

To: SSSP Board of Directors and the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee

From: John G. Dale, Chair of the Transnational Initiatives Committee

Cc: Héctor L. Delgado and Michele Koontz

Date: July 22, 2019

Re: Report from the Transnational Initiatives Committee

The following members comprised this year's Transnational Initiatives Committee (TIC):

John G. Dale, George Mason University (Chair, 2017-2019);

Bhoomi K. Thakore (Chair-Elect, 2018-2019);

Yvonne A. Braun, University of Oregon, (2017-2019);

*Fatime Güneş, Anadolu University (2017-2020);

*Lynette J. Chua, National University of Singapore (2017-2020);

*Shahla Ali, University of Hong Kong (2018-2021);

Nathalie Rita, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (Graduate Student Member, 2018-2019); and

Héctor L. Delgado, University of La Verne (Ex-Officio Member, 2018-2019).

* Denotes Non-U.S.-based members

This year, John Dale will be stepping down as Chair of the Committee and will be replaced by Chair-Elect Bhoomi Thakore. Also rotating off of the committee this year will be Yvonne Braun and our graduate student member, Nathalie Rita.

Pursuant to the TIC's by-laws, the TIC will need a new Chair-Elect for 2019-2020, and a one-year graduate student replacement for Nathalie. The TIC may also choose to replace the position that Yvonne will be vacating. If so, this position would be for 2019-2022. These new TIC members *shall be* nominated by the by the President-Elect in consultation with the Committee on Committees and appointed by the Board of Directors.

I have provided the relevant language from the by-laws below:

The Transnational Initiatives Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a Chairperson-elect, and four members, of whom at least two must be international members, each serving three-year staggered terms, and a graduate student member. In addition to the appointed members, the Executive Officer shall serve as an ex officio member.

Following criteria stipulated in the by-laws governing standing committees, the Transnational Initiatives Committee shall be reconstituted each year with a turnover membership of at least one-third, and no member may serve on the same committee of the Society, whether by election or appointment, for more than three consecutive years.

The 2019-2020 Transnational Initiatives Committee shall consist of the following members:

CHAIR: Bhoomi K. Thakore

CO-CHAIR-ELECT: Eberhard Raithelhuber

CO-CHAIR-ELECT: Alan Jay Spector

1. Lynette J. Chua (international: 2017-2020)
2. Fatime Güneş (international: 2017-2020)
3. Shahla Ali (international: 2018-2021) (2018 member)
4. Josephine T. V. Greenbrook (international: 2019-2022)
5. Chelle Jones (graduate student: 2019-2022)
6. Héctor L. Delgado (Ex-Officio Member)

The TIC will be meeting on Friday, August 9th during the Annual Meeting in New York City. The new Chair Bhoomi Thakore will be unable to attend because she is relocating to start a new job in August. John Dale will oversee the meeting and ensure that the minutes of the meeting are recorded and reported.

This year, the TIC co-sponsored with the Global Division Thematic Session 034: “Transforming Structures of Violence: Human Rights and the Work of Social Justice in Transnational Perspective.” John Dale and Yvonne Braun organized the session and wish to thank Chair of the Global Division Beth Williford and, of course, Michele Koontz for their help in this process. The session is scheduled for Friday, August 9th from 12:30pm-2:10pm (right after the TIC business meeting) in the Riverside Suite of The Roosevelt Hotel.

Below are the names of the organizers, presidors, presenters and titles of the papers.

Organizers & Presiders:

Yvonne A. Braun, University of Oregon

John G. Dale, George Mason University

Papers:

“Indigenous Rights and Indigenous Wrongs: Exploring U.S. and Brazilian Constitutional Intentions,” Marcia L. Mikulak and Ally M. Sogge, University of North Dakota

“‘Blacks Here are Racist against Whites’: White Identifying Brazilian Immigrants’ Perception of African American Racism,” Rodrigo Serrao, University of South Florida, Winner of the Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Exposure to Global Cultural Scripts through Media and Attitudes toward Violence against Women,” Jeffrey Swindle, University of Michigan, Winner of the Global Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Culture, Community and Deliberative Democracy: The Practice of Participatory Budgeting in Taiwan’s Local Communities,” Kuo-ming Lin, National Taiwan University

“Global South Perspectives on Social Justice,” Juman Simaan, Canterbury Christ Church University and Shoba Nayar, Research and Development Associate Giles Brooker Group, India

We are very pleased with the quality of the papers that we received, and should mention that two of them (Serrao’s and Swindle’s) were Graduate Student Paper Competition winners in the Racial & Ethnic Minority Division and the Global Division.

Two of these presenters, Kuo-ming Lin and Juman Simaan are registered members who are travelling from Taiwan and India, respectively, to attend the meeting. The TIC had planned to offer presenters from institutions in countries outside the United States and Canada – and especially from the global South – travel funds to cover their airfare. We did the same last year. However, Michele Koontz inquired whether the TIC had told Lin and Simaan that they would be receiving travel money when they had submitted their papers to our session. The fact is that we had not made this clear at the time that papers were submitted. Michele wisely recommended that, moving forward, instead of providing airfare to session participants, we might advertise travel money to attend the annual meeting for those outside the global North. As she explained, while these participants would no doubt be pleased to receive the unexpected travel money, it doesn’t seem fair that they receive funding without applying in the way that other participants do for the Erwin O. Smigel Award, Lee Student Support Fund, and Lee Scholar Support Fund. We agree with Michele’s assessment and therefore have decided not to spend these funds on foreign participant travel costs.

The Committee would like to return the unspent amount remaining in its 2018-2019 budget to the control of the BFA.

In light of the rationale articulated above, the Transnational Initiatives Committee proposes the following **Action Item**:

The Transnational Initiatives Committee would like to establish a formal fund and process for submitting and reviewing travel fund requests from participants residing in the Global south who are selected to participate in the Committee-sponsored Thematic Session or other special activities during the annual meeting of the SSSP. The monies for this fund would come from the existing budget of the Committee.

Finally, the Committee is hosting a happy hour with hors d’oeuvres for all of the Thematic Session panelists and members (current and incoming) of the Transnational Initiatives Committee at Dutch Fred’s Restaurant at 307 W. 47th St., New York, NY 10036 on Friday, August 9th from 7:30pm (after the Welcoming Reception ends) until 9pm. We also are asking Division Chairs to announce that anyone interested in the work of the Transnational Initiatives Committee, or finding out more about it, is invited to join us at Dutch Fred’s. The current Committee Members will convene at the business meeting scheduled on Friday, August 9th prior to this Happy Hour. We hope that this event will help us to welcome our Thematic Session panelists and recruit them as continuing members, strengthen ties among those serving on the Committee and to prepare it for its transition to new leadership, and draw new interest in the TIC among existing members across all of the SSSP’s Divisions.

Respectfully submitted,

John Dale, Chair, SSSP Transnational Initiatives Committee