

2024–2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025, 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM (EST)

VIRTUAL MEETING CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM

ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President Rose M. Brewer called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

ITEM #2 – INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rose M. Brewer, President

Sarah Jane Brubaker, President-Elect

Mary Bernstein, Past President

David J. Luke, Vice President

Clare E. B. Cannon, Vice President-Elect

Glenn W. Muschert, Secretary

Heather E. Dillaway, Treasurer

Jerome Krase, Board Member

Claire M. Renzetti, Board Member

Barbara Katz Rothman, Board Member

Rafia Javaid Mallick, Board Member, Student Representative

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

Kelley Sittner, Editor, *Social Problems*

Elroi J. Windsor, Executive Officer

Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager

ITEM #3 – ADOPT AGENDA

The Board adopted the agenda as presented.

ITEM #4 – REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Rose M. Brewer provided updates on planning for the 2025 annual meetings, focusing on making the SSSP's 75th anniversary a noteworthy event. Dr. Brewer also raised the issue of counting votes during the online Board meetings. The Board instituted the practice that, in online meetings, the members cast votes in the chat feature. The Vice President will assist the President in counting votes, which the Secretary records in the meeting minutes. Votes shall be recorded in the following format: Vote reporting format: (Vote: XX-YY-ZZ) NN, where XX = Yes, YY = No, ZZ = abstain, and NN = no vote.

ITEM #5 – REVISED REPORT, INCLUDING REFINED RECOMMENDATIONS, FROM THE AD HOC MEETING FORMAT COMMITTEE FOR THE 2028 ANNUAL MEETING

Sarah Jane Brubaker reported on behalf of Committee Chair Tamara G.J. Leech as follows: The SSSP Ad Hoc Meeting Format Committee for the 2028 Annual Meeting, chaired by Tamara Leech with members Meghna Bhat and Sarah Jane Brubaker, was formed to continue the work of its predecessor. They researched recommended cities and proposed action items for a board vote. Initially, their December report was withdrawn due to confusion around their charge and

Vote reporting format: (Vote: XX-YY-ZZ) NN, where XX = Yes, YY = No, ZZ = abstain, and NN = no vote.

defining a minority-serving institution. They revised and resubmitted the report in January. Key recommendations from the Ad Hoc Meeting Format Committee (2024) included:

1. The meeting should be in person, which was approved by the Board in October 2024.
2. The meeting should be two days long.
3. The meeting should be scheduled around ASA's virtual conference dates (August 4–8, 2028) and the start of the academic year. The committee suggested August 11-12, 2028, for the meeting dates. Each division will be entitled to a maximum of four (4) sessions, including at most two (2) solo-sponsored sessions.
4. The meeting should be held in a smaller and less expensive city than it is usually held. The rank order of the cities suggested by the committee was Atlanta, Detroit, Denver, and Minneapolis. The committee provided GSA cost estimates and identified minority-serving institutions in each city. Minority-serving institutions is limited to Hispanic Serving Institutions, Predominantly Black Institutions, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
5. The first choice is to hold the meeting on a university campus, prioritizing choosing a minority-serving institution, or at a conference hotel if a university option is not feasible.
6. Based on their research, the committee recommended that the Board choose between Atlanta and Denver for the 2028 conference.

Sub-Item A. Discussion and Vote on Action Items.

The Board discussed the report and considered several action items.

ACTION: The Board approved the Ad Hoc Meeting Format Committee for the 2028 Annual Meeting report. (Vote: 10-0-0).

ACTION: The Board approved that the 2028 Annual Meeting will occur on August 10 (Board Meeting and Division-Sponsored Workshops, no sessions), 11 (sessions), and 12 (sessions), 2028 (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday). (Vote 9-0-1).

ACTION: The Board approved that each division will be entitled to a maximum of four (4) sessions, including at most two (2) solo-sponsored sessions at the 2028 Annual Meeting. (Vote 10-0-0).

ACTION: The Board approved that the 2028 Annual Meeting should take place in Atlanta. (Vote 9-0-1).

ITEM #6 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS CARRIED OVER FROM 12/11/24 BOARD MEETING

Sub-Item A. Annual Meeting Updates

Meeting Manager Michele Koontz offered the following annual meeting updates:

Sub-Item 1. Update on the 2025 Final Site Visit–Chicago

Vote reporting format: (Vote: XX-YY-ZZ) NN, where XX = Yes, YY = No, ZZ = abstain, and NN = no vote.

President Rose M. Brewer and Meeting Manager Michele Koontz conducted a final site visit to the conference hotel in Chicago. They indicated that some of the hotel's guestrooms are equipped with 2 double beds with 2 bathrooms. The meeting space is ample, although some spaces may be slightly wonky. The public spaces should be conducive to networking. There are minor concerns with aspects of accessibility, although the hotel does meet legal standards for accessibility.

Sub-Item 2. Update on the 2025 Annual Meeting—Chicago

Meeting Manager Michele Koontz discussed swag items for the 75th Annual Meeting and displayed some graphics available for merchandise to be available.

