**Association for Humanist Sociology, Inc.**

**Closing Board Meeting, 2011 Annual Meeting**

**Evanston, Illinois October 16, 2011**

**Present:** **Board Members:** Dennis Kalob, Deborah Burris-Kitchen, Alan Spector, Stephen Adair, Chuck Kroeber. **AHS Members:** Jason Smith, Estelle Stanley, James Gallagher, Kathy Gaianguest, Jim Pennell, Greta Pennell, Shawn Bingham, Kathleen Tiemann, Chris Dale, Jim Wolfe, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Helen Raisz, Corey Dolgan.

Minutes taken by Adair. (Items marked with an “\*” may warrant additional consideration at the mid-year board meeting):

1. \*Discussion of efforts to recruit and retain graduate student members.

Jason Smith initiated discussion and suggested the possibility of a paper award for students, including student representative on the board, including graduate students in the paper review process for *Humanity and Society*, using regional spotlights at regional meetings to recruit, and student paper sessions.

Considerable discussion followed concerning the relative merits of sponsorship of sessions and receptions at regional meeting.

The Board concurred to continue with a grad student liaison.

2. As part of item 1, the Board also reviewed a proposal for the Frank Lindenfeld Outstanding Student Paper Award that had been crafted by Kroeber and Bailey.

Members recommended changing the deadline for submission May 15 to May 30, to give the award winner a year of membership in AHS, and recommended to change the expectation that the editor of Humanity and Society would chair the paper review committee to indicate that the Editor would identify to three members to serve on the review committee.

The Board concurred with these changes.

3. Kathleen Fitzgerald reviewed a set of recommendations regarding the book award committee. The Board discussed the recommendation that textbooks would not be considered. The Board suggested that the language could be softened so that ordinarily textbooks would not be considered, but an exceptional textbook that was not typical and was specifically oriented in a way that was consistent with AHS’s mission might be considered. \*Fitzgerald also suggested that the a nominations form be created and offered on the website.

Kroeber moved the amended book award committee document. Spector second. Passed.

4. \* The Board had a brief discussion of referenda. The procedures outlined in the Constitution were reviewed. Discussion followed about some of the challenges in providing a context for members to review and discuss referenda items, and the appropriateness of the Board acting as a vetting body to establish consideration of items.

5. Adair discussed the change in the website to CCSU and the use of the website to collect credit card payments, to establish voting procedures, and to coordinate electronic forms with current practices used by the VP for membership and the treasurer. \*A question was also raised regarding the criteria for AHS to offer links to other organizations. Currently links are included only to organizations that AHS has worked with through our annual meeting.

6. \* Kalob and Dale reviewed registration numbers and problems regarding no-shows. Dale recommended that papers be accepted on a contingent basis until meeting registration is completed, citing many problems with people not showing up and needing to make many, many last minute adjustments to the program.

The final budget numbers for the meeting were not yet finalized. Kalob and Dale thought the $3000 deficit for the meeting that they had forecasted at the beginning of the meetings (largely because of no-shows) would turn ought to be considerably less.

7. Kroeber made a proposal for an honorarium of $250 for the past year and $100 per month for the upcoming year for Erin Mundus. The payment is for a considerable list of duties to support the treasurer and for managing AHS’s financial accounts.

Some members expressed concern about approving a major expense when the overall budget for next year had just been approved at the member’s meeting. In general, the sense of the board was that this expense was within the President’s discretion, but that it would have been a better practice to have introduced this motion at the member’s meeting so that it could have been considered prior to the approval of the budget.

Concern was also expressed regarding possible tax implications for payment of $1000 in a single calendar year.

Kroeber made a motion to approve the $250 honorarium for 2011 and limit the trial period to 6 months for a total of $600 for 2012. \*The board would consider extending this for a full year at the mid-year meeting. In the interim, Kroeber was to check on the legal limits of payments for a 501c3. Kalob second. Passed.