

**2010-2011 SSSP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2011**  
**11:45AM – 5:45PM**

ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by President A. Javier Treviño

ITEM #2 – INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present:

A. Javier Treviño, President

Wendy Simonds, President Elect

JoAnn Miller, Past President

Carolyn Perrucci, Vice President

Wendy Chapkis, Vice President Elect

Glenn W. Muschert, Secretary

Susan M. Carlson, Treasurer

Stephani Williams, Chairperson, Council of the Special Problems Divisions and Chair of the Budget, Finance, and Audit (BFA) Committee

Barbara Katz Rothman, Board Member

Valerie Leiter, Board Member

Ray Michalowski, Board Member

Claire Renzetti, Board Member

Sarah Jane Brubaker, Board Member

Nancy Mezey, Board Member

Louis Esparza, Student Board Representative

Mandy Frake-Mistak, Student Board Representative

David Levinson, Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee

Brent Teasdale, Editor, *Social Problems Forum*

Héctor Delgado, Executive Officer

Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager

ITEM #3 – ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda adopted as written.

ITEM #4 – ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2011 GENERAL ELECTION AND BY-LAWS RESULTS

The meeting proceeded according to the approved agenda, with Héctor Delgado presenting the results of the 2011 General Election as follows:

President Elect (2011-2012); President (2012-2013):	R.A. Dello Buono
Vice-President Elect (2011-2012); Vice President (2012-2013):	Tracy L. Dietz
Secretary (2011-2012):	Glenn W. Muschert
Treasurer (2011-2012):	Susan M. Carlson
Board of Directors (2011-2014):	Marlese Durr & Elisabeth Sheff
Board of Directors: Student Representative (2011-2013)	Patrick K. O'Brien

Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee (2011-2014):	Paul D. Steele
Committee on Committees (2011-2014):	Kathleen Asbury & Peter Conrad
Editorial and Publications Committee (2011-2014):	Nancy C. Jurik & JoAnn L. Miller
Membership and Outreach Committee (2011-2014):	Debora A. Paterniti & Deana Rohlinger
Membership and Outreach Committee: Student Representative (2011-2014):	Jay Borchert

In addition, the Bylaws Amendments were approved in the election. Héctor clarified the changes to the bylaws, approved by the membership vote.

#### ITEM #5 – REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

Secretary Glenn Muschert reviewed the minutes of the 2010 Board Meetings and the Annual Business Meeting. The minutes were approved.

#### ITEM #6 – MONEY MATTERS

Treasurer Susan Carlson reviewed the report from the Treasurer. The Society continues to break even financially, with sufficient revenue to cover expenses, without dipping into institutional asset holdings. The Society has two sources of revenue: journal subscriptions and membership dues. Selection of an attractive site for meetings seems positively related to membership, as attendance at the meetings brings membership revenue. Institutional subscriptions of *Social Problems* are down, and this is related to the accessibility of the journal via ProQuest and Hein on-line. UC Press is now aware that the journal was available for free via these other on-line services, and this is being changed. There will now be a move by UC Press to recapture those institutional subscriptions that were lost. The Board discussed issues related to maximizing subscription revenues.

Part A: LBMC Communications Letter – LBMC expressed concern about the maintenance of the Society’s tax-exempt status. The Board understood this warning, and discussion ensued regarding the activities of the Society, and the need to avoid any direct political action which could potentially threaten the Society’s tax-exempt status.

Part B: 2010 Audit Report- the Society received a clean bill of health from its financial audit from LBMC. In addition, the Society was subject to an IRS audit of 2008 taxes. The audit was approved, and the tax-exempt status was approved. Some changes in bookkeeping will ensue, specifically the accounting practices related to advertising revenue.

**ACTION: The Board approved the report of the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee.**

**ACTION: The Board approved the results of the annual audit.**

Report from Ad Hoc Revenue Generating Committee: Héctor Delgado chaired the committee, and reported on the ideas generated by the committee.

**ACTION: The Board approved the report of the Revenue Generating Committee.**

Stephani Williams, Chair of the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee presented the Society’s 2011 amended budget.

**ACTION: The Board approved the 2011 amended budget.**

Stephani Williams, Chair of the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee discussed recommendations from the BFA Committee.

