

ISA SOUTH BUSINESS MEETING

10/26/2014, 12:15PM, Richmond, VA

In attendance:

1. Andreea Mihalache-O'Keef
2. Thoms Badey
3. Laura Roselle
4. Aart Holtslag
5. Dorian Crosby
6. Ionut Popescu
7. Sean Giovanello
8. David Keithly
9. Rebecca Young Greven
10. Ginta Palubinskas
11. Adam van Liere
12. Mary K. Meyers-McAleese (referred to as Mary throughout the minutes)
13. Kirsten Taylor
14. Vincent Wang
15. Monti Datta
16. Jonathan Powell
17. Mary Manjikian (referred to as Mary Manjikian throughout the minutes)
18. Alero Akporiaye
19. Sharon Spray
20. Sandy Mihal
21. Alexa Royden

1. Officer election/replacements (Alexa)

- Alexa:
 - i. **President:** traditionally, Conference Chair becomes president the subsequent year; nominating Vincent, multiple seconds, calling vote, all in favor; congrats to Vincent! 😊
 - ii. Must replace two people on the **Executive Council**
- Sean: is there a limit on the number of Exec Council members?
- Alexa: no limit on membership; it's good to have new faces on the EC; accepting nominations from the floor. Nominated: Ionut Popescu, Rebecca Young Greven, Jonathan Powell, Monti Datta; all nominees willing to serve; no objections to expanding the number of seats; all nominees voted in; Congratulations!

2. Treasurer's report (Tom)

- Tom:
 - i. Estimates: \$9400 in; \$7900 out

- ii. Additional expenditures: \$390 to organize the ISA-South business meeting in Toronto
- iii. Additional income: \$900
- iv. As of September 1, 2014: \$21400 in region's account
- v. Move to approve **\$250 for ISA** reception for Tom Volgy's retirement (Background: ISA intends to sponsor a retirement reception in NOLA and asked each region to contribute \$250). Several seconds; all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions).
- vi. Will send **checks to the paper award winners** ASAP.
- vii. **Travel grants:** will discuss with Vincent and get checks out to awardees.

3. Paper awards discussion and conference participation etiquette

- Adam: winner did not present his winning paper in his panel (he excused himself via e-mail)
- Laura: he presented another paper on another panel
- Vincent: the language in the bylaws is clear: must present the winning paper to qualify for the award
- Alexa: we might need broader conversation about presentation; was discussant for 8 papers, but received only ONE; need to try other ways to increase participation next year
- Sean: propose to discuss this issue of absences by registered participants at big ISA in NOLA; add this as an item to the chairs' report; at this point, no sanctions, just track for a while
- Vincent: speaking from the perspective of the conference organizer:
 - i. Many last minute changes to the program
 - ii. Very juvenile e-mails from those withdrawing at the last moment
 - iii. Left with holes in the program and reached out to repeat participants
 - iv. Difficult sometimes to know who the panelists are because need to sign into the ISA system
 - v. As discussant, same experience as Alexa: received one completed paper and one PowerPoint, mostly had to discuss on the spot
- Art: was discussant on three panels, sent e-mails and reminders in advance, with deadline for submitting paper to him; got all papers ahead of time.
- Sean: some of the difficulty comes from using the ISA paper repository system. There are advantages to this because it helps generate the program. However, in the old model, chairs were responsible for contacting panelists and making sure that they submit the paper to the discussant. In the new model, panelists must upload their paper to the ISA system, but there are no personalized reminders or alerts for discussants when papers are uploaded.
- Alexa: we should be more intentional about communicating with participants and informing them of the conference's expectations

- Mary: big ISA is clear about the rules: panel=paper written and presented; for ISA-South, we must be clearer about the expectations because we are dealing with a younger crowd.
- Alexa: deadline extensions and changes to the program until the last minute create additional difficulties
- Sharon: agree with Mary; can we be more purposeful about adding round tables? There are too many panels with work in progress and no papers; maybe we need to clarify the norms
- Sean: because we now have a bigger Exec Committee, we could use the extra hands to:
 - i. Formalize our professional development component
 - ii. Create a subgroup to manage round table(s); it fell through because Harry couldn't come
- Alexa:
 - i. We could cultivate the round table option to get more variety in the presentations
 - ii. Good idea to designate a subgroup of the Exec Council
 - iii. We could have panels that focus on “new projects”; the regional conference would be a great venue to try out new ideas.
- Laura: we also need to be mindful of the fact that the grad student and faculty behavior at this conference sets an example for undergrads
- Sean: there has been a change since the switch to the new ISA system
- Vincent: there are pros and cons to the new system: it does help with conference management, but we lose contact with the participants.
- Sandy: non-completion of papers is a problem at big ISA as well; could a poster session be a solution? It could include shorter, unfinished papers and would allow panels to focus on advanced projects
- Vincent: round tables serve this function as well; there were two planned, but people withdrew at the last moment and left holes in the program
- Mary: will meet with Mark Amen and the next conference team to let them know about this conversation
- Sean: we could create a master document for ISA-South to circulate to conference organizers, including all these issues that crop up during organization; each conference organizer could add to this document, based on their experience.
- Alexa: there should be consequences for last minute changes
- Laura: we do cultivate a very warm, forgiving, and welcoming image at our regional conference. Do people take advantage of this? Can we implement consequences without changing the culture of the group?
- Sean: one suggestion: if participants withdraw after a certain deadline, they cannot present the following year; extenuating circumstances would be considered.
- Alexa: at some point, do we stop refunding money for withdrawals?

