

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 12, 2002, 3:00 PM

The Palmer House Hilton Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois

## MINUTES

Attending: John Braithwaite, Bob Bursik, Todd Clear, Frank Cullen, Finn-Aage Esbensen, Chris Eskridge, Rosemary Gartner, Lynn Goodstein, Ron Huff, Candace Kruttschnitt, John Laub, Cheryl Maxson, Dan Nagin, D. Wayne Osgood, Richard Rosenfeld, Larry Sherman, Michael Tonry, Christy Visser, Chris Uggen

Meeting called to order at 3:00 by President Larry Sherman.

1. Report of Chicago Meeting (Chris Eskridge).
2. Minority Development.
  - a. The Board discussed the draft undergraduate research training program proposal from Todd Clear and Orlando Rodriguez and an alternative suggested by Ron Huff. Ron Huff explained the background of the proposal, suggesting that a focus on undergraduates may help increase the flow of people of color into criminology. The Board discussed program details including program costs, faculty involvement, and measurable outcomes (e.g., the number and proportion of participants receiving advanced degrees).
  - b. The Board accepted a motion authorizing a total of \$150,000 over 3 years (up to \$50,000 per year) in matching funds for such a program, not to be spent until a final plan has been approved in detail. Ron Huff, Lynne Goodstein, and Todd Clear volunteered to serve on a committee to bring forward the plan.
3. Appointment of Two Scientific Panels on Policy Issues.
  - a. The president and president-elect propose scientific panels on focused research questions of criminological interest. For example, Ron Huff chaired scientific panels on the use of the death penalty and the use of incarceration in the United States and these reports are available on the ASC website.
  - b. Larry Sherman withdrew his proposal to establish two scientific panels at this time. John Laub noted that he would introduce a national policy committee (chaired by Jeff Fagan) on the use of criminology in the policy process at the Saturday meeting (November 16, 2002).
4. NIJ/BJS Outsourcing Issues.
  - a. Competitive outsourcing refers to decisions regarding whether the public or private sector should provide government services. The Board discussed memos prepared by Janet Lauritsen and other materials circulated by Larry Sherman on competitive outsourcing at the Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Institute of Justice. Several Board members expressed concern that outsourcing of positions responsible for the analysis, interpretation, and reporting of crime and justice data could compromise the integrity of criminal justice data series. If workers in these positions can be defined as performing "inherently governmental functions," however, they would not be subject to competitive outsourcing to the private sector. The Board generally concurred that there is a compelling rationale for considering the management of crime and justice statistics as an inherently governmental function.
  - b. The Board discussed coordinating the ASC response to the outsourcing issue with other groups, such as the [Consortium of Social Science Associations](#) (COSSA) and the American Sociological Association (ASA). Rick Rosenfeld agreed to draft a motion on these issues for the Board's consideration at the Saturday meeting (11/16/02).
5. Change in Language of Vollmer Award.
  - a. The Board accepted a motion at its April 2002 meeting to adjust the criteria for the August Vollmer award to avoid overlap with the new Presidential Award for Distinguished Contributions to Justice. Today, the Board voted to affirm this change and adopt the new criteria for the 2003 and subsequent awards.
  - b. The amended criteria are as follows: The August Vollmer award recognizes a criminologist whose research scholarship has contributed to justice or to the treatment or prevention of criminal or delinquent behavior, either through a single outstanding work, a series of theoretical or research contributions, or on the accumulated contributions by a senior scholar.
6. Hindelang Award Issue.
  - a. Michael Tonry, who chaired the Michael J. Hindelang Award Committee, noted that many of the 17 books considered by his committee were nominated by publishers rather than ASC members.
  - b. After consulting the current advertisement for the award and ASC Policy and Procedures manual, it was determined that the current award criteria state that "To be considered, books must be nominated by individuals who are members of the American Society of Criminology." The Board voted to affirm the current policy such that only ASC members may nominate books for the Hindelang Award.
  - c. ASC Executive Director Chris Eskridge noted that changes to award criteria are bylaws, requiring two votes. A second vote will be taken at the Saturday meeting (11/16/02) to affirm these criteria.

7. Executive Director Report: Chris Eskridge.
  - a. Financial Status. The ASC remains financially stable and sound, despite the downturn in the economy.
  - b. Proposed 2003 budget approved.
  - c. Web Page. The web page has been updated and expanded to include online application and conference registration, areas of expertise, abstracts, conference and workshop listings, and other information.
  - d. Journals: Criminology and Public Policy, and Criminology. ASC received funding for a second year to continue publication of Criminology and Public Policy.
  - e. Policy and Procedures Manual. The complete manual is now available online.
  - f. Personnel performance and pay.
  - g. Past and future travel. Chris Eskridge represented ASC at the European Society of Criminology meetings, Bob Bursik and Todd Clear represented ASC at the British Society of Criminology meetings, Christy Visser represented ASC at the Australia/New Zealand Society of Criminology meetings, and Rosemary Barbaret (Chair of the Division on International Criminology) represented ASC at the International Association of Francophone Criminologists (AICLF).
  - h. Joint meeting proposal. The Board considered cosponsoring a joint meeting with other international societies, including the Campbell Collaboration Crime and Justice Group, and the British, French, and Australian and New Zealand societies.
    - i. Discussion centered on the scope of the program theme and the potential costs and benefits to the ASC of cosponsoring a 2004 meeting in Paris, as well as opportunities for participation from ASC members. Board members cautioned against defining the program theme too narrowly, and suggested working together with the other international societies to avoid the appearance of ASC "imperialism." It was also noted that scheduling of the meeting must avoid conflicts with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) meeting in March.
    - ii. One model discussed would provide a core of plenary sessions with a broad window around the edges for multiple languages and multiple topics.
    - iii. A motion to authorize ASC sponsorship of the conference was tabled until the Saturday meeting (11/16/02), pending discussion with representatives of other international societies.
8. Site Selection Issues.
  - a. Chris Eskridge noted that the ASC could obtain more attractive rates by committing to two or three meetings at a time (e.g., by booking Chicago for 2008 when making reservations for 2003). The Board discussed the merits of establishing a rotation of three to five cities (e.g., San Francisco, Chicago, Washington, DC), with other sites chosen two of every five to seven years.
9. Other business
  - a. The ASC has been granted Special Consultative Status within the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, We have also been granted membership in the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and in the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council.
  - b. Nominations Committee report approved.
  - c. Raymond Paternoster of the University of Maryland was nominated by the ASC Editorial Board as the new Editor of Criminology, and the Board voted to approve.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm.