

**Committee on Social Action, SSSP
2021 Report**

Submitted by Héctor L. Delgado

The chair of the committee had to step down as chair for personal reasons and I stepped in to oversee the resolutions process. Members reviewed two resolutions. The first was an expression of gratitude to everyone who had contributed their labor to the Society this past year. This resolution was approved quickly, with no revisions, and forwarded to the Board. The second was a resolution on academic freedom globally. While all committee members approved of the resolution in principle, some expressed concerns with the length and complexity of the resolution. In effect, some members believe it tried to do too much and had too many parts (in effect, multiple resolutions). It was easy to envision some members approving parts and not other parts of the resolution, and yet being “forced” to vote for or against the resolution in its entirety. Also, the resolution, initially, would have committed the Society to providing funds that the Society simply cannot afford to provide during these “financially challenging” times (because of the pandemic and the cancellation of two in-person meetings). I suggested some changes to the sponsors of the resolution, which were accepted for the most part, and the resolution was forwarded to the Board for its review and final dispensation. (The Board made substantial changes to the resolution and the sponsors, eventually, decided to withdraw the resolution.)

While the committee did not discuss the resolutions process itself at any length, some concern was expressed. Meanwhile, several members of the Board expressed much more explicitly a desire to revisit the process and even the utility of resolutions as a tool to addressing social justice issues. At least one CSA member expressed this concern directly and explicitly.