**ACTION: The Board approved BFA Recommendation #1 – Tabling the usual Board vote on subscription increases for *Social Problems* until April 2012, which would be in line with the market flexibility needed in pricing the subscription.**

ITEM #7 – REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Héctor Delgado presented the report from the executive officer. A number of important issues were resolved during the previous year.

- The 2011 conference was moved at a late date from Chicago to Las Vegas.
- *Social Problems* subscriptions are down, and the E&P and BFA committees, executive officer, administrative officer and treasurer are monitoring this.
- Revenue generation is also an issue of importance for the Society, and the executive officer continues to monitor this issue.
- The Society launched a new and improved website.
- The Society responded to threats received by Frances Fox Piven as a result of criticisms raised on Fox “News.” The executive officer sent letters to various agencies and organized a session on this topic at this year’s meeting.
- The executive officer pushed for reconsideration in the Troy Davis death penalty case in Georgia.
- The executive officer sent letters to UNLV in support of social science scholars, whose jobs were slated to be cut.
- The executive officer hosted a meeting of the BFA committee at the University of LaVerne.
- The Board approved a policy for divisions who would like to host workshops before, during, or after the SSSP meetings.
- The Society has graciously received pro bono legal advice, and the SSSP now sets aside \$100 to \$1000 for legal advice for legal advice on contracts.
- Administrative officer and office workload is a continued concern. These staff members are very efficient, though also overloaded.

**ACTION: The Board approved the Executive Officer’s report.**

Héctor Delgado clarified the proposed By-Laws changes:

To Article IV, Section 2, Qualifications for Holding Society Positions

**Proposed wording:** No person may **be nominated for or** hold any office, serve on any standing or temporary committee of the Society for the Study of Social Problems or on the Board of Editors of any periodical publication of the Society who is not a member of the Society. Non-members may be nominated or appointed to such positions provided that they apply for membership when they accept the nomination or appointment except as noted below in Article V, Section 1, requiring two years prior membership

**ACTION: The Board approved the proposed By-Laws changes.**

To Article VI, Section 6, Committee on Committees

The Committee on Committees shall consist of six members of the Society elected by the voting membership to three year terms with the terms staggered so that at least two members are elected

each year, depending on the number of vacancies. Each year the members of the Committee shall select from among their members who have served at least one-year, a Chairperson-elect to serve as Chairperson the following year.

The **Committee's** duties shall be to nominate or recommend for nomination members of selected appointed committees as stated in the By-Laws or assigned by the Board of Directors. **A member may not serve on more than two committees within the Committee on Committee's authority.**

**ACTION: The Board approved the proposed By-Laws changes.**

To Article VIII, Section 5, Nomination for More than Once Position

Any **member** nominated for more than one position shall be asked by the Elections Committee Chairperson to select the position in which s/he prefers to serve. If the nominee otherwise qualifies but fails to indicate his or her preference, the Elections Committee Chairperson is required to submit the person's name to be a candidate for only one of the positions. **If a member is currently serving in an elected capacity and is elected to another position, s/he must decide between the two positions. Members may not hold more than one elected position.**

**ACTION: The Board approved the proposed By-Laws changes.**

ITEM #8 – REPORT FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR

Karen McCormack presented the report from the 2011 program committee. In addition to thanking those who were instrumental in the process, the report stated that 531 papers had been submitted using the on-line submission system. There are 140 sessions scheduled at this meeting.

Recommendation: there have been a significant increase of papers ending up in the repository, and this required the committee to create additional sessions. Thus, it will be important to watch this trend.

Recommendation: the committee recommends that papers-in-the-round sessions should continue to be used.

Recommendation: continue to explore co-sponsorship of sessions with other associations.

Recommendation: the committee recommends that the new sorts of sessions being used this year could be continued.

Recommendation: the committee recommended that the Society monitor the exemptions of registrations fees.

Recommendation: that this report would be available for editing, once attendance numbers from the meeting are available.

**ACTION: The Board approved the report from the Program Committee.**

ITEM #9 – REPORT FROM THE LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Shannon Monnat presented the Local Arrangements Committee report.

**ACTION: The Board approved the report of the Local Arrangements Committee.**

ITEM #10 – REPORT FROM THE MEETING MANAGER

Michele Koontz, meeting manager, reported on a variety of issues.

