

To: SSSP Board of Directors
From: Paul Luken, Chair, POSPC
Re: Annual Report of the Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee
Date: July 11, 2015

The Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee met on August 15, 2014. The Committee discussed revisions to the Operations Manual proposed by the BFA regarding levels of support for the editorial office of *Social Problems*. POSPC approved the following additions to Section VII.B.3:

- Add after the second sentence: "This is acceptable as long as those expenditures are not in any way transferred to the Society – either by being covered with funds from the approved budget or by being added later as expenditures to the approved budget."
- Add at the end: "While the Society understands that a final accounting may reveal over and under expenditures, total SSSP expenditures should not exceed the Publisher's contracted amount allocated for editorial office expenses. Hence, if there is uncertainty in a submitted budget, it should be sufficiently below the contracted amount so as to prevent additional expenditures. The support offered by the host institution must be sufficient to assure that the Journal will be published at a high level of quality, which means host institution support must be a part of the submitted budget."

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding division titles, division membership, and number of sessions at the annual meeting. Currently several divisions do not have the requisite number of members. POSPC declined to propose combining divisions with low membership and instead proposed that the divisions consider combining and renaming themselves. Reorganization should come from the divisions themselves. It was proposed that the number of sessions at the annual meeting for each division be proportional to the division's membership the previous year.

After the annual meeting the POSPC was charged by the Board of Directors to consider changes in the Operations Manual in light of the following concerns presented by the Editorial and Publications Committee:

1. *The BOD should be circumspect about declining University support for journal editorships as they advertise for future editors. This potential budgetary issue should be considered in planning future editor searches.*
2. *The Committee recommends a reduction in the number of reference letters required for editor applicants, or totally eliminating this component entirely as such letters were not used last time.*
3. *Timing of the deadline for applications needs to be weighed (Although January is early, February may be too late given our August meeting deadline for selection).*
4. *Site visits may not be sufficiently important to justify the time and expenses they involve. (There was not time to conduct these last year).*

5. *Specify the number of applications desired in the search and specify a process in advance regarding how to solicit additional applicants if needed.*

6. *Make certain that the BFA representative and the E&P Chair clear all budgetary matters in proposals and revisions with BFA committee. Clarify and confirm communication channels between these 2 committees regarding budgetary matters prior to final selection of a new editor.*

After deliberations the POSPC submitted proposed modifications of the Operations Manual. All were unanimously approved by the Board with one exception: the elimination of site visits was approved by an 8 to 4 vote.