ASC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday November 15, 2005
Toronto Royal York Hotel

MINUTES

Attending: Robert Agnew, Frankie Bailey, Donna Bishop, Todd Clear, Frank Cullen, Finn Esbensen, Chris Eskridge, Rosemary Gartner, Denise Gottfredson, Julie Horney, Gary Lafree, Janet Lauritsen, Alan Lizotte, Jim Lynch, Doris McKenzie, Ray Paternoster, Michael Tonry, Chris Uggen, John Wright

Meeting called to order at 3:05, November 22

Introductions

1. Julie Horney expressed thanks on behalf of the Society to Frank Cullen, Bob Meier, Finn Esbensen, Rosemary Gartner, and Ray Paternoster for their service.

2. Michael Tonry, Doris McKenzie, Bob Agnew and Pat Van Voorhis were welcomed to the Board.

3. Toronto report (Frankie Bailey and Colin Loftin, program chairs).

Julie Horney discussed the conference registration system and thanked Frankie Bailey and Colin Loftin for their service as program chairs. This year’s meeting featured 610 sessions, 59 roundtables, 11 professional development sessions, and 6 author-meets-critics sessions. A total of 2,350 people pre-registered for the meeting, the largest pre-registration total in the Society’s history.

Frankie Bailey described the conference registration system. Because our membership lacks unique identification numbers, members with multiple affiliations and email addresses can cause difficulties with the conference software. The program chairs attempted to encourage full roundtables and completed sessions to minimize the problem of papers appearing on sessions with unrelated papers. The Board characterized the new subject index in the conference program as a useful addition for the membership. There were few problems with members using the online submission system. One recurring problem involved people inadvertently submitting sessions while intending to submit single papers. Members of the program committee also described some difficulties in moving papers from one session to another. The Board suggested relaying this feedback to All-Academic and providing the program committee with more explicit instructions.

4. Director report -- Chris Eskridge.

The Society continues to be in sound financial condition. We received one complaint about raising conference registration fees, but the revenues are beneficial in providing LCD projectors and the Saturday breakfast for the membership. The Divisions are currently in solid financial condition. The budget in the Director’s report will be amended to reflect the increased costs of buses needed for the Los Angeles meeting due to new laws and fuel costs. The Policies and Procedures manual is now online. A motion to raise pay for Sue Beelman and Sarah Hall by 3 percent was accepted unanimously. Ineke Marshall is the new ASC United Nations coordinator. As discussed at the 2005 midyear meeting, the UN coordinator puts forward names of members who would like to participate in UN meetings for Board approval. To date, the Division on International Criminology has designated attendees for these meetings. These individuals are considered meeting participants rather than official ASC representatives.

The Board requested an annual Treasurer’s report, to be completed by Treasurer John Wright. The Board would also like some information about international initiatives expenditures and expenses for the Criminology & Public Policy marketing and mailing list coordinator. Todd Clear will report back to the Board on the latter matters.

5. Email mentoring report -- Chris Eskridge

Bonnie Berry has worked hard to establish an email mentoring system and has purchased her own server for this purpose. She requests $500 per year to pay for technical support to continue this work. The Board accepted a motion to approve $500 for annual expenses related to administering the mentoring program by unanimous vote with one abstention. The Board unanimously accepted a motion to fold the mentoring program into the Student Affairs Committee, with the head of the mentoring program reporting to that committee’s chair. A related matter concerns the establishment of a “mentor of the year” award. Under one arrangement, the Student Affairs Committee annual report could include a recommendation for the Mentor of the Year, an award to be given at the annual awards plenary. A luncheon was suggested, or a presentation at the poster session that would unite mentors and protégés.

6. Stockholm Award -- Chris Eskridge
The ASC Board has been asked to consider establishing a procedure to nominate individuals for the annual Stockholm Prize for criminology. Any three individuals, institutions, or organizations may submit nominations. Board members expressed concern that an official ASC nomination may have a chilling effect on nominations from our individual members. The Board considered the possibility of nominating the Sutherland Award winner, though the criteria for the two awards differ in important ways. The Board accepted a motion to make no nomination for the 2007 Stockholm Award by a vote of 9 to 1 with 1 abstention.

7. Criminology and Public Policy report – Todd Clear

Natasha Frost’s new title of Associate Editor was noted. The journal has worked closely with a public relations firm funded by John Jay College. Volume 6 is Todd Clear’s last volume as editor.

8. Criminology report – Denise Gottfredson

The Board discussed the transition in editorship from Ray Paternoster to Denise Gottfredson in June, 2005. The Associate editors are now John Laub and Wayne Osgood. A total of 197 manuscripts were submitted in the last year, 82 percent were submitted online, and the mean decision time is now 66 days from submission. Approximately 80 percent of the manuscripts receiving a revise and resubmit decision have been accepted in recent years.

9. Nominations report

Nominees for President are Bob Bursik and Sally Simpson. Nominees for Vice President are Rosemary Gartner and Steven Messner. Nominees for Executive Counselor are David Weisburd, Peggy Giordano, Laura Dugan, and Alex Piquero. A motion to approve the full slate of candidates was accepted unanimously with one abstention.

10. Undergraduate Minority Program report – Todd Clear

The ASC Undergraduate Minority Program currently awards $5,000 to students in their junior and senior year of undergraduate study with the expectation that they will deliver a paper at the annual meetings during their final year of support. For the first cohort, two of the four funded projects will be presented, and only one is a completed product. Nevertheless, in keeping with the goals of the program, two students in this cohort are intending to apply for graduate study. Of the six new proposals this year, three received some support but not great enthusiasm. Program goals and funding were discussed, as well as advertising efforts to help generate the best possible pool of applicants. The Board accepted a motion to “encourage the committee to support strong projects, to enforce existing rules on project reporting, and to emphasize that program success will be gauged by participants’ entry into graduate study. Further discussion was tabled until the November 19, 2005 meeting when Todd Clear will return with additional information.

11. Division reports – Division on Critical Criminology

12. Futures Committee – Julie Horney and Gary LaFree

A strategic planning committee is being formed to examine long-term issues regarding the future of the Society. The committee will meet on Thursday and report to the Board on Saturday.

13. Membership List and Unique Member Identification Numbers – Julie Horney

The lack of unique identifiers for each of our members causes difficulties with the software system used for the annual meetings. We currently maintain lists in different formats for purposes of mailing journals and newsletters and election ballots. All-Academic meeting software requires a unique member identification number. The Board discussed plans for transitioning from our current dBase system into Microsoft Excel. Other professional organizations will be surveyed to determine the best procedures for managing membership lists.

14. Memorial notices in The Criminologist

The Board discussed procedures for determining the length and costs of memorial notices in The Criminologist and in the conference program book. The matter was referred to the publications committee to develop recommendations.

15. Reports

Board members requested that they receive a packet of committee reports prior to each meeting, rather than a series of individual reports.

The Board adjourned to dinner at 7 pm.
The next meeting is scheduled for 3 pm, Saturday, November 19, 2005.