

**American Society of Criminology
Board Meeting Minutes**

Friday December 19, 2025, 1-4pm
Virtual (Zoom)

Participants: Natasha Frost (President); Rod Brunson (President-Elect); Katheryn Russell-Brown (Past President); Anthony Peguero (Vice President); Jean McGloin (Vice President-Elect); Executive Counselors: Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy, Stephanie DiPietro, Chris Melde, Henrika McCoy (joined at 1:30pm), Marisa Omori, Vanessa Panfil, Andres Rengifo, Ebony Ruhland; Sheena Case (Interim Executive Director); Min Xie (Treasurer); Megan Denver (Interim Secretary).

Absent: Jennifer Peck.

Guest: Ojmarrh Mitchell (Ad Hoc Publisher Selection Committee Report only).

The meeting was called to order by ASC President Natasha Frost at 1:00pm (Eastern time) and adjourned at approximately 4:10pm.

1. Call to Order, Agenda, and ASC President's Update

President Natasha Frost called the meeting to order, welcomed the Board, and reviewed the agenda. The President discussed the new "President's Update," which will provide ASC members with a summary of Board activities and actions through regular publications in the *Criminologist* newsletter.

2. Approval of November 2025 Executive Board Meeting Minutes

The President discussed the new format for meeting minutes (starting with the November 15, 2025 minutes), sharing that the minutes are in a new format to comply with current best practice guidelines for nonprofit organizations. There were no objections to using the new format going forward.

Motion: *A motion to approve the minutes from the November conference was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

The President also noted that all Board members must be active, registered members of ASC to participate in Board meetings. Given there is an early 2026 (January) meeting, all executive board members were asked to renew their memberships for 2026 not later than January 15th.

3. Consent Agenda

The Board discussed two sets of consent agenda items. The first set of consent agenda items were related to committee recommendations. These included making the Annual Conference Committee a permanent standing committee, creating the Ad Hoc Committee on Divisions (which is charged with recommending guidelines to the Board for creating,

maintaining, reporting on, reviewing, and dissolving divisions), the creation of a new annual membership survey, adding two student members to the Student Affairs Committee, and including the renamed “Board Subcommittee on Committee Reports and Recommendations” (previously “Committee on Committees”) in ASC policies and procedures.

The second set of consent agenda items involved approving motions associated with select recommendations from the consultant regarding financial policy. These included tasking the consultant with developing language for newly proposed budget and finance policies, in consultation with legal counsel as needed, to codify budgeting and finance principles and policies articulated in the consultant’s report related to budget content, proposal, and approval processes, as well as finance committee composition, leadership, and expectations.

Additional financial policy motions on the consent agenda included: (1) to approve the final budget prior to the start of the fiscal year (Jan 1), but after accounting for annual conference revenues and expenditures in November; (2) to discontinue the practice of recognizing unrealized capital gains as operating revenue; (3) to continue to recognize dividends and interest as operating investment revenue and to ensure that they are not automatically reinvested; (4) to require that proposed future annual meeting sites and contracts be discussed in the new standing Annual Conference Committee, and recommendations be made at an Executive Board meeting, prior to resuming the signing of future contracts; and (5) to set up annual board-designated presidential discretionary funds, supported by operating revenue, to smoothly manage each President’s three-year spending cycle.

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

4. Ad Hoc Publisher Selection Committee Report

Ojmarrh Mitchell presented the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Publisher Search and the Publications Committees regarding new publisher selection.

Motion: *A motion to accept the publisher and publication committee’s recommendations was moved and seconded. The Motion was approved.*

5. Executive Director Search

The President introduced a conversation about constituting an executive director search committee. Discussion ensued about the composition of the committee.

Motion: *A motion to authorize the President to comprise an Executive Director search committee was moved and seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.*

The Board discussed whether to move to a full-time executive director model and then discussed how best to facilitate the executive director search.

Motion: *A motion to launch a search for a full-time Executive Director and engage a search firm was moved and seconded. The motion passed.*

[Note: The current Interim Executive Director recused herself for this entire discussion].

