

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
(CONTINUED)**

November 19 and 23, 1991
San Francisco, California

Saturday, November 23, 1992

Executive Board Members Present: Blumstein, Hagan, Skogan, Bursik, Tittle, Myers, Klein, Elliott, Martin, Daly, Visher, Sampson, Scott

Guests Present: Flanagan, Grimes, Rosenfeld, White, Peterson, Levine

President Blumstein welcomed the new members of the Executive Board and congratulated Hagan on a successful meeting.

Child Care Committee

Daly presented some information about the possibility of running child care at annual meetings based on the experience of the American Sociological Association: estimated cost for onsite care is \$3500 - \$5000; based on ASA estimates, possibly 1 percent of membership might be interested.

Daly recommended that: 1) the local arrangements committee address the issue in their plans for the annual meeting; 2) a survey be undertaken to assess needs among the membership; 3) the Board consider some type of fundraising to defray costs; and 4) future hotel contracts negotiate space for child care.

1992 Program Committee

Program Chair Tim Flanagan reported that planning for the 1992 annual meeting in New Orleans is underway. Blumstein noted that the Committee will try to encourage press coverage of the meeting. Flanagan anticipates a large number of sessions which will include roundtables and poster sessions.

Martin recommended that some estimate of session attendance be taken into account when assigning rooms for sessions.

Site Selection Committee

Susan White presented the report of the Site Selection Committee: planning for the 1995 meeting is late; the Committee has signed contracts for meetings in New Orleans (1992); Phoenix (1993); and Miami (1994).

The Committee is concerned about rising hotel rates, but the increasing size of annual meetings limits options. The Committee feels that it is important to keep meeting space within one hotel.

In 1995, the Committee is considering proposals from Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Boston, and possibly, St. Louis, following the Executive Board's recommendation that the 1995 meeting be in a Northeastern city. The Committee recommends Boston and the Park Plaza Hotel which will offer a rate of \$105 for all single and double accommodations. (Hotels in Philadelphia and D.C. are offering rates that are higher.) The dates for the meeting will be November 14-18; the hotel is in a good location.

Daly brought up the concern of the Exhibits Committee that the hotel have sufficient space -- 6-8,000 square feet -- for exhibits, coffee and ice cream prices be negotiated with the contract, and space be set aside for child care.

Scott moved to accept the report of the Site Selection Committee and the recommendation of Boston for the 1995 meeting. Myers seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 10-1.

White said that for 1996, the Committee is investigating St. Louis, Chicago, or Kansas City, with St. Louis being the recommended site. In 1997, the Committee is considering a West coast city, possibly Vancouver or Seattle.

Sampson remarked that St. Louis as a meeting site could be a drawback because it is a small city. Daly proposed Chicago. Skogan said that we might want to go back to Baltimore. Klein moved that the Committee consider a midwestern city for 1996. Elliott seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 10-1.

For 1997, Daly suggested that we revisit San Francisco. Blumstein mentioned San Diego, but at a hotel that is centrally located.

White also raised the issue of whether we should honor our contract with Phoenix, given the State of Arizona's refusal to recognize a Martin Luther King Holiday. The Committee was split on the issue, but the general view was to not cancel the contract. Political issues may appear in the selection of many cities, over such issues as women's rights or the death penalty, for example. The Committee requests some guidance from the Board as to procedures it should follow in selecting sites for the meeting.

Blumstein said that the contract with Phoenix should be honored. It is probably inappropriate for ASC to consider whether certain meeting sites would imply a "political statement" of some type. Blumstein suggested that the issue be dealt with on a case-by-

case basis as issues are raised and contracts need to be signed. Blumstein has asked the Site Selection Committee to codify its procedures for a manual that Marc Riedel is preparing on the management of annual meetings.

Treasurer's Report

Scott informed the Board that the 1991 meeting had been very profitable to ASC. The likely reason was the combination of increases in registration costs and the outside donations for the reception. The meeting had 1500 registrants.

Following up on an earlier issue, Scott recommended that separate checking accounts be established for the Divisions and so moved. Daly seconded. Motion carried.

With respect to the Advertising and Marketing budget, Scott recommended that advertising income be removed from that budget so that it doesn't appear as though we are violating the rules of a non-profit agency. Those items should more appropriately be related to the journal and the newsletter. Scott moved that the name of the committee be changed to the Annual Exhibits Committee with changes in the accounting procedures for advertising income. Daly seconded. Motion carried.

Membership Committee

Richard Rosenfeld, Chair of the Membership Committee, presented the report. On the issue of bringing new members into the Society and waiving first-year fees, the Committee recommended that ASC members personally extend an invitation to join ASC to persons who are interested in criminology, particularly minority students, scholars, and professionals, and that the registration fee be waived or substantially reduced.

The Committee also requests a survey of the membership to gain some basic socio-demographic information to help the Society assess its diversity. The Committee has volunteered to analyze the data if the Board approves the survey. One idea would be simply to add some optional items on the annual membership form.

After a discussion as to the type of information that the Committee and Board would like to gather, Rosenfeld moved that the following items be added to the membership form -- race/ethnicity, gender, age (in categories), occupation, nationality, and discipline.

Student Affairs Committee

Ruth-Ellen Grimes, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reviewed the Committee's activities including scheduling 4 tentative panels for next year's meeting: Managing Your Career, Preparing for a Job Interview, Surviving the Ph.D. Experience, and Post Docs and Visting Fellowships.

