

Mid-America American Studies Association
Spring 2016 Executive Board Meeting
Lawrence, KS, March 4, 2016

Present:

Ben Looker (President, SLU Faculty rep)
John Kinder (Vice President, At-Large rep)
Michael Krysko (Treasurer, At-Large rep)
Tom Oates (Secretary, UI Faculty rep)
Sarah Atwood-Hoffman (UMN Grad rep)
Joseph Bauerkemper (At-Large rep)
Alan Blair (SLU Grad rep)
Matt Calihman (At-Large rep)
Erica Hannickel (At-Large rep)
Nicole Price (KU Grad rep)
Diane Williams (UI Grad rep)
Hannah Bailey (ex officio, journal rep)
Sherrie Tucker (ex officio, journal rep)

Absent:

Ruben Flores (KU Faculty rep)

NOTE #1: Two motions were approved via email votes between the Fall 2015 board meeting and the current board meeting. These are reproduced in an appendix (below) for archive and reference purposes.

NOTE #2: A membership meeting was held immediately after the board meeting. Minutes for the membership meeting can be found at the end of this document.

I. Meeting was called to order at 12:11 p.m.

MOTION #1: To approve agenda

- Michael moved and Erica seconded.
- Motion carried.

II. American Studies Editors' Report (Jelks, Tucker, Bailey)

Sherrie reported that the journal has had success publishing four issues per year. A special issue on sport and the university is planned for the fall of 2016.

Sherrie distributed the proposed 2016–17 budget for the American Studies Journal, which is the same as the preceding year's budget, with one exception. She requested approval for a stipend to pay the tuition for students working on the journal as graduate research assistants (GRAs). The journals editors and staff provided three options for the journal's total expenses: (a) \$56,508, which would support 1 credit hour of tuition for 2 GRAs per semester; (b) \$65,548, which would cover 6 credit

hours of tuition for 2 GRAs per semester; and (c) \$70,976, which would cover 9 credit hours of tuition for 2 GRAs per semester.

MOTION #2: Accept the proposed budget, including option C, with the caveat that we have only 3 years of an accurate tracking of MAASA's finances, and thus are not certain of the long-term feasibility of this or other expenditures. If passed, the board would direct Walt to consult with the ASJ editors to decide on the appropriate mechanism for payment.

- Moved by Matt, seconded Alan.
- Motion carried.

III. President's Report (Looker)

Ben thanked the prize committees for their work.

IV. Treasurer's Report/Executive Director's Report (Kihm)

Michael conveyed that Walt's figures indicate \$13,078.31 in net income for 2014–15, bringing the total balance to \$98,548.31

Walt also mentions that there is a Landmark Bank account for MAASA in Columbia, Missouri. He will look into that account and report back.

V. Website/Webmaster Report and Planning

Tom read the text of a job announcement calling for a new MAASA webmaster.

MOTION #3: To approve the advertisement and direct Tom to have Jake post the announcement through MAASA's website, Facebook page, and social media outlets.

- Moved by Alan, seconded by Erica.
- Motion carried.

In addition to distributing the job ad, Tom will ask Jake to link the MAASA Facebook page to the website.

VI. Board Membership and Election of New Officers

There was discussion of Minnesota's vacant faculty seat on the Executive Board. Sarah notes that the program at University of Minnesota is in a transitional phase, due to some personnel issues, but encouraged the Board to reach out to the school's leadership for filling their faculty seat.

Board members Ben and Tom (representing degree-granting institutions) agreed to extend their current terms (new terms expire June 1, 2018). Michael also agreed to extend his term, pending approval at the general membership meeting (new term expires June 1, 2018).

Alan, Matt, and Sarah volunteered for a nominating committee to solicit and field nominations from MAASA members for the Executive Board and members of the prize and program committees. An online election will follow.

MOTION #4: To elect Alan, Matt, and Sarah to the nominating committee.

- Moved by Joe, seconded by John.
- Motion carried.

MOTION #5: To elect Tom as secretary (one-year term).

- Motion carried with 1 abstention.

MOTION #6: To elect Michael treasurer (one-year term).

- Motion carried with 1 abstention.

Ben then solicited nomination for the position of regional representative to ASA.

MOTION #7: To elect Sarah regional representative (two-year term).

- Motion carried.

VII. Discussion of next MAASA Conference (Spring 2018?)

Request for expressions of interest from board members on potential host site - Publicizing wider call for host site - Consideration of standardizing funding amount offered to host site - Consideration of need for a Program Committee. (Standing committee is described in MAASA Constitution Article VI: none currently in existence.)