ACTION: The Board approved using graphic 2 on SSSP merchandise. (Vote: 11-0-0). See Addendum #2.

ACTION: The Board approved pricing for T-shirts at \$22 and buttons at \$3, with shipping charges for those not attending the annual meeting at \$9.95 for USA, Canada, and Mexico, and \$14.95 for other international. (Vote: 11-0-0). See Addendum #2.

ACTION: The Board approved the following refund policy for SSSP Merchandise: “All SSSP merchandise is non-refundable. This policy applies to all SSSP merchandise, regardless of circumstances.” (Vote: 11-0-0). See Addendum #2.

Sub-Item A. Discussion and Vote on Annual Meeting Accessibility Statement—2025 Proposed Policy from the Accessibility Committee

Excerpt from 9/24/24 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Sub-Item B. Update on the 2025 Annual Meetings—Chicago

Sub-Sub-Item 1. Discuss and Vote on the Annual Meeting Accessibility Statement –2025 Proposed Policy Meeting Manager Michele Koontz suggested that the following verbiage could be struck from the existing Accessibility Statement. “All SSSP Annual Meeting attendees will be required to follow any COVID 19-related protocols mandated by local authorities at the time of the meeting. SSSP strongly recommends that attendees receive COVID19 vaccination in advance of participation and use masks while we are together in Montréal. As you navigate the meeting space, please do your best to help protect all of our colleagues. SSSP may choose to enact stricter protocols should they be warranted by public health circumstances closer to the meeting time.” Discussion ensued. The Board tabled this discussion and returned the issue to the Accessibility Committee for further consideration. The Board considered the American Public Health Association’s policy as a possible example:

“Take reasonable precautions while at the event to prevent the spread of illness, including, for example, staying up to date with recommended vaccinations, wearing a mask, minimizing face touching, and frequently washing hands.”

“Do not attend in person if you are ill or have had recent exposure to a communicable illness such as COVID-19.”

ACTION: The Board approved the accessibility statement proposed by the Accessibility Committee for the 2025 meeting. (Vote: 10-0-1). See Addendum #3.

Sub-Item B. Report from the Executive Officer

Executive Officer Elroi J. Windsor provided updates on several issues.

Sub-Item 1. Update from the Ad Hoc Development Committee

An organized effort to increase donations raised \$19,007 in 2024, a substantial increase from \$5,287 collected in 2023. Two new donation categories were created in 2024: 75 for 75 – Donate in Honor of SSSP’s 75th Anniversary to Help Sustain Us into the Next 75 Years and *Social Problems* Journal Support.

Sub-Item 2. Update on the 2024 Membership Survey

The Member Survey is in process and well on its way to launch. It will be distributed to current, past, and prospective members.

Sub-Item 3. Discussion and Vote on SSSP Use of X Social Media Platform

SSSP Social Media Terms of Service Review:

All listed social media platforms have broad content licenses, allowing them to host, use, distribute, modify, run, copy, publicly perform or display, translate, and create derivative works of posted content. The term "modify" is unclear beyond translation. The Board discussed this issue and its engagement with social media. However, the Board has not made any decisions at this time.

- For X (Twitter), only Premium Accounts can edit post copy. There is uncertainty about opting out of this policy and using private account information for generative AI features. The SSSP and Division accounts are public X accounts and likely cannot opt-out of this feature.
- Meta (Facebook & Instagram) allows post copy editing. Public posts are used to train generative AI, but private SSSP groups and private Division pages are not subject to this policy.
- LinkedIn also allows post copy editing. Individual users can opt out of generative AI features, but it's unclear if public LinkedIn pages can do the same. Public LinkedIn company page posts are assumed to be used for generative AI training.

ITEM #7 – Discuss 2nd Bullet Point in the 2025 Call for Resolutions

Sub-Item A. Discuss Adding Language around What Factors Might Lead the Board to Table a Resolution

Vice President David J. Luke raised the issue concerning the resolution process and the potential need for the Board to decide to table a resolution. This concerns the following Excerpt from SSSP By-Laws.

By June 1, the Committee on Social Action forwards a list of proposed resolutions to the Board of Directors, with recommendations to advance or table each resolution. The Board of Directors has the option of discussing a resolution with the Committee on Social Action and/or the member(s) who submitted the resolution. At this juncture, the resolution “belongs” to the Board of Directors. The resolution can be modified by the Board of Directors, without approval of the proposer(s) of the resolution before it is presented to the membership for discussion and vote, *but only if there is a compelling reason for the Board of Directors to do so (e.g., legal concern)*. Members of the Committee on Social Action or the Board of Directors who have a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest with a resolution, must recuse themselves immediately and refrain from commenting or voting on said resolution at this point in the process. The Board of Directors approved that voting on proposed resolutions should be limited to face-to-face meetings (whether online or in-person).