- Vincent: we have not given any refunds this time around
- Alexa: we gave very few in Charlotte, withdrawals were due to family crises
- Tom: is there a way to track who paid and who didn't?
- Alexa: we can get that information from big ISA; we take the names of those who didn't pay off the program
- Vincent: got list from Liz Fausset; 57 people had not paid and we assumed they wouldn't come, but a few of them were actually planning to be here.
- Alexa: we have some lead time on payment information and we can adjust. We do need consequences
- Sean: expectations can be listed on the website
- Dorian: we should include professionalism as development components; can't assume that everyone knows
- Alexa: should we formalize this proposal?
- Art: second Sean's idea to create an Exec working subgroup to come up with ideas and bring to big ISA in NOLA
- Alexa: we will appoint a **small group to come up with some ideas for solutions that don't change the culture of our region.** **Volunteers: Mary, Rebecca, Art, Kirsten, Sean, Ginta.** Group will work via e-mail and Skype and can circulate materials to the entire Exec Committee, once ideas start shaping.
- Laura: what happens to best paper award?
- Alexa: currently, we have 5 members on the selection committee; volunteer to take this over from Laura (Laura agrees). **Paper committee for next year includes: Alexa, Sandy, Dorian, Art, Ginta, and Mary Manjikian.**
- Laura: What about the first prize this year?
- Alexa: withdraw award from the original recipient and move the other papers up one spot.
- Ginta: should we give the original winner the benefit of the doubt?
- Laura: what if there were extraordinary circumstances that prevented him to present?
- Kirsten: he did not submit his paper to the discussant either
- Alexa: because there was no paper sent to the discussant, that seals the deal
- Laura: will write to him to notify
- Alexa: no need to vote on this because it follows the bylaws; so it has been decided

4. Professional development and round table organization at ISA-South 2015? (Alexa)

- Alexa: Heidi is not here. Does anyone want to pick up the baton for **professional development? Also for round table organization?**
- **Mary, Laura, Kirsten, Rebecca, Alexa, Sharon volunteer;**
 - i. Mary will take the lead on round table organization
 - ii. Laura: based on discussion in Women's Caucus, the theme for professional development next year is developing a professional narrative; happy to organize, but may not be able to attend next year

- iii. Kirsten: can work with Laura on proposal etc.
- iv. Alexa: it's a good idea to also focus on mid-career faculty

5. Stipend for President's participation in big ISA (Tom)

- Tom: in the past, the region offered a stipend to the president because s/he has to be at big ISA one day early. We have not done this in recent years. Propose: do post facto for Alexa; provide stipend for Vincent for NOLA 2015
- Mary: originally, the reason for the stipend was to cover the extra early night
- Tom: we could offer \$500 for hotel + meals + expenses. Any objections? Seeing none, we will go ahead with the stipend
- Mary: stipend recipients should save their receipts for big ISA

6. Plans for ISA-South 2015 (Alexa)

- Alexa:
 - It will be held in Tampa; the time frame is October 22 to 25; aiming for the meeting to take place on Friday and Saturday.
 - We should consider a change in the way we resource the conference: can we make the budget available to the conference organizers ahead of time? (this would relieve stress in the weeks prior to the conference)
- Vincent: the conference days this year were Saturday and Sunday because we would have had no access to classroom space on Friday
- Alexa: Think if you have any interest in organizing after Tampa
- Vincent: we need hosts for 2016, 2017

7. Other business (Alexa)

- Alexa: Think if you have any interest in organizing after Tampa
- Vincent: we need hosts for 2016, 2017
- Alexa:
 - i. We had very good turnout at this business meeting; we should consider scheduling future business meetings over lunch.
 - ii. Thank you, Vincent!

Meeting adjourned at 1:10PM