

ASC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Saturday, November 4, 2006
Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel

MINUTES

Attending: Robert Agnew, Rosemary Barberet, Donna Bishop, Kimberly Cook, Chris Eskridge, Denise Gottfredson, Julie Horney, Gary Lafree, Janet Lauritsen, Alan Lizotte, Doris Mackenzie, Steve Messner, Lauren O'Neill, Alex Piquero, Hillary Potter, Cindy Smith, Michael Tonry, Chris Uggen, Pat Van Voorhis, David Weisburd, John Wright.

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm, and new members Alex Piquero, Steve Messner, and David Weisburd were welcomed to the Board.

1. Los Angeles Meeting Report – Alex Piquero and Doris Mackenzie
 - a. The Board discussed the Los Angeles site and meetings, and the challenges raised by a distant convention center and three separate hotels. Some members had difficulty arriving at the convention center, particularly for early sessions, and the rate of “no-shows” was estimated to be approximately 15 to 18 percent of presenters. There were also some complaints about holding separate dances, which appeared to be segregated by age and race. The Los Angeles Convention Center provided good technical support, but some members were concerned that too many sessions were run simultaneously, creating conflicts. The Board discussed ways to bring more variety to the sessions, in terms of both format and dissensus among the panelists.
 - b. There were 2,350 attendees from 32 countries at the 2006 annual meetings, somewhat lower than the 2,650 attending last year. The membership did not meet our room block with the Sheraton Hotel, and Chris Eskridge is working to reduce the Society’s liability. The Society is estimated to have lost approximately \$75,000 on the meetings this year, due in large part to the cost of buses (approximately \$50,000) and high convention center charges for presentation equipment. Nevertheless, a rebate is expected from the Mayor’s office to partially offset these losses.
 - c. The Board discussed the importance of staying in conference hotels, since the Society incurs losses when room blocks are not met. This opened a broader discussion of good citizenship norms in the organization, addressing the issues of “no-shows” on panels, as well as staying in the conference hotel rather than in competing hotels.
2. Division of Critical Criminology Report
 - a. The DCC has a current membership of 304. Bruce Arrigo communicated that the Division is currently in debt to Springer for costs arising from its journal, but a two-year plan is in place to address this concern.
3. Division of International Criminology Report

- a. Cindy Smith reported on the activities of the DIC. The membership is approximately 329 members, with an additional 40 individuals from developing nations provided free membership. The DIC sponsored over 100 sessions, with approximately 130 people attending the division luncheon. The DIC sponsors a book award, a student paper award for graduates and undergraduates, and provides a lengthy newsletter to members. She reported that the all-divisions plenary was poorly attended but productive nevertheless.
4. Division of People of Color and Crime Report
 - a. Hillary Potter reported that the DPCC's membership is at 179 and the Division's finances are in order. The Division has improved its website, continues to publish a newsletter twice per year, and is moving toward establishing a journal on race, crime, and justice. DPCC expressed interest in becoming more involved in planning the annual Minority Fellowship Dance.
5. Division on Corrections and Sentencing Report
 - a. Pat Van Voorhis reported that the membership is now at 304 and that the Division made three awards this year.
6. Division of Women and Crime Report
 - a. The DWC has 393 members and remains in good financial condition. Kimberly Cook reported that the journal *Feminist Criminology* has done well. She described a successful promotional campaign – “be inconvenient” – and division awards for new scholars, distinguished scholars, and for contributions to practice.
7. Constitution and By-Laws Committee
 - a. Michael Tonry described some inconsistencies and points of confusion regarding the Society's Constitution, By-laws, and Policy Statements. For example, The Constitution discusses *Criminology* but does not mention *Criminology & Public Policy*. A motion that *the President be permitted to expand the current Constitution and By-laws committee and charge this committee with the task of bringing the Society's constitutions and by-laws up-to-date* was passed by unanimous vote of the Board.
8. Publications Committee
 - a. The publications committee will examine Bob Agnew's memo and proposals for *The Criminologist* and return to the Board in April with concrete proposals.
9. Futures Committee
 - a. The ASC Futures Committee has been meeting to consider ways to enhance the Society's activities, functions, and organizations and to develop recommendations to bring before the Board. Last year's committee will be reappointed, with John Laub, Julie Horney, Frank Cullen, Gary LaFree, the current Executive Secretary, Janet Lauritsen, and Bob Agnew. A separate meeting for this group was suggested for summer or fall of 2007, with a goal of developing a strategic plan addressing the major functional issues facing the Society. The Board discussed a meeting or

“planning retreat” in early fall. The Futures committee is also considering designing and implementing a survey of the membership.

10. Ad Hoc United Nations Committee

- a. An Ad Hoc Committee on ASC involvement in United Nations activities will be appointed to consider ways other than as an NGO in which the ASC might constructively interact with the UN.

11. Treasurer’s Report – John Wright

- a. The Society’s budget is on-track and the ASC is in sound financial condition. Ideally, an organization such as the ASC would have approximately three times its annual budget in reserves. With an annual budget of approximately \$700,000, we would like to have \$2.1 million in reserves, rather than our current level of approximately \$1.4 million.

12. Outstanding Article Award – Chris Uggen

- a. The inaugural Outstanding Article Award has not yet been awarded. As the Board approved the award, only *Criminology* and *Criminology & Public Policy* articles would receive automatic consideration with no nomination needed. The ASC Divisions requested that articles in division journals also be considered automatically. The committee decided to consider articles published in division journals (only *Critical Criminology* for 2004) for this inaugural award.
- b. A motion to eliminate automatic consideration of all articles and to establish a nomination process for the award was passed by unanimous vote of the Board. The instructions shall read: *To nominate articles please send full citation information for the article and a brief discussion of your reasons for the recommendation to the Article Award Committee Chair.* The 2006 winner will be announced at the earliest possible convenience and the award will be made at the 2007 annual meeting.
- c. The Board revisited the nomination process for future awards, considering motions to automatically nominate all articles in *Criminology* and *Criminology and Public Policy* but require individual nominations for other articles (2 in favor, 12 opposed) and to consider any article published in either an ASC or division journal (2 in favor, 12 opposed) and to prospectively abandon the award (6 in favor, 8 opposed). A motion to continue the award with the same wording and a completely open nomination process was passed by a vote of 10 to 2. No articles will henceforth be considered unless they receive a nomination.
- d. The notice on webpage and criteria will be amended to reflect these changes and the new award criteria will be announced in *The Criminologist*.

13. *Criminology & Public Policy* Report

- a. The Board discussed the transition to the new editorial team at Florida State University and ways to continue providing copies of the journal to key policy makers. The National Institute of Justice and John Jay had subsidized these mailings in the past.

14. Atlanta Meeting Report

- a. Michael Tonry reported on the Atlanta Meeting and his efforts to include many younger scholars and non-North Americans on the Program Committee. The meetings will also highlight the Atlanta site, with artistic and cultural displays on Atlanta and the Civil Rights movement, local musical groups playing during lunch periods, and talks by major political figures. We anticipate that more space should be available for poster sessions and roundtables in Atlanta.

15. New Business

- a. Allyn & Bacon Publishing has expressed interest in sponsoring Minority Fellowship Program.
- b. Two publishers have also expressed interest in creating book series with some ASC affiliation, providing discounts to members who purchase the books.

16. Next Meeting

- a. Atlanta Midyear meeting, April 27-28, Atlanta Marriott.