

AAR Annual Business Meeting San Diego, CA/November 24, 2018

Call to Order

A quorum of 25 having been established, outgoing President Laurie Patton, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. 40 members attended, including Board members who were able to attend the conference. President Patton shared the agenda.

Memorial List

President Patton read the Memorial List to recognize members who passed away since the 2018 annual meeting: Thomas Altizer, Cain H. Felder, Gerald J. Larson, Sonja Luehrmann, Lawrence Mamiya, Gerard Mannion, Sallie McFague, Anne Monius, John S. Morris, Wade Clark Roof, David A. Sanchez, Lamin Sanneh, Robert L. Shelton, Brian K. Smith, and Ines M. Talamantez.

President's Report

President Patton shared some of the accomplishments of the last year including the work of the Publications Task Force that established new and timely standards; the work of the Regional Coordinators who developed a mission statement; the collaboration of several committees resulting in the Professional Conduct Policy and Procedures; a statement on change of language expectations when referring to the contingent work force as well as adding member benefits that try to address needs; and the establishment of a Hiring, Evaluation, and Promotion (HEP) Task Force, a result of the good work of the Publications Task Force that suggested we needed to apply a similar analysis to the employment practices that support the scholarly development of members.

Looking forward, Incoming President José Cabézón presented his Presidential theme, the AAR as a Scholarly Guild,” which considers the AAR internally, an introspective effort to reflect on where the AAR has been, where it is, and where we want it to go.

The members had a constructive conversation, led by Laurie Patton and Alice Hunt, around the values that came in to a colliding dance when there was a proposal to use QR codes on annual meeting badges. Leadership described their efforts to balance equity, affordability, security, and access. The conversation generated ideas for constructive ways forward.

Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Randall Styers introduced Nichole Jefferson, AAR’s Chief Finance and Administration Officer, who distributed a comparative data financial sheet. He flagged a few variances, including a decline in membership revenue (a result of the shift to a different dues structure); a decline in Annual Meeting registration revenue (because venue/location influences attendance); staff reorganization also resulted in higher costs; meetings and travel expenses were high because of status committee summits; AAR supported more staff and directors to attend regional meetings. Finally, he drew attention to the deficit and the ways the Board and staff have already set into motion plans to address it.

Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Hunt asked: what do we mean when we say, “the AAR” – the staff? the board? committee chairs? all members? She suggested that “the AAR” is all of us. She described staff transitions, reorganization, mentioned the introduction of a new brand and website – focused on connections - coming in the spring. She also announced that the Luce Foundation has awarded the AAR a \$1M grant to support our mission by advancing public scholarship.

2019 Election Results

President Patton honored outgoing Board members—Rachel Toombs, Student Director; Kathryn McClymond, Program Unit Director; Leela Prasad, At-Large Director; and welcomed incoming Board members: Stacy Floyd-Thomas, At-Large Director; Whitney Bauman, Program Unit Director; Myra Rivera, Vice President; and Aarti Patel, Student Director.

New Business

President Patton lead a discussion on the reasons for the change in by-laws.

**Motion 1—Changes to the Bylaws as amended.
Passed with a 2/3 quorum of votes.**

President Patton concluded the meeting by handing the gavel to Incoming President José Cabézón.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rae Connor
Secretary