Minutes of the SSSP Board of Directors Meeting  
Sunday, August 14, 2005, Philadelphia, PA

The meeting was called to order by President Claire Renzetti.

Those present were introduced: Claire Renzetti, President; Valerie Jenness, President-Elect; Gary Alan Fine, Past President; Kimberly Cook, Vice President; Keith Kilty, Vice President-Elect; Martha Hargraves, Past Vice President; JoAnn Miller, Secretary; Susan M. Carlson, Treasurer; Donald Cunnigen, Paul Luken, Wendy Simonds, Tracy Deitz, and David Smith, Board of Directors; Luis Fernandez and Ingar Johnson, Student Members, Board of Directors; Thomas C. Hood, Executive Officer; Michele Smith Koontz, Administrative Officer; Amy Wharton, Editor, SOCIAL PROBLEMS; Carrie Yang Costello, Chair, Council of Special Problems Division Chairpersons; David Rudy, Chair of the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee.

The revised agenda was approved.

Paul Luken was selected to serve on the Board of Directors to finish Amy Wharton’s term.

Candidates for Secretary and Treasurer were considered. David Rudy was nominated for Treasurer and JoAnn Miller was nominated for Secretary.

Carrie Yang Costello presented the report of the Nominating Committee, including nominees for President Elect, Vice President Elect, Board of Directors, Student Representative to the Board of Directors; Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee; Committee on Committees; and the Editorial and Publications Committee. Discussion of the proposed slate followed.

MOTION: THAT THE SLATE OF CANDIDATES BE APPROVED AS REVISED. SECONDED. PASSED.

David Rudy presented the proposed 2006 budget and indicated that it does not include the costs for canceling the hotel contract in San Francisco. The Budget, Audit, and Finance Committee recommends an increase in student meeting registration fees by $10 which would increase revenue by an estimated $6,000. Discussion followed.

MOTION: THAT STUDENT MEETING REGISTRATION FEES BE INCREASED BY $5 FOR 2006 AND 2007 MEETINGS, AND BY $10 BEGINNING WITH THE 2008 MEETING. THAT REGISTRATION FEES FOR OTHER CATEGORIES BE INCREASED BY $10 BEGINNING WITH THE 2006 MEETING. SECONDED. PASSED.

MOTION: THAT THE 2006 PROPOSED BUDGET, WHICH WILL BE AMENDED TO ACCOUNT FOR INCREASES IN MEETING FEES, BE APPROVED. CARRIED.
Nancy Naples presented the Editorial and Publications Committee Report. The Committee recommends Ken Kyle be appointed as Editor of SOCIAL PROBLEMS FORUM: THE SSSP NEWSLETTER. It discussed the Presidential Series and Rowman & Littlefield’s decision not to renew the contract with SSSP to publish additional volumes. It considered whether more flexibility in the length of term held by the SOCIAL PROBLEMS editor is desirable and concluded that the current term of three years should be maintained. James Orcutt will Chair the Committee for 2005-2006. At the request of Kathleen Ferraro, the Committee discussed whether or not comments on the Presidential Address that are published in SOCIAL PROBLEMS FORUM should be accompanied by a reply by the President. It also discussed Amy Wharton’s proposal for a special section in a future SOCIAL PROBLEMS issue on “The Missing Feminist Revolution in Sociology Twenty Years Later.” Discussion of the Report followed. The Committee was thanked for its work.

MOTION: THAT KEN KYLE BE APPOINTED AS EDITOR OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS FORUM: THE SSSP NEWSLETTER. CARRIED.

MOTION: THAT LETTERS OF APPRECIATION BE SENT TO JAMES HOLSTEIN AND STEVE COUCH. CARRIED.

MOTION: THAT WITHOUT IMPINGING ON THE EDITOR’S DISCRETION, SSSP ENCOURAGES THE EDITOR OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS FORUM TO INCLUDE, IN THE SAME ISSUE, REPLIES TO COMMENTS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS. CARRIED.

MOTION: THAT SSSP APPROVE A SPECIAL SECTION, WITH AN EXPEDITED REVIEW PROCESS, THAT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN SOCIAL PROBLEMS. CARRIED.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE ADVISORY EDITORS FOR SOCIAL PROBLEM, SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL MEMBERS. CARRIED.

