

Asian Studies Development Program Alumni Chapter Meeting
Phoenix, AZ, March 1, 2013, 4:45 p.m.

MINUTES

I. Announcements, President Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen

1. The ARCAS and ASDP Alumni Chapter Boards met during the conference and agreed to work collaboratively on future conferences.
2. Dona Cady of Middlesex Community College was announced as the new Vice President and stood to be recognized.
3. Member-at Large Janine Fujioka was unable to be at the conference and Dennis Arjo has been serving as her proxy during this meeting. Since Janine has completed her term, an election will be held electronically, in accord with the bylaws, soon after this conference. Please send nominations to Secretary Roberta Adams at radams@rwu.edu. Self nominations are welcome.

II. Proposed Changes to Bylaws

1. Proposal: If a board member misses more than two consecutive meetings, he/she forfeits place on the board of directors. (Article VI)
Discussion: Questions were raised as to possible unavoidable extenuating circumstances and whether it should be missing only one meeting. Clarification that current terms are two years for President, Vice-President, and Members-at-Large and five years for Secretary and Treasurer. We must make clear to new board members coming on that attendance is expected, since much of the Board business is accomplished at the annual meeting. Friendly Amendment: drop "more than;" If a board member misses two consecutive meetings, he/she forfeits his/her place on the Board of Directors. MOTION: To approve the proposal as amended (Marthe Chandler); Seconded, Dennis Arjo. MOTION PASSED by majority vote.
2. Proposal: The Vice President will become the President Elect and succeed the President. (Article V)
Discussion: This is more normally the case when the President serves a one-year term; this way, it could become a 4-year commitment, 5 if we pass the next proposal. Jessica noted she became President after being Member-at-Large and it would have been beneficial to have been VP first. Other discussion: President can run for a second term, so that is a 4-year commitment; a VP can always run for President during the next election. Continuity is important, and having a chance to ease into the position. MOTION that we not amend the By-Laws with this Proposal VOTED by majority acclamation; proposal scratched.
3. Proposal: The Past President will serve for one more year on the Board as a non-voting advisor. (Article V)
Discussion: Why should it be non-voting? Should it be two years? The point is to have in an advisory capacity, provide some institutional memory and assistance. Ronnie: ASIANetwork has this, one year after, non-voting. MOTION to accept the proposal, Seconded, MOTION PASSED by majority vote.

III. 2014 Twentieth Annual Conference, Houston

1. Proposal: In an effort to become self-supporting in terms of hosting annual conferences, we will vote to raise conference fees to \$200.00 for the 2014 conference.

Discussion:

- Jessica explained that the hotel fees will be less in Houston; she and Betty Buck have been negotiating with the hotel, so it is not final, but the rooms might be \$120 per night (Phoenix base was \$169).
- Question about why the lower attendance this year, with the result that we could not cover the costs of the conference; we cannot account for it, many possible reasons. Universities have had budget cutbacks; many did not stay at the Sheraton because of the cost. If our universities are not covering the travel costs, the hotel needs to be affordable.
- When the Board discussed the fee question earlier today, it was brought up that the AHA conference fee is \$200, plus \$185 for dues; others as high as \$300, and many of those larger conference fees do not include meals. *This does not have to set a precedent for future conferences*; the fees can be established each year depending on variables such as the hotel fees, etc.
- We receive a \$4000 subsidy from the EWC; the more people who come, the more you lose in terms of the percent that is subsidized for each person. We have more motivation to get more people to come because the registration fee covers many meals, which is the major moneymaker for the hotel. Registration by the deadline avoids the late fee, which was \$30 this year.
- Problem is that this is a big jump, from \$150 to \$200; could we do \$175? The Houston hotel is really reducing the cost of the hotel because they're putting the premium on food and beverages; the room cost will be half their normal charge and we propose to include 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, the reception, and coffee breaks in the fee. We need to advertise clearly the number of meals included in the registration fee, so that people will take that into account. Ronnie noted that hotels bid against each other to get your business, so tell them exactly what you want and how much you can spend and you may get it.
- MOTION to call the question; VOTED by majority that the 2014 conference fee be \$200.

2. 2014 Conference Committee

- Registration Chair: EWC/ASDP
- Program Chairs: Conference Sessions and Programs: Sylvia Gray (Portland Community College) and Rachana Sachdev (Susquehanna University) (Applause)
- Advertising: Dona Cady (Middlesex Community College)
- Conference Folders and Registration Table: Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen
- Reception Chair: Works with Jessica and Betty Buck to be sure we have proper arrangements for continental breakfast, lunch, coffee/tea breaks and reception. Michele Marion notes this is the job of the hotel. Volunteer: Lynn Marie Alexander (Johnson County Community College)
- Audio Visual Chair: To ensure we have adequate AV equipment: Sam Houston State, Tom Cox and Tracy Steele; Ronnie Littlejohn volunteered his SHSU student son to help.

- Additional Chairs: Entertainment: Rachana Sachdev will explore the possibility of engaging a local dance troupe to perform at the conference. See handout in packet: Art Museum Tour. Large Asian population in Houston, may plan visit to temples, etc.; free Shuttle from hotel to downtown. Rich Smith: Book roundtable chair.

IV. Announcements from the Floor

1. Ned Schulz: the next EWC Alumni Association meeting will be October 2013 in Okinawa, so start making reservations; the next President will get to go. Jessica said the reason she is here is because on April 1, 1944, her father crawled out onto the beaches of Okinawa; in 1945 he went to China for six months.
2. Thank yous and applause for the Directors, to Jessica for leading as President, to ARCAS, Jeffrey Dippman, and Michele Marion for the conference. Jessica thanked everyone for their time and for being here.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta E. Adams
Secretary, ASDP Alumni Association