

## 2023–2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM (EDT)

### VIRTUAL MEETING CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM

#### ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President Mary Bernstein called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

#### ITEM #2 – INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Mary Bernstein, President

Rose M. Brewer, President-Elect

Shirley A. Jackson, Past-President

Anthony A. Peguero, Vice-President

David J. Luke, Vice-President-Elect

Glenn W. Muschert, Secretary

Heather E. Dillaway, Treasurer

Meghna Bhat, Board Member

Ebonie L. Cunningham Stringer, Board Member

David G. Embrick, Board Member

Barbara Katz Rothman, Board Member

Forough Mohammadi, Board Member, Student Representative

Giovanna Follo, *Ex-Officio*, Chairperson, Council of the Divisions

Shannon Carter, *Ex-Officio*, Chairperson-Elect, Council of Division Chairs

Valerie Leiter, By-Laws Committee Chair

Sarah Jane Brubaker, Anti-Harassment Committee Chair

Lauren Eastwood, Parliamentarian

Elroi J. Windsor, Executive Officer

Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager

#### ITEM #3 – ADOPT (REVISE) AGENDA

The Board adopted the agenda as presented.

#### ITEM #4 – REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Mary Bernstein delivered a detailed and informative report, providing a comprehensive overview of the key activities and initiatives undertaken to set the program for the 2024 Annual Meeting. This ensured that all members were well-informed and updated.

#### ITEM #5 – PRESENTATION AND Q&A ON THE 2024 PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

Valerie Leiter, By-Laws Committee Chair, presented an overview of the proposed By-Laws Amendments. The Board heard a motion to move the discussion into an executive section, however that motion did not pass. Discussion of proposed amendments ensued.

Sub-Item A. Discussion and Vote on Each Proposed By-Laws Amendment by Board Members.

President Mary Bernstein led a process whereby the Board considered the By-Laws Amendments. These included proposed changes to the following sections:

- Article VI. Section 32. Justice 21 Committee
- Article VII. Section 6. Setting Mail Ballots for Membership

- Article XIII. Section 1. Voting
- Article XIV. Section 4. Voting on Proposed Resolutions
- Article XV: Timely Statements
  - Section 1. Proposing Timely Statements to the Membership
  - Section 2. Membership Voting on Proposed Timely Statements
  - Section 3. Statement for Handling Matters Needing an Immediate Response \*
  - Section 4. Actions Resulting from Approved Proposed Timely Statements and Immediate Responses

\* Before it approved proposed changes to Article XV, Section 3, the Board removed a section reading, “Finally, there will be clear (no-brainer) instances in which the EO is authorized to issue a statement on behalf of the Society, but that authority must be used sparingly by the EO and he, she, or they must err always on conferring with the President and Vice-President when in doubt.”

**ACTION: The Board approved the Proposed By-Laws Amendments with Rationale. These will now appear in the 2024 SSSP General Election.**

#### ITEM #6 – REPORT FROM THE ANTI-HARASSMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Sarah Jane Brubaker, Chair of the Anti-Harassment Committee, presented the report’s highlights. Specifically, the committee is working on adding language to the anti-harassment policy to address 1) online behavior, including Facebook posts on the SSSP page, and 2) professional ethics. To push the Society forward, the Committee hopes to offer:

- Online Advocacy Training for Members.
- Stickers on the nametag at the annual meeting for those familiar with our anti-harassment policy and processes and trained to support members who experience harassment and are seeking help. Additionally, those who complete the program can be listed on the website.
- Ribbons identifying Anti-Harassment Committee members (ongoing practice). Ensuring a committee member representative attends each major event and reminds attendees of the policy and expectations.
- Providing each session’s discussant with a one-pager/community agreement to read at the start of the session, reminding attendees of our commitment to a welcoming, encouraging, and respectful experience for all presenters and audience members.