The Committee also requests funds and space for the popular student hospitality suite and for continued support for the Student Reception which drew 110 people, including 80 students, in San Francisco. Grimes moved approval of these items. Daly seconded. Motion carried.

The Student Affairs Committee is proposing a survey to address some issues related to student membership. Details will be worked out at a later date.

The Committee would also like to recognize award recipients in The Criminologist after the annual meeting and will work with the Editor to accomplish this.

Finance Committee

Scott presented the report of the Finance Committee and mentioned that two weeks before the annual meeting the Treasurer should present the budget to the previous and incoming Finance Committees for review. The present system is set up for checks and balances on the budget.

Scott moved that the Treasurer and the Finance Committee Chair should have the authority to exceed approved budgeted items by \$1000, with a report to the Board at the next scheduled meeting. For single items under \$1000, the Treasurer and Administrator have authority. Bursik seconded. Motion carried.

Scott moved the Administrator be reviewed at mid-year with any salary increase retroactive to January 1. Motion seconded and carried.

1991 Program Committee

Peterson reported that, as an unobjective observer, she felt the meeting went well. Over 1500 people registered, including 220 students. Some people commented that they missed the banquet, but in general, the reception was received well by the membership.

The Presidential Rumble was great fun and interesting, although the attendance was sparse. The format worked well and it might be considered for future meetings.

Problems were generally minimal, but included: 1) some room mixups when another group came into the hotel on Saturday; 2) only 15 sessions at a time because of limited breakout rooms (Peterson suggested making sure that at least 20 rooms are available); and 3) delays in getting the program finished because of inadequate staff in Columbus office.

Also, requests for audiovisual equipment, while supposed to be made in advance, typically are made the day of the session which creates problems. Peterson suggested that all rooms be equipped with overhead projectors. Sampson so moved. Hagan

seconded. Motion carried.

Daly moved to formally thank Ruth Peterson for her work on the program committee. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Daly proposed that the 1992 Program Committee consider separating the program from the abstracts because of its increasing size and weight. Also, any unusual or creative features of the Program should be explained in the program (e.g., Presidential Rumble).

National Policy Committee

Levine reported that a top priority for the Committee this year will be to work on getting ASC's voice heard in the reauthorization hearings of the National Institute of Justice.

President Blumstein reported that the luncheon meeting with the Board and the NIJ Director, Charles DeWitt, went very well. Blumstein is planning to summarize both DeWitt's plenary presentation and the Board discussion in a forthcoming article for The Criminologist.

The four major issues raised in the luncheon discussion were 1) formation and function of NIJ advisory boards; 2) clearance process for publications; 3) cooperative agreements and role of NIJ in planning research of grantee; and 4) peer review process for awards and reports.

Blumstein said that he plans to send a letter to Attorney General Barr raising various issues about the relationship between NIJ and its umbrella organization, the Office of Justice Programs. His goal is to increase the effectiveness, integrity and autonomy of NIJ. Blumstein may recommend that OJP be abolished and that NIJ and the other 4 Bureaus be allowed to interact directly with the Department of Justice. Blumstein will draft a letter and circulate the draft to the Board for their suggestions.

Levine noted that she will be coordinating with COSSA -- the Consortium of Social Science Agencies -- to develop questions that Congress should be asking.

Elliott moved that the Board adopt a resolution encouraging President Blumstein to discuss the reauthorization issue with Levine and to coordinate responses with the Vice President and President-Elect. Skogan seconded. Motion carried.

The other issue before the National Policy Committee is the increasing trend toward the criminalization of substance use among pregnant women. Levine noted that three panel sessions addressed the topic. The Committee will have a conference call to discuss the materials submitted. It is likely that a subgroup will be formed to explore the empirical knowledge base on the issue, after which the subgroup's recommendation will be sent to the full Committee.

Daly asked whether the Committee might be able to make a recommendation to the Executive Board in November. Levine thought that such action was likely.

Levine also announced that there will be a new Directorate of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation. Law and Social Sciences Division will be included in this Directorate. Hagan noted that there is some discussion of separating the Law and Social Sciences Division from the Directorate.

Blumstein moved that the Society encourage efforts to increase the level of support for research of interest to ASC within NSF. Daly seconded. Motion carried.

Martin noted that the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse is trying to develop an alcohol and violence program. Martin moved that the Executive Committee of the Board examine opportunities for the expanded funding of criminological research within elements of the Department of Health and Human Services. Skogan seconded. Motion carried.

Representation of Divisions at Board Meetings

Daly noted that one issue was the number of members in each Division -- 214 (International), 230 (Women and Crime), and 65 (Critical Criminology). The numbers in the Divisions are lower than the votes received by the Executive Counselors who were defeated.

Daly suggested that Division chairs could make an annual report before the Board or the membership of the Board could be increased. Blumstein suggested that an Executive Counselor be charged with being a liaison to the Divisions or that the Board consider a new Committee on Divisions.

Hagan recommended that Divisions submit reports to the Board for review at the mid-year meeting. Daly noted that some level of personal interaction between the Divisions and the Board may be important.

It was the sense of the Board that further discussion of the issue take place at the mid-year meeting.

Mid-Year Board Meeting

Blumstein suggested that the Board consider March 27-28 as possible dates, with March 20-21 as a back-up. The Executive Secretary will canvass the Board as to their preferences. Cities to be considered for the meeting include New Orleans, Pittsburgh, and a candidate city for the 1996 meeting (possibly St. Louis, Kansas City, or Chicago).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.