American Society of Criminology
Board Meeting Minutes

Friday July 24, 2026, 1:00-4:00pm
Virtual (Zoom)

Participants: Natasha Frost (President); Rod Brunson (President-Elect); Katheryn Russell-Brown (Past President); Anthony Peguero (Vice President); Jean McGloin (Vice President-Elect); Megan Denver (Interim Secretary); Executive Counselors: Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy, Stephanie DiPietro (joined at 1:28pm), Henrika McCoy, Chris Melde, Marisa Omori, Vanessa Panfil, Jennifer Peck, Andres Rengifo, and Ebony Ruhland; Sheena Case (Interim Executive Director).

Absent: Min Xie (Treasurer).

Guests: Consultant Nancy Kidd (joined at 1:50pm).

The meeting was called to order by ASC President Natasha Frost at 1:03pm (ET).

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

   Motion*: A motion to approve the minutes from the June Board and Executive Session meetings (June 9th and June 21st) was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved, with one abstention.*

2. **ASC President's Update**

   President Frost provided an update on the Executive Director's start date, noting that the ED will be joining the next ASC Board meeting. Vice President-Elect McGloin shared plans for a new qualitative survey of the membership on teaching changes and challenges for the Criminologist.

3. **Division of Courts and Pretrial Justice (DCPJ) Petition**

   ASC Vice President Anthony Peguero provided a summary of a recent discussion with the proposed DCPJ.

   Motion*: A motion to accept the division proposal for the Division of Courts and Pretrial Justice was moved and seconded. The Motion was approved.*

4. **Oral History of Criminology Project (OHCP)**

   The OHCP Director submitted a revised funding request memo to the ASC Board for consideration. Discussion ensued.

   Motion*: A motion to continue to fund the Oral History Project was moved and seconded. The Motion was not approved. (Y: 5, N: 7, with 3 abstentions).*

5. **Travel Fund for International Participants**

Executive Counselor Rengifo provided an overview of the Travel Fund for International Participants (TFIP), a two-year pilot program established in 2025. He discussed a case where a nominee was unable to attend the conference last year and requested TFIP support for the 2026 conference.

Motion: *A motion to reinstate the award for a nominee that the Board voted to approve last year was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

6. **Governance Review**

During the 2026 ASC election, the ASC membership approved the following changes: (1) the introduction of an elected Secretary position on the Board, (2) to move the Treasurer position from Board appointment to election by the membership, and (3) to make both voting positions on the Board. Per the consolidated Bylaws proposal, both positions will serve three-year terms. Megan Denver currently serves as an appointed Interim Secretary (through November 21, 2026) and Min Xie currently serves as appointed Treasurer (through November 17, 2028). The Board discussed transitioning these two roles to membership-elected positions with three-year terms that are purposely staggered to ensure smooth continuity. The Board also discussed the importance of continuity in these roles while onboarding a new Executive Director.

Motion*: A motion to recommend that the membership extend Interim Secretary Denver's interim appointment through the end of the term of President Brunson was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*
(Secretary Denver recused herself and left the room during the vote.)

Motion*: A motion to immediately charge the Nominations Committee with identifying two nominees for the position of Secretary to be included on the ballot in the 2027 election for the 2028 Executive Board was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion*: A motion to recommend that the membership allow Treasurer Min Xie to complete her current appointed term was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion: *A motion to ask the 2027 Nominations Committee to identify two nominees for the position of Treasurer to be included on the ballot in the 2028 election for the 2029 ASC Executive Board was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

The Board discussed a transition plan for policy changes regarding the Society's portfolio of committees that were made earlier this year.

Motion*: A motion that standing committees eliminated through recent actions of the board shall be eliminated effective Friday, November 20, 2026 after completing their work according to the 2025-2026 charge was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

The Board then turned to discussion of recommended revisions to the governing documents and policy manual that came out of a comprehensive review. Several items were grouped into a proposed consent agenda. President Frost provided an overview of the consent agenda items, which Board members reviewed and were able to provide feedback on prior to the meeting. Frost offered opportunity to pull any of the items off the consent agenda for discussion.

