



2020 Virtual General Business Meeting
Zoom
Monday, March 30, 2020 | 2:30 -3:30 p.m. ET

President Laura Collins, Presiding | Secretary Fabiola Ehlers-Zavala, Parliamentarian

1. **Call to order.** Once quorum was confirmed (82 participants), President Collins called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. She then turned to Sarah Berke to address some logistics and set expectations for this virtual mode of conducting the meeting. Laura informed participants that they would be asked to e-cast their votes.
2. **Review of Rules of Order.** Secretary Ehlers-Zavala proceeded to review the Rules of Order, indicating how the organization goes about conducting its business (i.e., via motions—someone call the question, a motion is made, seconded, discussed and voted on. Amendments are possible. When that is the case, the same order for introducing motions is followed, but before participants vote on a main motion, they would have to vote on the amendment).
3. **Approval of the Agenda.** President Collins called for a vote to approve the 2020 Agenda for the Virtual General Mtg. Secretary Ehlers-Zavala made the motion to approve the Agenda, seconded by 2nd VP Duff. The motion carried, and the 2020 Agenda was approved.
4. **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.** During this segment, one of the participants asked for the location of the minutes. Participants were reminded that they had been previously e-distributed with the invitation to the meeting. A link to the minutes was provided via Chat. The question of how to vote if absent at the 2019 meeting was also raised. It was indicated that the preference then is to cast an abstention. Once questions were addressed, President Collins called for a vote to approve the 2019 Minutes for the General Mtg. Secretary Ehlers-Zavala made the motion, seconded by 2nd VP Duff. The motion carried, and the Minutes of the previous General meeting (Atlanta 2019) were approved.

5. President's Report. (Laura Collins).

President Collins started her remarks by expressing her gratitude to the membership for their participation at this difficult time. She offered the participants a brief recapitulation of what went into the decision of turning this meeting into a virtual meeting. She recognized the AAAL community amid crisis, emphasizing the idea of hope. She then went on to offer an important positive message regarding the financial health of the institution, despite the challenges resulting from the conference cancellation. She thanked the AAAL treasurers (past and present) for the due diligent work performed throughout the years. She also praised the entire EC for their leadership.

President Collins also shared a message of hope and detailed some of the key reasons for staying optimistic. She talked about the opportunities that can emerge in critical times like these. She detailed two main actions to show how the membership can contribute to the shaping of AAAL, providing a rationale for each:

- 1) The first action is to respond to calls for participation in shaping the transformation of the organization, as the work of AAAL is advanced through the many volunteers.
- 2) Another action, if members are financially able to do so, is to renew their membership, even in the years they are not attending the conference, as the revenue for maintaining the non-profit operation is still needed.

Then, President Collins proceeded to publicly recognize and express gratitude for the work of the Conference Chair and team. She noted that with the organization in Kendall's hand, AAAL is in an excellent place.

6. Report of the First Vice President Report (Kendall King).

By making reference to the Conference's theme in 2020, 1st VP/Conference Chair, Kendall King, started her remarks. Then, she went on to talk about the good that will come out of all this situation, including the work of Denver carried out in now different ways (e.g., virtual connections to capture the work of the Conference Connections team; presentation of awards; outreach from publishers to prospective authors who would have been presenters; potential incorporation of some of the plenary sessions in the 2021 program).

She also proceeded to express her thanks to members of the Business Office, the "super-star" student volunteers, and all the volunteers that devoted many hours along the way.

7. Report of the Secretary (Fabiola Ehlers-Zavala).

Secretary Ehlers-Zavala started her remarks by joining her EC colleagues who came before her in expressing her gratitude to the members present at the meeting during this COVID-19 crisis. She noted that her report was going to cover 3 sections:

- Governing Bodies
- Proposed changes to the Bylaws
- Diversity Initiatives

As indicated, she covered each of the three segments/bullets. Of notable importance is the fact that, among the diversity initiatives, she shared the results for each of the questions on the Diversity Section. She did note that the response rate this year was lower (8.9% of members in good standing v. 14% of members in good standing) than in the previous survey, and she concluded her remarks by indicating that:

The major takeaway from the results was the need for AAAL to continue its work in trying to eradicate barriers and address structural concerns that the membership perceives as key to enhance diversity, equity and inclusion (and access). She also noted that we also to figure out ways to ensure that our membership has the information they need to offer feedback in as much as possible.

She concluded by thanking members for their attention to her brief presentation.

8. Report from the Nominating Committee (Paula Winke).

Nominating Committee (NC) Chair, Paula Winke started by conveying her thanks to all the members of the NC.

