

APA International Affairs Division- Monthly Minutes

October 6, 2021

6:30 PM CST Wednesday

Attendees:

Ras Cannady

Lyndsey Deaton

Kate Holmquist

Michael Kolber

Antonella Salmeron

Sean Tapia

Evan Todtz

Michelle Tullo

Timothy Van Epp

Jing Zhang

Michael welcomed everyone and we did quick introductions since there were some new and returning faces. Of note was Antonella Salmeron, the new Webinar Coordinator.

World Town Planning Day (Nov. 8) (Michelle): We are extending the original deadline for proposals until October 15 so that we can receive more proposals. To date we have received four submissions and expect to receive a few more. Our Scoring Committee will be meeting next week to review the proposals. Kate emphasized that this is a national APA event and Kate and Michelle asked for everyone to please share with your connections, especially to get diverse submissions. Tim said that the Climate Committee will be submitting a proposal. Kate asked that Michael reach out to the Humphrey Fellows group to elicit a proposal.

Student Grants Update (Lyndsey): So far there have been no applications. We have put out the call and advertised and Jing has created a beautiful website. Lyndsey asks to push the deadline beyond October 14. Michael said that he is hesitant to advertise this on social media because we want members of the division to apply. However, we think that people may not want to travel due to Covid concerns.

Sidenote: APA is revisiting the free division membership for students because they have not seen this lead to an increase in division membership.

Tim asked if we should allow the money to be used for other student uses during the pandemic. Lyndsey said that's a great idea if we had launched it that way, but it might be too late to change direction. We

didn't know what was happening with the Delta variant, etc. Lyndsey said maybe we stick with the timeline but pivot to fund international related research and projects.

Michael suggested that we turn it into a rolling deadline and say first come, first served.

Lyndsey asked Jing to modify and share a flyer and try to push it this week. Kate suggested that we make the language clearer that students did not have to be in a formal study abroad program.

Bylaw Amendments (Michael): We have previously discussed the following proposal, and now Michael is formally proposing the following change to Bylaws 4.8: We align our Student Representative position with our regular elections and make this a two-year position. The rationale is that we have found that one year is not long enough for the student to get acclimated and understand the role. Michael proposed deleting 4.8.7 from the bylaws and asked for comments. Tim said this seems consistent with SRC. Michael asked that we can also make this effective immediately so that Sitwat can stay in her current position, given how tumultuous things have been. No one objected.

The process is that Michael needs to send a copy to National. If no response is received within fourteen days, we can proceed and the Vice-Chair for Financial Management (Joanna) will submit to the membership for consideration. The whole process should take about a month.

Michael asked how long we should give members to vote on the issue. Our bylaws say we are supposed to run an election in October. Michael asked if we can do this in one week and no one saw why we couldn't.

Michael asked Sean to add the updated bylaws to our website.

Division Council Initiatives (Michael): We had our meeting last week. Michael has already discussed the possible student division change. The other big update is they are looking at a hybrid national conference this year. There are no updates on the dates for calls for proposals or for tracks.

The other big decision is that we do have a Division Council Initiative for the coming year. This is a topic area seen as cross-divisional and not owned by any one division, but is an opportunity for divisions to collaborate on something. The theme this year is "Equity and Public Health". The key part is that we are **not** to focus on COVID, but to move beyond it.

We as a division are responsible for providing some kind of content on this (i.e. webinar; research project; art project; article). We can be creative. In the past, it has been good to get someone involved who is not in current leadership. This gets more people in our division involved and helps us have a champion. But Michael is open to hearing any ideas on how to approach this.

Tim said Jen Cenek (?) at Rutgers has been involved with lots of planning for health. Michael said she might be too time constrained to be the coordinator, but should absolutely be involved. Tim will reach out to her.

Jing suggested tying this into Planifiquemos.

Michael asked if anyone had objections to putting out a call for a coordinator in our next e-blast: there were no objections.

Annual Performance Report (Michael): The “lecture” from Division Council last week is that no one should stress out over this! That being said, this is due November 15. For better or worse, the Division Council has streamlined and simplified the report. It’s good that it’s simpler, but it means we can’t use our template from last year. The other challenge is that this was sent as a PDF to fill in. Michael will convert it to a Google Doc and is setting a deadline for Monday, October 25 for people to respond and fill in with most of the information and provide a status update. Michelle volunteered to help converting the info between forms, and Tim volunteered to look over the draft (probably the first or second week of November). Michael will re-share the Annual Performance Report from the past and people can feel free to re-use paragraphs from past years if applicable.

Open Topics:

Updates from Jing:

Jing provided updates on Planifiquemos. He just had a meeting with a planning organization in Barcelona and is working with them to fill in content. Michael reminded Jing that National wants the grant to be used. Two sections are done. If we print all that, the grant will be considered half completed. The rest will be the handbook. The handbook is more limited with five sections and is less comprehensive than the website.

For the Japan group they are setting up an International Students Peer Planning Program between American and Japanese students. Right now there are some students registered but we are trying to keep the ratio between American and Japanese students even. It’s a twelve week program and we will evaluate students at the end and provide certificates of completion. This will launch in January.

Humphrey Fellows:

We have gotten a few people interested in volunteering as a mentor. Michael asked if anyone else was interested. Tim said yes. The time commitment would be interacting somewhere between biweekly and bimonthly. Sean said he would be interested as well.

Webinars

Kate asked that anyone with a webinar idea reach out.