Motion: *A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

[The Board took a 10-minute break from 2:20-2:30]

The Board next turned to discussion about updating the language used to describe the governing body and leadership positions, in line with current standard terminology. Using conventional language to describe governance structures and positions is important for operational clarity and organizational credibility. Board of Directors is conventional language for a nonprofit organization's governing body. The only time the word executive is typically used with respect to board members is in the designation of an executive committee. Similarly, Directors-At-Large is more conventional terminology for board members without portfolio. The term counselor is typically used for a more informal advisory role, emphasizing a function rather than an official title.

Motion: *A motion to change the name of the Executive Board to the Board of Directors was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion: *A motion to change the name of "Counselors" to "Directors-at-Large", was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

The Board then discussed the idea of decoupling governance terms from the timing of the Annual Meeting given there is no compelling rationale for aligning governance terms with the conference. Critical dimensions of the association's governance, such as the fiscal year, operate according to the calendar rather than being tied to an event. Governance complications arise when terms hinge on an event instead of a fixed date. Currently, budgets for the next fiscal year are approved before the board can be fully apprised of current year conference expenses (the largest category of expenditure). Moreover, the meeting routinely varies a bit in terms of timing, yielding terms of different lengths each year.

Motion: *A motion to decouple governance terms from Annual Meeting timing was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

The proposed alternative to coupling governance terms with the Annual Meeting is to give the Board responsibility for setting leadership commencement dates in policy. As such, the Board discussed options so a policy could be put in place without delay if the membership votes to amend the relevant bylaws clause. Using a January 1 date would ensure equal Board terms, regardless of the dates of the Annual Meeting. It would also align with the fiscal year.

Enacting that transition requires modestly extending the terms of one board, and the Board voted to propose a transition plan to the membership.

Motion: *A motion to recommend to the membership extending the term of the current board until December 31, 2026. Any current board members whose terms are set to expire in 2027 or 2028 will have their terms expire on December 31 of that year. The terms of board members elected in the 2026 election will begin January 1, 2027, and this group will be part of the 2027 Board of Directors. All future elections will be for calendar year offices with terms beginning January 1 and ending December 31. This motion was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

The Board then turned to discussion about ensuring clarity about its policy on making public statements as a professional organization.

Motion: *A motion to refine the policy on taking public positions to read "As a professional organization, ASC may take public positions only on issues directly concerning the wellbeing of the profession. ASC members may bring proposed public positions directly concerning the wellbeing of the profession to the ASC board for consideration. ASC members are free to individually take public positions on a full array of issues." This motion was moved and seconded. The Motion was approved. (Y: 13, N: 1, with 1 abstention)*

In this meeting, and in several previous meetings, the Board voted on several specific provisions that feed into a holistic proposed new consolidated Bylaws proposal and an updated Articles of Incorporation. Motions were made to bring these proposed revised documents to the membership for consideration.

Motion: *A motion to amend the Articles of Incorporation and submit to the State of California a Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of ASC as presented was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion: *A motion to amend, restate and replace the current ASC Constitution and Bylaws with the presented new consolidated Bylaws document with revisions as specified in discussion was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*
A transition plan for the proposed consolidated bylaws was discussed.

Motion: *A motion to recommend to the membership that immediately upon approval of the consolidated Bylaws by the membership, implementation will begin for all specifications that do not require any transition activity. Other items will transition according to a* *transition plan approved by the Board, with all transition activity to be completed no later than the end of 2028. This motion was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03pm.

AGENDA
ASC Executive Board Meeting (Zoom meeting)
July 24, 2026
1:00pm – 4:00pm (E.S.T.)

1. Call to Order
2. Board Meeting Minutes *(Denver)*
    a. June 9, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes (Vote)
    b. June 21, 2026 Executive Session Minutes (Vote)
3. ASC President's Update *(Frost)*
4. Division of Courts and Pretrial Justice Petition (Vote) *(Peguero)*
5. Oral History Project (Vote) *(Frost)*
6. Travel Fund for International Participants (Vote) *(Rengifo)*
7. ASC Governance *(Guest: Nancy Kidd)*
    a. Implementation Plan for Membership Approved Constitutional Provisions (Vote)
    b. Consent Agenda (Vote)
    c. New Charges for Committees (Vote)
8. Governance Discussions *(Guest: Nancy Kidd)*
    a. Governance
    b. Divisions
    c. Public Positions
    d. Ethics
    e. Awards
9. Governance Decisions (Votes)
10. Articles of Incorporation (Vote)
11. Consolidated Bylaws (Vote)
12. Adjournment