ITEM #8 – UPDATE FROM THE AD HOC SEARCH FOR A SOCIETY FINANCIAL ADVISOR COMMITTEE CHAIR

Vice President David J. Luke reported on the progress of the Ad Hoc Search Committee for a Society Financial Advisor, which he chairs. The committee crafted an RFP and sent it out to suitable firms. The recommendation for selecting a Financial Advisor should reach the Board at the end of March 2025.

ITEM #9 – NEW BUSINESS

President Rose M. Brewer raised items of New Business.

Sub-Item A. Identify at Least One Candidate for Secretary for the 2025 General Election
The Nominations Committee has developed a proposal, and this will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Excerpt from the By-Laws: The Secretary shall record the transactions of the Society and the Board of Directors, shall work closely with the various committees as herein specified, and shall perform such other duties as the Board may assign. The Secretary shall give due notice of all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall nominate at least one candidate for Secretary at its Annual Meeting.

Vote reporting format: (Vote: XX-YY-ZZ) NN, where XX = Yes, YY = No, ZZ = abstain, and NN = no vote.

Sub-Item B. Schedule and Request Items for the Next Zoom Board Meeting.
The Board identified that a meeting is needed sometime in the last week of January or the first week of February 2025.

ITEM #10 – ADJOURNMENT OF THE 2024–2025 BOARD

President Rose M. Brewer adjourned the Board Meeting at 3:11 pm with no time remaining.

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

ADDENDUM #1 – RECORD OF BOARD ACTIONS CONDUCTED VIA EMAIL SINCE THE DECEMBER 11, 2024 BOARD MEETING

ACTION: 12/20/24 – The Board approved the UWG Executive Office Unpaid Internship Proposal for Course Credit. (Vote: 15-0-0) 2.

ACTION: 1/02/25 – The Board approved the 12/11/24 SSSP Board of Directors Meeting minutes (virtual meeting). (Vote: 16-0-0) 1.

ADDENDUM #2 – DETAILS CONCERNING MERCHANDISE FOR THE SSSP 75TH ANNIVERSARY



Option 2

SSSP Merchandise	Quantity	Description	Price Per Item	Total	Proposed Pricing
T-Shirt	100	Graphite Comfort Color Shirts w/3 color imprint, one side Available in sizes: S-4XL	\$16.34	\$1,634.00	\$22.00
T-Shirt	150	Graphite Comfort Color Shirts w/3 color imprint, one side Available in sizes: S-4XL	\$15.86	\$2,379.00	\$22.00
Buttons	250 Minimum Order Quantity	1.75" Buttons w/Pins	\$0.80	\$200.00	\$3.00
Packing Supplies from U-Line					
Bags	250 Minimum Order Quantity	5x8 100% Recyclable Paper Bags w/Handles		\$70.00	
Jute Twine	1	Roll-Medium Duty, All Purpose		\$31.00	
Programming Charges				TBD	
Flat Rate Shipping					
US/Canada/Mexico					\$9.95
International					\$14.95
Proposed Refund Policy					
All SSSP merchandise is non-refundable. This policy applies to all SSSP merchandise, regardless of circumstances.					

Vote reporting format: (Vote: XX-YY-ZZ) NN, where XX = Yes, YY = No, ZZ = abstain, and NN = no vote.

ADDENDUM #3 – 2025 SSSP ANNUAL MEETING APPROVED ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

SSSP aims to make the annual meeting an accessible and inclusive space. The Accessibility Committee strives to ensure that all facilities at the annual meeting are accessible to disabled participants to encourage and assure their full participation. In addition, SSSP upholds an Anti-Harassment Policy to create a safe and welcoming space. We offer a number of travel awards to support attendance by students, lower-income members, and international scholars from the Global South, as defined by the [American Sociological Association](#), and other oppressed areas outside the U.S.

All SSSP Annual Meeting attendees will be required to follow any COVID-19 related protocols mandated by local authorities at the time of the meeting. SSSP strongly recommends that attendees receive COVID-19 vaccination in advance of participation and use masks while we are together in Chicago. As you navigate the meeting space, please do your best to help protect all of our colleagues. SSSP may choose to enact stricter protocols should they be warranted by public health circumstances closer to the meeting time.

Adhering to such precautions is both a political act and a statement of solidarity. Cultivating a more just and sustainable world requires a commitment to transnational solidarity and thus an awareness that an “injury to one is an injury to all.” Similarly, COVID-19 made it terribly clear that no one is safe until everyone is safe. To this end, we ask all attendees to prioritize relationality and a praxis of care, by considering what it means to be accountable to themselves and to others during the conference.

Remote presentation options will be made available for paid meeting registrants who have a disability and people who have a medical condition for which a medical professional would advise against in-person attendance. SSSP is optimistic that all remote presentation requests can be accommodated, but depending on demand and available Wi-Fi bandwidth, remote presenters should be aware that the Wi-Fi could potentially fail to support the presentation. Therefore, registrants are asked to only request remote presentation if truly necessary to increase the chances that sufficient bandwidth will be available to those who need it. A request for remote presentation must be made by July 15, 2025. To request remote presentation, contact Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager, mkoontz3@utk.edu.