

Date: July 16, 2012

To: Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer

From: Stephani Williams
Nominations Committee, Chair

RE: Nominations Committee Report

As most of you know, we are in our second year of a drastically altered nominations process, with a new committee structure, guidelines and procedures. We have learned a lot in these last two years, and I feel confident that the by-laws amendment we passed this year was the right one. I have included the official language below for your convenience.

Article VI, Section 11

(a) The Nominations Committee for each year following the annual meeting is established at the current annual meeting. The committee shall consist of the Chairperson of the Council of the Special Problems Divisions and four members appointed by the Board of Directors. The Chairperson of the Council of the Special Problems Divisions will serve as the Chair of the Nominations Committee and will be the primary point of contact with the Board of Directors.

The continued benefits of the new process are:

- that most of our candidates have come from the membership form, indicating their willingness to serve when they renew (or originally join) the Society.
- by soliciting candidates via email for several months, rather than brainstorming a list of candidates over the span of a couple of hours, we have a far more diverse slate of candidates.
- by securing candidates that are interested and willing to serve, thus reducing the burden to the Elections Committee Chair.

Things we did differently this year:

- This year, we sent out the first email blast following the 2011 annual meeting. We believed that the energy and enthusiasm would be at a peak in the weeks following the meeting. We hoped that this would increase self-nominations and early membership renewals.
- This year, we began with those candidates that indicated a willingness to serve in an elected position on their 2012 membership form. This resulted in a significant time savings
- The process while less time consuming than last year, was still very labor intensive (more than 100 hours of calling, emailing to solicit candidates, answer questions, verify interest, remind candidates to fill out the online nomination form, etc.; communicate with committee to assign contacts, rank candidates, etc.

Slate of Candidates

- We have several very good candidates this year, though in some areas we do not have as many candidates as we had last year.