August 11, 2021
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
American Sociological Association
Via Zoom

Participants Part 1: Aldon Morris (President), Cecilia Menjívar (President-elect), Christine Williams (Past President), Rhacel Salazar Parreñas (Vice President), Nina Bandelj (Vice President-elect), Joya Misra (Past Vice President), Nancy López (Secretary-Treasurer), Ruha Benjamin, Jessica Calarco, Kelly H. Chong, Laura Hamilton, Maria Krysan, Wendy Leo Moore, Gilda Ochoa, Jennifer Reich, Daisy Reyes, Vincent Roscigno, Sara Shostak, Van Tran; Staff: Nancy Kidd (Executive Director), Les Briggs, Erynn Masi de Casanova, Karen Gray Edwards, Mark Fernando, Michelle Randall, Preeti Vasishtha, Margaret Weigers Vitullo, Heather Washington. Guests: Prudence Carter, Mignon Moore, Cedric de Leon, Victor Ray, Alyasah Sewell.

President Morris called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Eastern on August 11 and introductions were made.

1. Consent Agenda

President Morris presented the consent agenda which included approval of March 5, 2021 Council meeting minutes; two-year Council meeting calendar; revised policy for proposing a new journal; and date and place of next annual meeting of Regular Members.

A motion was made by Williams to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Misra. Motion carried unanimously.


ASA hires an outside accounting firm to perform an audit of our financial statements at the end of each fiscal year. Council was provided with the written report of the independent auditor, and Secretary-Treasurer López shared what Finance Committee learned during its discussion with the auditor in June. The auditor’s opinion states that ASA’s financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as of December 31, 2020, and the change in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. We had a clean audit with no management letter.

3. 2020 Year-end Budget Report

Kidd indicated that a detailed year-end budget versus actual revenue and expense report for 2020 was provided in the meeting materials. ASA ended the year with a balanced budget despite considerable upheaval due to the pandemic.

4. Year-to-date 2021 Budget Report

Kidd provided a summary of year-to-date revenue and expense for 2021. Discussion ensued.
5. Investment Review

Council was provided with a recent report from our investment adviser, and Director of Finance Les Briggs presented an overview of the results. Discussion ensued.

6. 2022 Membership Dues

Council discussed the Finance Committee’s recommendation to extend the Pick Your Own Sponsorship initiative for 2022.

A motion was made by Williams to approve the 2022 dues as presented. Seconded by Shostak. Motion carried unanimously.

7. 2021 Annual Meeting Fees

Council discussed a proposal from Finance Committee to retain the 2020 in-person Annual Meeting fees for the 2022 Annual Meeting. Fees for sister societies were presented for comparison.

A motion was made by Williams to approve the 2022 Annual Meeting fees as presented. Seconded by Tran. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Section Probation Review Process

Council discussed the probationary review process currently used for sections and considered an alternative proposed by the Sections Committee which was presented by Jennifer Reich.

A motion was made by Williams to endorse the recommendation of the Sections Committee and to request that staff develop revised policy documents for Council consideration accordingly. Seconded by López. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Annual Meeting Redesign Committee

Council discussed the proposed charge and composition of a new Annual Meeting Redesign Committee.

A motion was made by Williams to approve the charge and slate for the Annual Meeting Redesign Committee as presented. Seconded by Moore. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Outgoing Member Appreciation

Council extended gratitude to Christine Williams for her exemplary service as President of the Association, Joya Misra for her exemplary service as Vice President, and Kelly Chong, Wendy Leo Moore, Jennifer Reich, and Sara Shostak for their exemplary service on Council.

President Morris adjourned part one of the meeting at 12:57 p.m.

Participants Part 2: Cecilia Menjívar (President), Prudence Carter (President-elect), Aldon Morris (Past President), Nina Bandelj (Vice President), Mignon Moore (Vice President-elect), Rhacel Salazar Parreñas (Past Vice President), Nancy López (Secretary-Treasurer), Monica McDermott (Secretary-Treasurer-elect),
President Menjívar called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

11. Race/Ethnicity Style Guide Entries

Council discussed recommendations of the Publications Committee regarding the race/ethnicity entry in the ASA Style Guide.

A motion was made by de Leon to approve the recommendations of the Publications Committee with some modifications. Seconded by Moore. Motion carried with 17 for and 1 against.

12. Membership for Leadership

Council discussed a proposal designed to support inclusion in ASA’s leadership.

A motion was made by Tran to offer complimentary membership to people running for office, serving in government leadership roles, and serving on editorial boards as requested for financial relief. Seconded by Morris. Motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed a proposal related to international editorial board members.
A motion was made by Tran to offer complimentary membership to people serving on editorial boards if they are international sociologists. Seconded by Krysan. Motion failed with 1 for and 18 against.

13. Leadership positions

Council moved into executive session at 4:06 p.m. to discuss the report of the Committee on Committees and other committee and leadership nominations.

14. Adjournment

President Menjívar adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.