

## **International Affairs Division**

### **Monthly Meeting**

**August 4, 2021**

#### **Attendees:**

Michael Kolber

Joanna Manson

Sitwat Syed

Sean Tapia

Michelle Tullo

Tim Van Epp

#### **Agenda:**

##### **APA Updates – Michael**

Michael, Maggie, and Joanna met on Monday, August 2. They discussed fiscal issues and got their books in order, but also discussed APA updates. There still is not a date for the fall leadership conference. APA is behind releasing the NPC 2022 tracks, but they plan to release them soon. Michael said he advocated for International Tracks and Maggie said he should send an email to APA. Michael said it is unusual that there has been no input for the tracks, like in the past. There is no Mobile Workshop Committee yet. APA had a lower membership decline than they expected; it was only 5% and they had been preparing for much lower. Tim asked if active participation has decreased more. Michael thinks participation may have increased because virtual platforms can be more convenient, although people were less interested in the virtual NPC 2021. To sum up, we have to wait to hear the NPC 2022 tracks and be prepared to fit International in.

##### **World Town Planning Day – Michelle**

Michelle shared the title: Intergenerational Equity: Change and Implementation Now. We are planning three tracks- about behavioral change influenced by the physical environment; accountability and implementation; and who is at the table. Kate is finishing up the RFP and plans to release it the week of August 12.

We assume we are using APA's webinar platform because it has more functionality and will increase their investment in the event. Michelle will ask Maggie what time slots are available. All webinars will be recorded and put up afterwards for viewers, especially those in different time zones. Tim mentioned there was an Australian member who had been very active in participating in previous events and she could maybe tape something. Michael said he prefers live events- they are more engaging.

Michelle asked if anyone wants to join the Scoring Committee. We are looking for about four volunteers; it should just take a few hours in late September. Sitwat said she would join; Tim said he could help solicit proposals.

Michelle will reach out to Sean and Sitwat to post the RFP.

##### **Workplan – Michael**

Michael will send out a link to regular Division meeting attendees/leadership tomorrow, August 5, with slots for people to fill in their information. Folks will get 2-3 weeks to fill in their info. Tim volunteered to review. Michael said the Annual Performance Report is the one that really needs Tim's review, because that is for APA. There is no solid date for the Annual Performance Report, but probably early November. Michael thinks APA might be making it more streamlined this year. The Workplan needs to be adopted by September 30 before the fiscal year starts. This should happen at the Annual Business Meeting. We need to schedule this as soon as possible, but are waiting to hear from APA when the Fall Leadership Conference will be.

### **Student Programming – Sitwat**

Her ideas are to:

- Reach out via APA Engage to ask students to publish their work in Interplan or through social media
- Form a committee to work together to generate ideas and actively plan events.

Michael asked for a one paragraph writing up the needs of the committee, frequency of meeting, etc.

Sitwat asked if there was input from students in the Membership Survey. She has drafted a survey just for student members to learn more from them at the start of the new semester. Tim asked if there was a question asking students which is their favorite free membership.

Michael also mentioned that Sitwat's term is ending soon. Sitwat said she will have all the drafts ready for the next person. Michael also mentioned that we had defined the Student Rep criteria as "student or recently graduated," and he is wondering more and more if the Student Rep position criteria should be a two-year term like the other Board members, and to lineup with the student elections. The benefit is that students, normally grad students in a two year program, can join in the fall, and two years can be too long. But the issue is that people seem to warming up to the position and then their term ends. Tim mentioned combining the Student/Young Professional Rep. Michael likes keeping Student Rep because it aligns with APA better. Sitwat agreed that two years because it takes some time to get used to things. Michael said we could maybe discuss this at the Fall Business Meeting. Tim asked what's the relationship between Sitwat's position and Regional Coordinators. Michael said Regional Coordinators should be building relationships with their universities, while Student Rep is related more to SRC and national members. The other issue with a two-year position is that APA does elections in the summer. Michael is going to write to Lyndsey about this discussion since she is in charge of bylaws.

### **Finances- Joanna**

We are on track with everything. Joanna will follow-up with Maggie before the end of the month to reconcile everything. Joanna's role in the Workplan is to translate the costs of things from the past year into the coming year, and to tell us if we are able to afford the items in our plan.

We checked in with Sean. He started a new position with AECOM. They have some international work, which is exciting. He is based in Chicago but they have offices all over. Sean said he might know some good people to tap into for the WTPD events. Tim mentioned reaching out to Joel Sonkin.