The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm.

Welcome

1. Introduction of New Members

The Board introduced Vice President-elect Denise Gottfredson and new Executive Counselors Janet Lauritson and Alan Lizotte

2. Nashville Report – Frank Cullen

2,377 people attended the 2004 Nashville meetings. Board members commented on the success of the plenary sessions, the Saturday brunch, and other features of the program. Frank Cullen thanked Sara Hall, Chris Eskridge, and program co-chairs Bonnie Fisher and Melissa Moon.

3. Toronto Update – Julie Horney

An agreement was reached with the All-Academic firm to provide an online submission system for the 2005 meetings. The final program will allow members to create individualized calendars by clicking and dragging on program items. Colin Loftin and Frankie Bailey are serving as program co-chairs. The divisions will again be encouraged to submit panels, and pre-arranged panels will also be highlighted in the program book. The program will not feature five-page preview papers as in recent years, in part because this practice restricted flexibility for the organizers. The area categories will be similar to those for 2004, with a few modifications. The popular poster sessions will be continued and roundtable sessions will also be held in the 2005 meetings. The call for papers indicates that all submissions will be online, with any exceptions handled on a case-by-case basis.

4. Los Angeles Report – Gary Lafree

Gary Lafree announced that the Program Co-Chairs for 2006 will be Doris McKenzie and Laura Dugan, and that the theme of the meeting will be Democracy, Crime, and Justice. The Board discussed some problems anticipated with the Los Angeles site and some opportunities presented by the accessibility of LAX airport for international travelers. The meetings will be held in two separate hotels and buses will be hired to shuttle participants between these hotels.

5. Division Reports

Rosemary Barberet began by addressing issues of concern shared by each of the divisions. She noted that the division leadership was generally very satisfied with the 2004 meetings and the pan-division daytime plenary session held this year. In addition, she noted that many members of the divisions were pleased that there were no presidential sessions on the program this year. She requested that each of the division journals be listed on the Society website to help provide publicity and support for these journals. After discussion, the Board agreed to provide a link to the division journals on the front page of the ASC website. Because the ASC does not have managerial control or editorial authority over these journals, they will not be listed as ASC journals. In addition to separate links to Criminology, and Criminology and Public Policy, a third link to “Division Journals” will be provided on the homepage. The Board also suggested that the divisions place abstracts of articles for these journals online.

A. Rosemary Barberet - Division of International Criminology

The DIC requested information about the activities of ASC representatives sent abroad and repeated its request that the ASC offer sliding scale membership fees to members from developing countries. Rosemary Barberet also provided information about division awards, attendance at division events, upcoming awards and competitions, and the division’s journal, International Journal of
Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice.
The DIC’s current objectives include increasing membership, strengthening ties with the United Nations, and internationalizing the ASC. Cindy Smith and Nancy Grosselfinger updated the Board on United Nations activities and the upcoming crime congress in Bangkok, Thailand April 18-25, 2005. Several ASC members will participate and 3,500 people are expected from United Nations member nations. Cindy Smith provided materials on 50 Years of Proceedings of the UN Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and updated the Board on activities related to the Alliance of NGOs in New York, and the ISPAC (International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council) meeting in Italy.

B. Susan Sharp - Division of Women and Crime

2004 represents the twentieth anniversary of the DWC. Susan Sharp reported on membership, recent elections, attendance at breakfasts, graduate and undergraduate awards, special sessions, and arrangements for a journal with Sage. She requested information about the nomination of ASC officers and Chris Eskridge replied that a call for nominations is included in the registration packet and a full-page advertisement each year in The Criminologist. He then explained procedures related to changes in each of the governing documents of the Society: the constitution, bylaws, Policies, and Procedures.

C. Barbara Sims - Division of Critical Criminology

Barbara Sims reported on division membership, the Journal of Critical Criminology with Kluwer/Springer, the division newsletter, and awards.

D. Cindy Smith - Division of Corrections and Sentencing

Cindy Smith reported on the division’s Justice Research and Policy journal, division-sponsored gatherings, panels, junior and senior scholar awards, and the plan for 2005. DCS intends to increase division membership and subscriptions to Justice Research and Policy. To help track memberships, she requested that the ASC provide an automated email list of division members if such a list is currently available.

E. Vernetta Young - Division on People of Color and Crime

Chris Eskridge relayed Vernetta Young’s report to the Board. The financial status of the Division is now improved and DPCC will celebrate its tenth anniversary next year. It is holding luncheons with good attendance, establishing subcommittees, and planning some fundraising activities.

6. New Business – Julie Horney

A. Minority Fellowship Dance

The Board discussed the Minority Fellowship Dance held Saturday November 19. Those attending the presidential reception were permitted to stay in the ballroom rather than leave and re-enter with tickets for the dance. Rather than collecting tickets at the door, a collection was taken among those remaining for the dance. As of the Saturday Board meeting it was not yet known whether this resulted in a gain or loss in revenue. It was suggested that the ASC consider taking a voluntary collection as well as tickets at the door in the future, since some members would like to donate more than the ticket price. In addition, the ASC could provide instructions for dance attendees to remit payment if they did not have the opportunity to make a donation.

B. COSSA representative

The Board voted unanimously to renew Jim Lynch as ASC representative to the Council of Social Science Associations. Christy Visher’s term as COSSA representative continues.

C. Ad-Hoc strategic planning committee

Julie Horney updated the Board on plans to form an ASC strategic planning committee. Past ASC presidents will be involved in the committee and a survey is planned to assess the needs of the membership and members’ interests in various services the Society is providing or could provide in the future.

D. American Council of Learned Societies
Nancy Grosselfinger asked why the ASC is not a member of the American Council of Learned Societies. Julie Horney agreed to investigate this issue and requested an email from Nancy Grosselfinger providing more information.

E. Sliding Scale

The Board discussed possible arrangements for increasing access to impoverished criminologists from developing countries. The Board agreed that it would be difficult to administer a more complicated fee structure during registration for the meetings. One possible scenario involves the divisions in awarding scholarships or vouchers that would provide membership or meeting registration fees for a limited number of participants. Chris Eskridge explained that it currently costs approximately $120 per person at the meeting and that the Society charges considerably less than this. It costs approximately $140 to service the U.S. membership and about $200 per member outside the U.S., owing to the greater expense of the mailings. As we move to online access to Society journals and newsletters, it is possible to reduce some of these costs. About twenty international members are currently receiving free division membership from the DIC. Cindy Smith agreed to prepare a brief report for the Board about the scale and costs of implementing such a program.

F. Frank Cullen was thanked for his service as president.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for 3 pm Friday April 22 in the Toronto Royal York Hotel.