Ben encouraged invitations to host the 2018 conference and suggested a standard MAASA contribution for conference hosts of \$5,000. Sarah will inquire with Minnesota personnel about interest there; Ben will inquire at SLU.

VIII. Reports from Award Committees

Alan announced 14 submissions for Katzman-Yetman.

Ben shared that there were 4 submissions for the Kolmer award, and that one submission that was not selected was contacted and encouraged to submit again for the next conference.

It was determined that Erica would announce the winners of the Stone-Suderman Prize at the plenary, that Sherrie would present the Kolmer Award winners, and that Matt would give the Katzman-Yetman Prize.

IX. MAASA Travel Policy Updates

Walt has requested whether to use the State Department or Defense Department rate for reimbursing international travel. After discussion it was decided that Walt should be instructed to use the State Department per diem rate.

MOTION #8: To approve a one-time increase in the faculty travel reimbursement allowance for travel to the annual MAASA board meetings to \$350, to be implemented for the current meeting (after which the amount reverts to the standard \$250).

- Moved by Ben and seconded by Alan.
- Motion carried.

Sarah, Matt, and John agreed to continue discussions about the travel policy, to lead discussion on the topic at the Fall 2016 meeting.

Members of the Board will recommend possible locations for the spring meeting via email and then discuss at fall meeting.

X. American Studies Association Conference, Denver, Nov. 17-20, 2016

Need for planning of reception, in concert with journal reps. Incoming president (John) and regional rep (Sarah) will inquire with journal about plans and can submit electronic motions for board approval of reception costs.

XI. Proposal on Potential MAASA Regional Grants

Tabled.

XII. Preparation for MAASA Membership Meeting

Already completed above.

XIII. New Business and Announcements

No new business.

MOTION #9: To adjourn.

- Motion carried.

APPENDIX:
Motions approved by email vote between Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 board meetings
Mid-America American Studies Association Board

MOTION—FEB. 3, 2016: That the MAASA board: 1.) approve expenditures, related to expanding the 2016 conference, of \$200 for an additional breakfast, \$700 for shuttle between the original building and an added conference building, and \$350 for additional registration expenses; and 2.) direct its officers to attempt to recoup as much of this money as is possible by working with the conference organizers to secure cosponsorships, to reduce KU Continuing Ed staff time under that office’s policies, and to appropriately apply to MAASA’s accounts the agreed-upon portion of registration fees upon the conference’s conclusion.

- Moved by Ben Looker (Feb. 3, 2016, email)
- Motion carried.

MOTION—FEB. 9, 2016: That MAASA’s board authorize an expenditure of up to \$150 to pay for commemorative hand-crafted mugs for the Kolmer, Stone-Suderman, and Katzman-Yetman award winners.

- Moved by Ben Looker (Feb. 9, 2016, email)
- Motion carried.

Email votes were conducted in compliance with MAASA Constitution Article VIII on electronic voting.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Mid-America American Studies Association
Spring 2016
Lawrence, KS, March 4, 2016

Ben Looker (president) called the meeting to order and thanked the conference organizers.

President's Report (Looker)

Ben gave an update on the award submissions and issued a call for potential hosts for future MAASA conferences.

He invited initiatives to strengthen and support American Studies in the region.

He identified the central goals for the future as maintaining financial support for the journal and the MAASA conference, while encouraging members to consider other ways that MAASA might contribute to a broader mission while recognizing the organization's limitations and dependence on volunteers.

Financial Report (Krysko)

Michael reported that MAASA's accounts have balance of \$98,548.31, approximately a \$13,000 increase over the previous year.

He shared the board's decision to extend financial support to cover tuition costs for students working on the journal.

Journal Report (Tucker)

Sherrie thanked to the journal workers – especially the grad students – and extended thanks to the Board for approving the tuition assistance for student workers.

She announced that this was the third year that *American Studies* had published 4 issues a year, and looks forward to the special issue on "Sport and the University," which will be published in the fall.

Ratification of New Board Members

At-Large members Joseph Bauerkemper, Matthew Calihman, Erica Hannickel, John Kinder, and Michael Krysko were presented to the membership for ratification. All were ratified with one abstention.

Nominating Committee

Alan then informed members of the role of the board, and the awards committees, and solicited nominations for both, telling members to send questions or nominations to the MAASA secretary Tom Oates at thomas-oates@uiowa.edu

Questions and New Business

No new business. Alan moved to adjourn and Erica seconded. Motion carried.

###