- The annual meeting currently has 696 attendees registered in 140 sessions.
- The hotel was mostly accommodating to the Society's accessibility requests, though they declined our request to provide a gender neutral restroom. This year, \$235 was donated to the accessibility services fund.

**ACTION: The Board expressed its disapproval at Harrah's unwillingness to accommodate a request for a gender neutral restroom for the meeting space. A letter to such effect will be sent to Caesar's Entertainment.**

- AIDS Fundraiser is raising money for Aid for AIDS of Nevada.
- Audio-visual services approximately \$13K.
- The awards banquet will have about 200 in attendance.
- Book exhibit is managed by The Scholar's Choice.
- The Society negotiated reduced charges for the food/beverage.
- Donations are much appreciated, included monies and art works.
- We exceeded our room block, and added additional rooms.
- Institutional Ethnography Division held a workshop on the day prior to the main meeting's start.
- Mentorship program is working and in place.
- Registration workers are volunteers, and we have a roommate matching service.

**ACTION: The Board approved the Meeting Manager's Report.**

ITEM #11 – REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

Alison Mudditt, Rebecca Simon, Rebekah Darksmith, and Devon Weston from UC Press reported on the relations between the Society and UC Press. Revenues from *Social Problems* subscriptions increased 6% over FY 09/10, and simultaneously the costs have reduced 37% from FY 09/10. The FY 11/12 budget includes a 9% increase in subscription fees, including a non-member subscription rate of \$256 for print & online subscription and for \$216 for electronic only subscriptions. The FY 11/12 net income for the SSSP is projected at \$247,923. UC Press proposed tier pricing and a revised timeline for future years. They will make their 2012-13 price recommendation in April 2012. The representatives presented the newly-developed communications calendar for working with UC Press. The representatives also presented the full Sales, Marketing, and Circulation Report. Discussion ensued among members of the Board and the UC Press representatives, concentrating on maximizing subscriptions and revenue, while retaining institutional subscriptions.

**ACTION: The Board accepted the *Social Problems* Budget and Circulation Report, *Social Problems Marketing Program, FY 2011-12* and the Sales, Marketing, and Circulation Report.**

ITEM #12 – REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF *SOCIAL PROBLEMS*

Item #12 was rescheduled for the August 19 Board meeting.

ITEM #13 – REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF *SOCIAL PROBLEMS FORUM: THE SSSP NEWSLETTER*

Brent Teasdale presented on the developments in the newsletter, now located at Georgia State University. All members now receive access to the newsletter electronically. There is now a comment option available on the SSSP website, where Society members can post their comments to materials in the newsletter, and this content flows through a gate keeper.

**ACTION: The Board approved the *Social Problems Forum* Editor's Report.**

ITEM #14 – REPORT FROM THE AD HOC COMMITTEE: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS COMMITTEE

Sarah Hendricks reported on the actions of the Information Technology Options Committee. Namely, the Society has a newly redesigned website, use of social media sites (adding a Facebook page, Twitter account, and RSS feeds for the SSSP), and the establishment of a graduate student listserv. The 2011-12 committee members will be: Sarah Hendricks (Chair), Lisa East, James Maples, and Shannon Monnat.

**ACTION: The Board approved the Report of the Ad Hoc Information Technology Committee.**

ITEM #15 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

From Item #6 – the Board continued a discussion of the structure and funding for the special problems divisions.

**ACTION: The Board approved the following change to the membership to special problems divisions: Included in Society membership, each member would receive one division membership, and student members would receive two division memberships. Additional division membership would be available at the cost of \$10 per division.**

Once again, the further discussion of strategies to restructure special problem divisions was tabled until the 8/19/11 meeting.

ITEM #16 – NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of the evolution of the AIDS fundraiser ensued. The intention is to keep the spirit of raising money for positive social action, but for exploring strategies to be as effective as possible.

**ACTION: The Board approved that the Society would no longer have a pay-to-attend fundraiser.**

**ACTION: The Board approved that the proceeds of the fund-raising raffle will go to the winner of the Social Action Award.**

ITEM #17 – ADJOURNMENT OF THE 2010-2011 BOARD

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President A. Javier Treviño.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Glenn W. Muschert, SSSP Secretary