

2021 SEDAAG Business Meeting - Marriott Conference Center Muscle Shoals

31 Members Present at the beginning of the meeting

4:00 Nov 21, 2021

Welcome and Introductions

L. Resler provided an overview of the existing Executive Committee and noted we didn't have enough attendees to do official business due to a lack of quorum. This was due in part to many sessions running concurrently to the business meeting.

New Officers and State Reps

L. Resler provided an overview of the new officers including several state representatives (AL, FL, KY, SC, WV) and Bill Graves as President-Elect and Paul McDonald as Treasurer.

President's Updates

L. Resler thanked the local arrangements chair, Dr. Pretes from UNA and UNA and the Department of Geography at UNA. This included the Logistics Committee Members consisting of several students from UNA. The 2021 meetings sponsors were thanked including ERSI, UNA GEOG alumni association, AAG and the AAG COVID Reg. Div. Stabilization Fund, SEDAAG Member donations, the UNA President's Office, Provost's office, College of Arts, Science, and Engineering, and Dept of Geography. L. Resler noted that students are often on the receiving end of budget cuts at universities in the region in response to Covid deficits.

L. Resler congratulated JMU's Geographic Science Program and the Kennesaw State University Department of Geography and Anthropology on their AAG Undergraduate Program Excellence Awards. An overview was provided of the application process for these awards. ETSU has been nominated by SEDAAG for the Masters level award this year.

VP Report - Jennifer Rahn

J. Rahn provided overview of submission (155). 79 papers, 36 posters, 11 UG poster, 8 undergraduate, ?? graduate, 10 virtual posters. 75% of the participants were students.

Treasurer's Report - A. Potter

A Potter provided an overview of the financials, including a current surplus of ~\$200,000. Notes that a large amount of the increase in available funds is the result of the addition of large revenue from a closed account of \$53,000 from ProjectMuse funds (accumulated since 2013). Noted a drop off in membership, currently around 300 and above 2019 levels. Noted that WV and KY have seen a large drop in

membership over the last decade. Urged the steering committee to find ways to cultivate new members and minimize losses at the annual meeting related to too large of hotel room blocks.

L Resler noted the removal of travel funds from several schools in the region, including Concord Univ, MWU, and App State.

Local Arrangements Update - M. Pretes

M Pretes thanked the participants for attending SEDAAG. We had exactly 200 registrants with 155 presenters. We were able to get \$6K in sponsorships, mostly from UNA funds. We have made the hotel block. Stressed the importance of staying at the conference hotel in the future.

Secretary's Report and Communications Update

L Resler - highlighted the new website. C. Ramseyer updated the members on changes to email dissemination, including moving to a weekly digest. L Resler provided an update on the AAG Knowledge Community issues, hopefully those to be resolved in the future. That form of communication does allow us to reach a different audience. Dr. Yeh (AAG President) reports that the Knowledge Community should be back up and running soon.

T Crawford (VT) - Are those all of the Knowledge Communities?

Group - Yes, all Knowledge Communities.

Dr. Yeh - This is all a result of a website upgrade that should be completed in Spring 2022

L Resler - Provided an overview of the social media accounts including Facebook and Twitter. May see some changes in the future.

IDEAL Geographic Committee

L Resler - introduced the IDEAL geography committee that focuses on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility, and Learning. She then introduced the current chair of the IDEAL committee, Dr. Heidi Lannon.

H Lannon - we are currently developing a mission statement and goal creation. We do have a draft mission statement that includes rotating chairs, moving towards Joyce Clapp as the chair. We had 7 students we offered scholarships to. We also host an open access panel at 8 AM. Our next step is to create a baseline survey. We will be using some elements of the AAG DEI statements. Encouraged participation for the group.

L Resler - we want to make this a standing committee and see it as a way to make SEDAAG a more welcoming place. Encourages input and participation from the group. Including creative ways of engaging new communities. She thanked Heidi for her guidance, found the IDEAL session engaging and uplifting. Heidi and Lynn would like to see a couple more members. Since we don't have a quorum, we will hold a

vote on making it a standing committee via email or online survey. We will now take nominations for the two new open seats. We would like to have students involved. Discussion amongst the members about holding a vote at the dinner reception. L Resler said she would.

Clay Tucker was nominated for one of the membership positions. It was seconded and C Tucker has been elected to the IDEAL committee.

M. Abee was nominated for one of the membership positions. It was seconded and M. Abee was elected to IDEAL.

Nominations: Honors Committee

L Resler provided an overview of the current Honors Committee and expressed the need for 3 new committee members for an upcoming 2 year term.

A Potter provided an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the Honors Committee. It is necessary to be present at the annual meeting. Members should also have limited other roles at the annual meeting.

P Schmutz announced he would be the new chair of the Honors Committee for 2021-2022.

Nominations: Nominations Committee

L Resler provided an overview of the nominations committee and expressed the need for 2 members for this committee. Discussed the roles of the Nominations committee. Anyone interested?

Mike Pretes was nominated and all voted in favor. M Pretes accepted the nomination for the nominations committee.

Tommy Patterson was nominated, seconded, and all voted in favor. T Patterson accepted the nomination for the nominations committee.

A Potter nominated Jordan Brasher, seconded, and all voted in favor. J Brasher accepted the nomination for the Honors committee.

Michelle Abee and Joyce Clapp were nominated, seconded and all voted in favor. Both accepted the nomination for the Honors committee.

Other Comments

L Resler - we will be having 2022 meeting in Atlanta and 2023 meeting in Norfolk, VA.

P Knapp - encourage everyone to submit their work to the Southeastern Geographer.

L Resler - I get a lot of good feedback and compliments on the SE Geographer. It is also a revenue producer.

E Yeh - expressed her desire to be a conduit between SEDAAG and AAG. Highlighting the strengthening of DEI, Climate Change, etc initiatives. Welcomes feedback from the group.

J Kupfer - Past regional councillor wants to highlight the role L Resler did during the COVID pandemic.

L Resler - Thanked the group for the opportunity to serve in the role of President of SEDAAG. L Resler called a close to the business meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 4:56 PM CST.