

**AAAL Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom**

**Tuesday, January 31, 2023**

**11:00 AM – 1:30 PM ET**

**Minutes [Approved March 16, 2023]**

**Present:** Fabiola Ehlers-Zavala, President; Lourdes Ortega, President Elect; Peter De Costa, 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Ryuko Kubota, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; Patsy Duff, Immediate Past President; Scott Jarvis, Treasurer; Jennifer Leeman, Member-at-Large; Julie Sykes, Member-at-Large; Yasuko Kanno, Member-at-Large; Oksana Moroz, GSC Representative/Co-Chair; Brittney Love, Ex Officio; Natalie Nardone, Guest; and Agnes He, Secretary.

Excused: Michael Amory, OEOC Chair

**Call to Order and Welcoming Remarks**

Fabiola welcomed all participants and called the meeting to order at 11:00 am ET.

Fabiola particularly welcomed Natalie who was a guest participant at the meeting and thanked her for support.

Fabiola provided the following updates:

- Fabiola and Brittney had a meeting with TESOL colleagues. TESOL and AAAL are planning on potentially issuing a joint statement regarding reasons why TESOL and AAAL do not always hold annual conferences next to each other.
- Alison Mackey has informed Fabiola that Yang Xiao-Desai has been selected to replace Uju Anya (whose term expired in December 2022) as AAAL representative to ARAL. Fabiola is awaiting confirmation as to whether or not CUP has issued communication to Yang Xiao-Desai to follow up with a note from AAAL.
- Fabiola also communicated the regrets from Michael in not being able to join this meeting.

**Approval of Meeting Agenda (Exhibit 1)**

Fabiola called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda.

**MOTION:** it was moved by Jenny and seconded by Ryuko to approve the meeting agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of October 2022 EC Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 2)**

Fabiola called for a motion to approve the October 2022 EC meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Ryuko and seconded by Julie to approve the October 2022 EC meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **OPERATIONS: Financial (Exhibits 3-6) - Scott Jarvis**

Scott updated the EC on the new AAAL-NCG Agreement.

- Thanked all who are involved - Natalie, Fabiola, Lourdes, Peter, Budget Committee, EC.
- Noted that the new agreement has a new end date 6/30/2025 (instead of the old December end date).
- Pointed out that management expenses increased significantly, along with increased AAAL activities.
- Mentioned cost-saving principles that were agreed upon by AAAL Budget Committee and NCG before the AAAL-NCG agreement was signed: (1) scale back on our activities; and/or (2) shift responsibilities from NCG office to AAAL (e.g., less NCG participation in meetings, fewer requests for graphs, edits, and postal mailings such as books for Book Awards Committee).
- Emphasized readiness to strengthen AAAL-NCG relationship via more frequent communication.
- Praised Natalie for being a firm, supportive partner throughout leadership changes on both sides.
- Noted that, overall, financially, AAAL is doing OK.

Natalie expressed appreciation for the long-time relationship/partnership with AAAL.

Discussion:

- Not sending the books out makes sense, as not all books are available anyway.
- Sustaining a productive relationship with NCG and suggestions for cost saving will be reiterated by upcoming new leadership.
- As AAAL leadership changes, new members will need to learn how to perform certain tasks (and rely less on the Business Office).

Fabiola thanked Scott and Natalie for having accomplished a very important task.

### **OPERATIONS: Conference (Exhibits 3-4) – Peter de Costa and Ryuko Kubota**

## Portland 2023 Conference planning update – Peter De Costa

Peter:

- The searchable 2023 Conference program went live.
- Distribution of registration shows good numbers in all categories and large numbers of non-members;
- There is a strong response to preconference workshops.
- Inaugural RoundTable has been successfully planned, for Friday 3/17.
- New events will be presented on Sat 3/18 and Sun 3/19: a session on helping new comers to navigate the conference; a team to provide an overview of resources for attendees with families.
- DEIA events have been planned for graduate students who are parents; researchers with disabilities; 1<sup>st</sup> generation scholars; colleagues from the Global South.
- Peter expressed thanks to Brittney and Sherry for their support.

Fabiola thanked Peter and his team for the Conference preparations.

