

APA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 13, 2022 - WebEx Meeting

ROLL CALL:

Present: William McQuitty, Brianna Galli, Douglas Mathews, Elena Wood, Jackie Michels, Jennifer Klauth, Val Horwath, Bonnie Pfungst, Jennifer Clements, Malia Roberts, Julia Primavera Kuntz, Teri Schrimpf, Amy Seth, Nathan Nguyen

Absent: Stephanie Radant, Sara Volmering, Alice Molvern, Eleonora Philopoulos, Michelle Loedeman

Guests: Ciji Heiser, Paul Terzino

Land Acknowledgement Statement: “We would like to recognize Western Michigan University is located on lands historically occupied by Ojibwe, Odawa, and Bodewadmi nations. Please take a moment to acknowledge and honor this ancestral land of the Three Fires Confederacy, the sacred lands of all Indigenous peoples and their continued presence.”

Call to Order and Agenda: William McQuitty, President, called the meeting to order at 11:36am. Two items were added to New Business. The agenda was approved.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Ciji and Paul gave a short presentation on the New Student Center, including some Q&A. Noted as being a place to “Gather, Play & Connect”, the building is designed to support student spaces and needs, with a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion. The soft opening is scheduled for 7/25/22, with closure of the Bernhard Center on 7/22/22 and full opening of the new Center on 8/15/22. Paul supplied a LINK to the new Center for more details: <https://wmich.edu/newstudentcenter/info>

OFFICERS’ REPORT:

President:

RIF Committee: William reported the committee’s next meeting was postponed from next week. He anticipates being able to give a report at the May Executive Board Meeting.

Strategic Planning Committee: The committee continues to focus on the Mission/Vision/Values development. Goals and objectives will follow. William is advocating for a slimmer plan than past versions, that seemed overwhelmed with multiple levels. Amy Seth mentioned that the Wellbeing committee is working toward the same goal – a slimmer strategic plan that has application to ALL on campus.

Vice President: No formal report, though Nathan is also working with other committees with a focus on a slimmer strategic plan, using examples for each level.

Treasurer: Jackie Michels reported. Beginning balance for March was \$9,089.49 with two new members for a final balance for March of \$9113.49. Jackie submitted for payroll deductions for the 2022 dues. Future income in April will include four new memberships and the dues; expenses in April will include the three awarded scholarships (\$1500) and Annual Award Luncheon expenses (\$1150 is an estimate). There are no unused funds in the account from the 2021 Luncheon (none were collected, and no luncheon was held). The report was posted to the Teams Channel and approved.

Corresponding Secretary: Nothing to report from Jennifer Clements.

Recording Secretary: Jackie Michels took minutes in Stephanie Radant's absence. Jackie will post a draft of the minutes in Teams. Please make corrections to the minutes. The final version will then be posted in Teams and approval of 12 members is needed. The final version will be distributed using the apa-all email distribution list.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Malia Roberts reported in Sara Volmering's absence.

- The Annual Awards Luncheon is April 20, 2022 at Noon at the Valley Dining Center (Westside Room). Tickets will be distributed to members beginning at 11:45am. Participants will get their lunch and eat in the Westside Room. The program will begin at 12:30pm and includes remarks from Dr. Montgomery, awards and the raffling of centerpieces. Currently there are 43 attendees, but there may be more if the awardees bring guests.
- The Poker Walk is on May 18, 2022 at noon. We are hoping for strong participation.
- The next General Meeting is ALSO on May 18, and this is traditionally the meeting where new officers and members are installed. With the conflict with the Poker Walk, this meeting may be moved to Thursday, May 19, 2022 but William will need to check with the speaker. This will be decided at the next Executive Board Meeting on May 5, 2022.

Nominations and Elections: Malia Roberts has released the election/ballot online, and votes are already coming in.

- Deadline to vote is Friday, April 22, 2022 at 5pm. New executive board members will be installed at the May general membership meeting.
- Administrative Affairs and Business & Finance each lost one seat, due to declines in the total number of eligible staff within each division.
- Academic Affairs only has 5 of 8 positions filled, and Student Affairs has 1 of 2 positions filled, so an open call will be held to fill those vacancies.
- Officer positions are a one-year term; exec board members are a two-year term.

Awards and Recognition: No report from Michelle.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) President Montgomery's announcement regarding half-day Fridays in June & July – Discussion covered questions (How will this be implemented? How does this impact essential services on campus? How will different work schedules be managed within work groups?) as well as comments. Comments included looking at other institutions that offer this option, supervisors offering the flexibility to offer choices (36 hours of work vs. 40 hours, not necessarily only on Fridays), and the intention of this being a "gift" to boost morale and support mental health. More information regarding implementation is anticipated soon from Human Resources.
- b) Email Chain re: Mental Health Services on Campus – Nathan shared the email chain that began in November 2021 and is still gaining traction and comments. The central theme is that while resources are available, the wait for services is too long to be relevant and helpful, and there are too many hoops to jump through to get those services (specific example was a one-month

wait at Sinedcuse for students to get a counseling appt.). Discussion included the position that many are talking about this topic but conversations about situations and solutions are not. Some are hopeful that the Mental Health Forum on April 19, 2022 at 6pm (Bernhard Center 105-107) will offer a chance to provide input on how we can best serve our students as a community.

- c) Executive Board Meeting with President Montgomery – William reported that Dr. Montgomery has committed to speaking with us on June 15. However, our usual meeting is scheduled for June 8. After some discussion, a motion was made and approved to move the June 8 meeting to June 15, as opposed to having two meetings in the same month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Giving Day is TODAY which culminates in an event at Revel & Roll this evening. Gifts may be designated for the APA Endowment Fund (100% of the donation goes directly to the fund). This year's overall goal is for more donors than last year!
- The Office of Research and Innovation is holding its Spring Convocation on Friday, April 15 at 10am. The event is virtual and includes recorded presentations and an awards ceremony at noon.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- a) Wednesday, April 20, 2022 - Annual Awards Luncheon – Valley Dining Center - Noon-1:00pm
- b) Wednesday, May 5, 2022 - Jan and Warren Meeting with Officers – Noon-1:30pm
- c) Wednesday, May 11, 2022 – Executive Board Meeting – 11:30am-12:30pm

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Michels
Substitute Recording Secretary

-continued