MOTION: THAT THE SOCIAL PROBLEMS EDITOR ESTABLISH A DATABASE THAT PROVIDES PROFILE INFORMATION ON ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS TO ASSURE RACE AND ETHNICITY REPRESENTATION. CARRIED.

MOTION: THAT THE SSSP MEMBERSHIP FORM ADD A QUESTION ON GENDER IDENTIFICATION THAT INCLUDES “MALE, FEMALE, OR ALTERNATIVE GENDER IDENTIFICATION.” SECONDED. PASSED.

MOTION: THAT THE RACE AND ETHNICITY QUESTION ON THE SSSP MEMBERSHIP FORM INCLUDE A LINE TO DESIGNATE ADDITIONAL SELF IDENTIFICATIONS AND NOT TO INCLUDE THE TERM “OTHER.” SECONDED. PASSED.
MOTION: THAT THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE WILL PREPARE FOR A FULL
MEMBERSHIP VOTE A CHANGE TO THE BYLAWS TO INCLUDE THE
OUTGOING EDITOR OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS AS AN EX OFFICIO ON THE
EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE FOR A THREE YEAR TERM.
SECONDED. PASSED.

Vice President Martha Hargraves reported that seven resolutions were introduced at the Business Meeting. Two were remanded to the Special Divisions for further consideration. Five resolutions were approved.

Luis Fernandez and Ingar P. Johnson, Student Representatives, Board of Directors, presented a report of activities. They expressed gratitude for the funds used to host a graduate student reception and they presented positive feedback from graduate students on meeting mentors and sessions designed for students. Luis Fernandez and Ingar Johnson were thanked for their work.

Michele Koontz presented the report from the Committee on Committees on behalf of Cecilia Menjivar. The Final Report of the Committee on Committees was approved.

Thomas C. Hood reported on his 8/13/2005 conversation with Janet Astner from the American Sociological Association. ASA renegotiated a contract for its 2007 meetings in New York that contains language that allows ASA to cancel if labor agreements with the relevant hotels do not exist. Janet Astner suggested that if SSSP wants to meet in conjunction with ASA meetings SSSP should insist on a clause in the hotel contracts that gives SSSP the right to cancel should ASA decide to relocate. Michele Koontz indicated that SSSP cannot cancel its 2007 New York contract. The estimated penalty would be $128,500.

Michele Koontz asked the Board of Directors for guidance in negotiating an exit from the 2006 San Francisco hotel contract in order to begin searching for a conference hotel in Montreal.

MOTION: THAT MICHELE KOONTZ IS AUTHORIZED, AS SHE DEEMS IT IS
ADVANTAGEOUS, TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES FOR RETURNING TO SAN
FRANCISCO AS SHE NEGOTIATES THE TERMINATION OF THE STANFORD
COURT HOTEL CONTRACT. SECONDED. PASSED.

The Board of Directors discussed unfinished business from 2005. Paul Luken suggested that when SSSP revises its membership form to include items on gender and race, and when it prepares other Society materials, it should take the steps necessary to recognize the international community.

MOTION: THAT SSSP ASK AMY WHARTON, EDITOR OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS,
TO INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS AS ADVISORY EDITORS; AND
THAT THE TRACKING DATABASE INCLUDE A FIELD TO INDICATE THE
NATIONALITY OF AUTHORS AND REVIEWERS OF PAPERS. SECONDED. PASSED.

Claire Renzetti introduced new business. SSSP received, from Myra Marx Ferree, a request to participate in the Beth Hess Memorial Scholarship award by announcing the recipient of the award at the SSSP awards banquet; and by including in the SSSP annual budget a line to support a one-year student membership, a one-time SSSP student annual meeting registration, a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet, and a share of the airfare to SSSP meetings.

MOTION: THAT SSSP SUPPORT THE BETH HESS SCHOLARSHIP AND INCLUDE IN THE BUDGET UP TO $300 IN AIRFARE AND THE ASSOCIATED FEES TO COVER MEMBERSHIP, ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION, AND BANQUET TICKET FOR THE AWARD RECIPIENT. SECONDED. PASSED.

The meeting was adjourned.