6. Finance Committee Report, Transition Fund, and Budget Approval

The treasurer presented the finance committee report. The finance committee proposed a board designated transition fund, drawn from the Society's reserves, to support expenses related to the ED and publisher transitions. Discussion ensued. It was noted that the amount of the transition fund will be dependent upon projected Executive Director search and salary costs and will be voted on at a future meeting of the executive board.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, the Treasurer presented a draft 2026 budget for Board consideration. After removing unrealized capital gains, which should not be counted as income, the organization is projecting an operational deficit of over \$200,000 in 2026. Discussion ensued.

In recognition of significantly increasing operational costs for the conference and very rare registration fee increases, the Board discussed raising conference registration fees and membership fees to align with benchmarks from peer associations. Members of the board expressed a preference for a one-time larger increase to align with benchmarks, as opposed to a series of increases. The finance committee proposed that the 2026 early registration fees for the conference (registrations before October 1) be raised to \$225 for regular members, \$375 for non-members, \$115 for student members, \$175 for student non-members. Registration fees (after October 1) be raised to \$325 for regular members, \$450 for non-members, and \$155 for student members, \$215 for student non-members.

The Board discussed making some revisions to the initial budget proposal, reducing annual meeting reception expenses and eliminating the items in the budget category of initiatives, which included donations to other organizations.

Motion: *A motion to remove the initiatives from the 2026 budget was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion: *A motion to approve the amended 2026 budget was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion: *A motion to raise the conference registration fees and membership fees was moved and seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.*

7. Committee Reports and Recommendations

The Ad Hoc Award Naming and Renaming, Ethics, and Scientific Integrity Committees all had significant recommendations in their reports. The board discussed and decided to table these recommendations and to ask the consultant to consider them in her governance review and recommend ways to incorporate recommendations as appropriate.

8. Meeting Conclusion

The President discussed agenda items for the upcoming virtual meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

AGENDA
ASC Executive Board Meeting (Zoom meeting)
December 19, 2025
1:00pm – 4:00pm (E.S.T.)

1:00 p.m. Meeting Agenda, Meeting Minutes, and Consent Agenda

1. Call to Order, Agenda Approval, and ASC President's Update (Natasha Frost)
 - a. ASC President's Update
2. Approval of November 2025 Executive Board Meeting Minutes with brief discussion of new format (Megan Denver)
 - a. Meeting Minutes: Tuesday Meeting 11/11/2025
 - b. Meeting Minutes: Saturday Meeting 11/15/2025 (new format)
3. Consent Agenda (Natasha Frost)

Approval of 2026 Ad Hoc, Standing, and Board Committees

- a. Annual Conference Committee (Standing Committee)
- b. Ad Hoc Committee on Divisions
- c. Ad Hoc ASC Annual Membership Survey Development Committee
- d. Student Affairs Committee Request on Committee Composition
- e. Committee Reports and Recommendations (Board Subcommittee)

Approval of Motions Associated with Consultant Recommendations

- f. Transition Consultant Recommendations and Motions

1:15pm: Business and Discussion Items

4. ASC Ad Hoc Publisher Selection Committee Report (OJ Mitchell)
5. Executive Director Search Committee (Natasha Frost)
 - a. Proposed Membership
 - b. Search Committee Charge & Reporting Schedule

2:30pm: Break

2:45 p.m. Business and Discussion Items

6. Finance Committee Report and Budget Approval (Min Xie)
 - a. Finance Committee Report
 - b. Transition Fund
 - c. 2026 Proposed Budget
 - d. 2026 Budget Income – Line Item Detail
 - e. 2026 Budget Expense – Line Item Detail
 - f. 2026 Annual Meeting Budget

3:30pm Committee Reports and Recommendations

7. Discussion of Committee Recommendations (Katheryn Russell-Brown)
 - a. Ad Hoc Award Naming and Renaming Committee Recommendations
 - b. Ethics Committee Recommendations
 - c. Scientific Integrity Committee Recommendations

4:00 p.m. Adjourn