Discussion:

- For the outreach event (Sunday), how to process raised funds? Answer: Brittney will provide guidance.
- Brittney: Peter and team are phenomenal; a real pleasure working with.

Peter's Question:

Should Aneta Pavlenko's request for presence of Portland police at her DSSA lecture during the 2023 Conference be honored?

Discussion:

- Presence of police could be potentially explosive, especially in light of recent Memphis police incidence
- Police might be cast in a negative light.
- Audience might not appreciate police presence.
- Social media coming from the event might be decontextualized and misleading.
- Police presence is not appropriate for an academic event.
- Outreach is important and necessary, but we could use a different format, in a different setting, so as to reach all police, not just Portland police.
- Is it possible to record the DSSA lecture? Recording will incur additional conference costs.

Fabiola thanked Peter and all EC members and asked everyone to please email additional thoughts to Peter after the meeting.

### **New Strands introduced in 2022 – Peter De Costa & Brittney Love (Exhibit 3)**

Peter and Brittney:

- Currently we have 25 strands, an increase of 4 strands from the original 21 (new: ADIST 2022; LAL and LGS 2023; PRG split from LCS)
- At what point do we decide which strands to stay permanently and which strands to collapse?

Discussion:

- The process of creating new strands as per SRs was reviewed.
- 2023 new strands were created at the discretion of conference chair; 2022 new strand was discussed with EC and approved by EC. PRG split from LCS came from members' request (members' concern that PRG submissions were not reviewed fairly within LCS).
- The discussion will be continued in March 2023 EC meeting, when the EC will decide on the status of the new strands.

Fabiola thanked Peter and Brittney.

### **Houston 2024 Conference: plenary/invited colloquium Zoom presentation – Ryuko Kubota (Exhibit 4)**

Ryuko:

- Went over contents in Exhibit 4.
- Asked the following questions: Should Zoom/Video presentation be made possible for an invited 2024 speaker who has indicated health concerns? And more broadly and generally, should Zoom/Video presentation be made possible for plenary speakers/invited colloquium organizers?

Discussion:

- We need to consider implications for 'regular' conference participants if we make it possible for invited/plenary speakers to present virtually.
- Could we consider a replacement speaker?
- Conference attendees expect live, in-person presentations.
- Virtual presentations often have poor attendance and receive negative feedback.

- In cases of physical disability, we need to consider the issue of Access and Equity.
- For graduate students, physical presence at conferences can be financially challenging.
- To address the issue of Access, ASL interpretation will be available at 2023 conference.
- We could consider the TESOL example: when it is face-to-face, everything is face-to-face; however, TESOL offers separate online events one week later.
- Financial resources (presentation virtually) are limited, if Zoom/Video presentation is permitted.
- A long-term policy is necessary.
- We need to differentiate between long-term disability from short-term illness; but the distinction can be hard to make.

Suggestion for Ryuko: In principle, we will do our best to accommodate needs; the invitation stands.

Fabiola thanked Ryuko and everyone.

### **Break**

### **OPERATIONS: Committees**

#### **Dissertation Award Committee Membership and Decision for 2023-2024- Fabiola**

Fabiola:

- Due to temporary suspension of the committee/award (2021) and an administrative glitch, all members of the Dissertation Award Committee except one are ending their terms in March 2023.
- Ryuko is working on appointments.
- There is a need for special election by EC (3 spots, one-year term) to have members in place by March 2023 in order to fill the one-year gap.
- EC will put forward names and finalize/vote at the March 2023 EC meeting.

Discussion:

- It is possible for new members to work without prior knowledge/history.
- Easiest solution would be to ask current members to extend one year of service whenever possible.
- One current member is not in good standing and cannot be renewed.
- Composition of the committee is complicated: Chair (appointed or elected) + appointed members + elected members

Brittney, Ryuko and Fabiola will follow up.