#### ITEM #7 – REPORT FROM THE AD HOC AWARDS AND HONORARIA COMMITTEE CHAIR CONCERNING ITEM #7–UNFINISHED BUSINESS CARRIED OVER FROM THE 1/11/24 BOARD MEETING AND DISCUSSED AT THE 2/8/24 BOARD MEETING

David Embrick, Chair of the Ad Hoc Awards and Honoraria Committee, presented the report’s highlights. The Committee’s charge was to examine the awards and associated honoraria. The Committee returned a detailed report with specific recommendations to reduce the SSSP annual budget by \$4000.00. The committee recommended that the Board revisit the SSSP Awards in 2027 to ascertain whether honoraria should be added back or increased, given the organization’s financial health.

- Joseph B. Gittler Award – No change recommended.
- C. Wright Mills Award – Eliminate the cash award and provide an SSSP “symbolic” sustaining membership.
- Lee Student Support Fund – No change in award amount recommended. Stipulate that awardees must pick up their checks at the SSSP annual meetings.

- Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award – Set the award amount at \$2500.00.
- Indigenous Peoples’ Social Justice Award – Set the award amount at \$2500.00.
- Arlene Kaplan Daniels Paper Award – Eliminate the cash award.
- Doris Wilkinson Faculty Leadership Award – Eliminate the cash award.
- Lee Founders Award – Eliminate the cash award.
- Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship Award (Travel Stipend) – Remove the travel stipend for this award.
- Kathleen S. Lowney Mentoring Award – No change recommended.

Sub-Item A. Discussion and Vote

President Mary Bernstein facilitated the Board’s deliberation of the committee’s recommendations.

**ACTION: The Board approved all recommendations as per the report.**

ITEM #8 – ANNUAL MEETING UPDATES

Executive Officer Elroi J. Windsor and Meeting Manager Michele Koontz offered information about future Annual Meetings.

Sub-Item A. Update on the 2024 Annual Meeting–Montréal

Meeting Manager Michele Koontz shared data indicating that participation in the 2024 Annual Meeting may be higher participation than in previous years. The current prediction is 625 to 650 registrants.

Sub-Item B. Update on the 2025 and 2027 Annual Meetings–Chicago

Executive Officer Elroi J. Windsor clarified that the 2025 and 2027 Annual Meetings are planned for Chicago. Michele and Elroi will conduct a site visit from May 21-23, 2024.

Sub-Item C. Update on the 2026 Annual Meeting–New York City

Meeting Manager Michele Koontz indicated that contract negotiations for New York City are progressing well.

ITEM #9 – REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Executive Officer Elroi J. Windsor discussed the financial status of the SSSP, relations with sibling professional associations, and a future need for efforts to clarify SSSP values and priorities.

ITEM #10 – NEW BUSINESS

Sub-Item A. Schedule and Request Items for the Next Zoom Board Meeting President Mary Bernstein clarified that the next Board meeting will take place in Montréal.

ITEM #11 – ADJOURNMENT OF THE 2023–2024 BOARD

President Mary Bernstein adjourned the Board Meeting at 4:01 pm without remaining agenda items.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Glenn W. Muschert, SSSP Secretary.

ADDENDUM #1 – RECORD OF BOARD ACTIONS CONDUCTED VIA EMAIL SINCE THE FEBRUARY 28, 2024 BOARD MEETING

ACTION: 2/26/24 – The Board approved the minutes from the 2/08/24 Zoom Meeting.

ACTION: 3/14/24 – The Board approved the composition of the Ad hoc Proposed Meeting Format Committee for the 2028 Annual Meeting.

ACTION: 3/22/24 – The Board approved the *Social Problems* Subscription and Article Processing Charge pricing.

ACTION: 4/01/24 – The Board approved selecting the Iskweu Project, an initiative of the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal, for the 2024 SSSP Indigenous Peoples' Social Justice Award.

ACTION: 4/03/24 – The Board approved scheduling a discussion of the proposed by-laws amendments.

ACTION: 4/17/24 – The Board approved the Revised Proposal of the Ad Hoc Development Committee.

ACTION: 4/30/24 – In an expedited vote, the Board approved a Statement on Campus Protests.