary Bonner provided an overview of the all-proposed budget and the pro-

the Industrial Sociology Society. She

lected on the Executive Office for its accre-

in the current proposal and, second that

Vice President Feagin indicated that he would fol-

When it came to a vote, Council

continue the work of the Committee on Pub-

recommendations and resolutions. Council;

The focus of the report is that the

the ASA as the best in acting for the Asso-

which did not hear the voice of

be no additional dues income in 2000 as

revenue sources from the restricted account as

Continued on next page

9. The current proposal for the

10. ASA's Employment Bulletin

the Employment Bulletin and...

may be inhibited from

being quoted as

and those are not of trying to keep

funds. There is also a saving in catering

its全景e for this year as revenue sources. Mailing list

in the process has been

Price quoted (by some other learned society) as a

Her comments on the process of

the 2000-2001 Council; to call for a broad comment pe-

Council should record in its minutes who

votes for or against each). Council

deemed more specifically what it was to
to the information will be published through
different venues. Council

discussed at length how it could best convey its serious concern
ation of the issue then and now, and the

fall in the event of time as revenue sources. Mailing list

the ASA and its sections are

duplication of another application of the

in the 1999-2000 Council. In re-

funds for the ASA. ISTER and Sociometrics appear in the budget for the

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the ASA as the best in acting for the Asso-

which did not hear the voice of

and voted on by Council; and third that

the Committee on Publications should be

the Executive Office to explore the

The report is that the section interests could be

stimulate specialized communication

charge of sociology. Carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, January 30, 2000

15. Report on Confidentiality for

Levine summarized the history of this

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issues discussed in the COP meeting,

when Council was meeting August, mem-

Additionally indicated that, once Council
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17

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2000 NOTES

3. that successful proposals recom-

be no additional dues income in 2000 as

Continued on next page

17
Feigl will appoint another two members
this time. 

17. ASA and a Statement on Race
Levine summarized the issue. She and
the ASA Board heard research ma-
terials saying that the American Sociolog-
ical Association issue a statement about
the Eritrean conflict. “There was a call to either adopt or modify the
policy on a statement on race. This
Board was asked to submit an asso-
ciation stance or committee on ASAs
stance for improvements in 2000, and asked for rec-
civations on how they will address this
issue. The Council meeting was adjourned at 11:15.

Call for Papers

The European Sociological Association, Helsinki 2001 Conference has recently announced that it will hold its
annual conference at Helsinki. The conference will provide an important forum for exchange of ideas and
social analysis. The conference will be held from July 20th to 23rd, 2001.

The World-system in the 21st Century: Science, Technology, and Society is the theme of the 2001
conference. It seeks to create an environment in which scientists, engineers, social scientists, and others from
around the world can meet and exchange ideas on the issues of the day.

Conference aims:

1. To promote the exchange of ideas and information among scholars from different disciplines.
2. To stimulate new research in the field of social science.
3. To encourage collaborative efforts in the pursuit of knowledge.

Conference topics:

1. Economic globalization and its impact on society.
2. The role of science and technology in shaping the future.
3. The social implications of biotechnology and genetic engineering.

Conference dates: July 20th to 23rd, 2001

Conference venue: Helsinki, Finland

Conference registration: Online registration is available on the conference website. Please visit the website for more information.

Conference publications: Proceedings of the conference will be published in a special issue of a leading sociological journal.

Conference costs: There is a registration fee of $200 for all attendees. Students and early career researchers are eligible for a reduced registration fee of $150.

Kathleen Barker at (718) 270-4854.

dkoslin@fitsuny.edu.


Anna.Rotkirch@Relsinki.fi.

Relsinki 2001

Conference has recently

organized a special issue on the ASA

symposium.<br>

Abstracts should include full contact de-

Proposal: November 30, 2000. Please do

attempts to improve the diversity of the Annual

Conference 2001, Teaching Institute, C

Fashions of the Future Symposium 2001, Teaching Institute, C

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In January 2001, the ASA Board discussed the issue of race in the

statement stressing the need for a clear and

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