### **OPERATIONS: Governance (Exhibit 5)**

#### **Standing Rules changes (Exhibit 5) – Brittney Love**

Brittney went over the proposed changes to the following:

- How many times a person can appear on the conference program (SR 17, Section B1): New wording was discussed by EC and now reads:

#### *B. Proposal and Scheduling Policies*

*1. Individuals may submit a maximum of one abstract as first author, whether a paper (including papers presented in a colloquium), a poster, or a roundtable session. This means that an individual can only appear once as a single or first author on the program except for in an additional role as a colloquium organizer or discussant or conference workshop presenter. An individual may also appear as a co-author/co-presenter of other papers (including papers presented in a colloquium), posters, or roundtable sessions provided they are not first author.*

- Update to gender neutral/non-binary language (throughout): There was no discussion.
- Allow for past GSC leadership members to apply for GSAs (SR 12, Section C5): There was no discussion. New wording now reads:

#### *a) Eligibility Requirements*

*iv. Current members of the Graduate Student Council steering committee and subcommittees are not eligible to submit; however, former members of the Graduate Student Council steering committee and sub-committees are eligible to submit.*

- Dissertation Award Committee Chair Term Clarification (SR 12, Section F2): There was no discussion. New wording now reads:

*b) Terms of the committee members shall be two years and shall be staggered. The term of the committee chair shall be one year.*

Further comment:

- There is inconsistency across the board in terms of description of Chairs of Committees. Brittney will follow up.

**MOTION: Approve proposed changes to Standing Rules**

It was moved by Julie and seconded by Lourdes to approve proposed changes to Standing Rules as discussed above.

Discussion: Conference proposal changes will be revisited and further finetuned at the March 2023 EC meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

**OPERATIONS: Task Forces**

**Conference Task Force - Lourdes Ortega**

Due to time constraints, this item was tabled for March 2023 EC meeting.

**Early Career Task Force – Patsy Duff**

Patsy:

- Question: should the Task Force submit their report before or after their planned event in March?  
Answer: after the event is held.
- Due to time constraints, detailed report was tabled for March 2023 EC meeting.

**OPERATIONS: Leadership Reports (Exhibits 6-10)**

**Proposed changes to Indigenous Scholarship Fund – Ryuko Kubota (Exhibits 6-7)**

Ryuko:

- Shared contents in Exhibit 6.
- Indicated that Indigenous Scholar Invitee wants stronger AAAL commitment to indigenous scholarship and indigenous communities.

- Stated that we need to discuss how to regain the trust of indigenous groups.
- Explained that the purposes of the Indigenous Scholarship Fund (5K) are revised to be more flexible, not merely for travel awards, but also for special events such as colloquia. Furthermore, application for travel awards should include how research is conducted ethically and reciprocally.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Lourdes and seconded by Jenny to revise the stipulation of the Indigenous Scholarship Fund to provide greater flexibility as proposed by Ryuko.

There was no further discussion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Further comment:

- For the record, at the 2020 Conference, there was a lot of focus on Indigenous scholarship. This effort continued in subsequent years, has been sincere, and is not “tokenism”.

#### **Resolution discussion – Fabiola (Added Exhibit, added on 1/31/2023)**

Fabiola:

- Summarized contents in Added Exhibit.
- Asked the EC to address the following question: Is the proposed Content Resolution germane to the mission, objectives, Bylaws, Standing Rules or strategic direction of AAAL?

Discussion:

- There is clear consensus among EC members that that the proposed Content Resolution is germane to the mission, objectives, Bylaws, Standing Rules or strategic direction of AAAL.
- Clarification question #1: Does this resolution propose the option of using other languages “in addition to English” or “instead of English”? The EC presumes it’s the former, but would appreciate confirmation.
- Clarification question #2: What specific kinds of tech support are expected of EC to provide?
- As per SR (<https://www.aaal.org/resolution-procedures>), *Content resolutions approved by the Resolutions Committee will be proposed to the AAAL membership and are subject to membership commentary and approval. At least six weeks before the annual conference, proposed resolutions will be posted to the AAAL web site in a members-only area, with invitation for comment by AAAL members.*

#### **Research Article Award Committee Leadership Report (Exhibit 8)**



Tabled to March 2023 EC Meeting.

**DSERG Award Committee Leadership Report (Exhibit 9)**

Oksana – Tabled to March 2023 EC Meeting.

**GSC Leadership Report (Exhibit 10)**

Oksana – Tabled to March 2023 EC Meeting.

**Review of EC Action items - Brittney Love**

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Fabiola invited a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jenny moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lourdes. There was no further discussion. All members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m. ET

Respectfully submitted,  
Agnes He