

APA International Division
Nov. 2, 2022
Monthly Call

Attendees:

Susannah Davidson
Stephanie Firestone
Michael Kolber
Krishna Shrivastava
Bruce Stiftel
Carter Williams
Jing Zhang

National Planning Conference - Bruce Stiftel

- I for proposals without notice or making the Policy Conference remote, except for invitees.

World Town Planning Day

- Bruce had emailed with Kate. He was concerned that APA didn't have enough information on the website regarding the content and schedule. Michael will call Isabel to learn more about the sessions.
- It's fine if there's only 1 or 2 sessions (RTPI only has a 2 hour session), we just need to know what they are.
- The Climate Group has a session about Urban Flooding.
- There's 5 Credit Hours listed, just not sure for which sessions.

Annual Performance Report - Jing Zhang

- He attended the APA Division Council meeting. There was some debate about the budget and whether members have enough ability to understand and weigh in on the budget, but it was approved. There's ample room in the budget because of money saved during the pandemic. (Sidenote from Division Council Meeting- there's a new Public School Division).
- November 15 is the due date for the Annual Performance Report. Jing will assign parts to people and share out later that week. Michael will share last year's report and Jing can compare that to this year's questions and update it.

Humphrey Fellows Program - Jing Zhang

- Michael met with Bish. There's a new cohort. He will share their bios. In the spring they'll want to try to match Division mentors. Last year this didn't work out too well, partially because although Division members signed up the Humphrey Fellows didn't express interest. Michael proposes that this year people can volunteer to be a mentor but there's no promise that you'll get a mentee, or a match that fits your interest. The goal is to set realistic expectations and to serve the students as best as we can. Members on the call agreed with this approach. Bruce asked whether we can work our Membership list in the case that a Fellow has a specific interest and the volunteering Mentors can't fill that. We tried this last

year and the Fellows didn't have that specific interest, but we could try this again this year if needed, and we could reach out to other divisions as well. Jing asked about reaching out to the Division Council about this; Michael recommended reaching out with a specific request but not a general one.

- Tied to this, they discussed having an event in early January for the Humphrey Fellows to introduce themselves and share their background and posters.
- The Fellows are also interested in APA as a subject and so Michael will reach out to APA to give a presentation on their history and work because the Fellows are interested in planning organizations for their own country. Some might also be interested in doing a professional opportunity with APA. Bruce has a good article about the founding of APA that he can share.
- When we have a Regional Coordinator for Boston, they can be the coordinator with Humphrey Fellows but for now it can be Michael > Jing.

Student Grant Program

- One student from last year received the first grant payment but then never completed the paper, and so we don't know what to do next. Michael thinks we should get the payment back but will ask APA.
- We're getting ready to put out the call for proposals for next year. Lyndsey shared the materials with Jing and Michael for review. There is no regional focus this year. She would like to form a selection committee with herself and two volunteers. Susannah and Carter volunteered. We can advertise this through e-blasts, Facebook (although not everyone there is a member), and through Student Council, and Bruce mentioned posting through a newsletter. Susannah said it would be good to advertise more through networks, like the APA Student groups at planning schools. Bruce said there's a newsletter for students, but Susannah doesn't remember that from school. Carter said he hasn't been able to get in touch with the Student Council- their info hasn't been updated, but he does have the Student Organization list.. Michael is adding this information to ask Isabel (plus new Board training).

Other

- Jing had a suggestion for next year's NPC Proposals. He said that several speakers asked if their dues would be partially covered. Jing was curious what the standard is for that, and whether it's possible to increase the funding for the female attending the conference. Michael said he doesn't remember what we did with that budget but his general recommendation is no. We have an annual budget for about \$6k, and most conference fees, hotels, transportation etc can be a couple thousand. We had talked with Women's Division to split costs, but we don't think we can do it on our own. APA is definitely not providing for travel or hotels, but for the first time this year they are providing 50% off for speakers. Members suggested that one good way to help people get to conferences is by working with Chapters. Stephanie asked how this person was chosen to receive the scholarship but Michael said we never actually did this before, we just keep returning to the idea each year. The intention in past years was to fund one female planner from the Global South.
- Stephanie asked how the Division has been trying to get more International programming at NPC. There's no International track. We proposed several from our membership, and Bruce coordinated them, but then it's about whether they get through and accepted. Michael is hopeful we will have a few. Last year we coordinated with Kimberly Jacques to have a few international sessions, and we did have several selected. Stephanie said she hadn't gotten in

touch with Bruce, but she did submit one with her colleagues. Michael said Bruce should set up a call with Kimberly Jacques to make sure International is represented at NPC like last year.

- Jing wants to revive the Planning Awards. He wants to find a reputable judging board and will work more on this. In the past we presented these at our NPC reception. Michael said the value for him was in the webinars learning about some of the amazing projects.