Nominating Committee Members 2019-2020 included:

- Chair: Paula Winke, Michigan State University
- Linda Harklau, University of Georgia (ex officio, Immediate Past President)
- Anne Burns, University of NSW, Sydney
- Elizabeth Miller, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Luke Plonsky, Northern Arizona University
- Andrea Revesz, UCL IoE, University College London

Right before presenting the slate, she noted that she felt that the slate was representative of the various perspectives of the field and the diversity of the membership.

The slate presented was as follows:

- 2nd Vice President: Peter De Costa, Michigan State University
- Treasurer: Scott Jarvis, University of Utah
- Member at Large: Julie Sykes, University of Oregon
- FFAL Trustee: Dudley Reynolds, Carnegie Mellon University Qatar

Nominating Committee Candidates, 2020-2021

- Andy Gao, University of New South Wales
- Christine Gkonou, University of Essex
- Francis Hult, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- Maggie Kubanyiova, University of Leeds
- Angel Lin, Simon Fraser University
- Junko Mori, University of Wisconsin at Madison
- Manka Varghese, University of Washington
- Stuart Webb, Western University

Paula also proceeded to thank Sarah Berke for her assistance and Andrea for serving as Chair in the next round.

9. Call for Questions on Written Reports (Laura Collins).

Laura proceeded to offer the membership background on how we would proceed here. She also offered background as to why (maximizing the time), as this had been the initial plan anyway to give time for the Secretary to conduct an activity that would have engage the membership in attendance to the in-person meeting. Written reports previously distributed to the membership included:

- a. Report of the Second Vice President (Patsy Duff)
- b. Report of the Treasurer (Glenn Martinez)
 - i. Financial report
 - ii. Membership report
- c. Report of the Graduate Student Council (James Coda)
- d. Report of the Public Affairs and Engagement Committee (Netta Avineri)
- e. Report of the Committee on Online Education and Outreach (Carolyn Fuchs)
- f. Report of the Committee for Conference Connections (Peter De Costa)
- g. Report of the Resolutions Committee (Kimberly Geeslin)
 - i. Courtesy resolutions (none)
 - ii. Content resolutions (none)

Questions received from the participants via Chat:

- 1) Would it be possible to understand the portfolio of investments? (Dianne Larsen-Freeman). Sarah replied that this information would be distributed via the AAALetter. On this topic, it was noted that AAAL invests in areas that are directly aligned with the principles and philosophy of AAAL (e.g., ecologically sustainable businesses).
- 2) Can we have an update on the membership? Glenn (Treasurer) addressed this point by indicating that the membership was down, particularly in the area of retention. He noted that people are renewing at a lesser rate than in previous years. He noted the importance of encouraging the membership to get into the habit of renewing each year.
- 3) Do we have a special rate for retired members? The answer was affirmative.
- 4) Do we have insights into the reasons why members are not renewing? Glenn indicated that he suspects that members do not renew if they don't participate at the conference. There was commentary about the idea of working on enhancing membership benefits (even for those unable to attend the conference) and a question about the CC committee. Kendall explained the purpose of Conference Connections (CC): to support mentor-mentee connections. At this point, Peter De Costa was invited to elaborate on (CC). He proceeded to describe it and noted that this year there were 108 volunteers with Andrea Revesz volunteering for two mentees.
- 5) Another question related to attending the conference on-line surfaced. In addressing this interest, Laura responded that AAAL will continue to explore ways of making more content from future conferences available on-line. Next year's conference (2021) is being planned at the moment as a face to face conference.

10. Call for Old Business (Laura Collins).

Laura then proceeded to issue a call for Old Bus. Nothing was noted.

11. Recognition of the Outgoing Executive Co. & Transfer of Presidency. (Laura Collins).

Outgoing President Collins thanked the outgoing members of the EC:

- Linda Harklau, University of Georgia
Immediate Past President
- Naoko Taguchi, Northern Arizona University
Member at Large
- James Coda, University of Georgia
Graduate Student Council Co-Chair

For each of them, she offered individual remarks, making reference to sentiments expressed by their colleagues in the EC. She thanked each of them.

Then, Laura proceeded to transfer her presidency to Kendall King. At this point, Laura made reference to the gavel she would have given to Kendall to officially mark the transfer of her presidency. She recognized Kendall as the incoming President and noted she would find a way to ensure Kendall received the gavel.

12. Recognition of the Incoming Executive Committee (Kendall King).

President King introduced the new members of the EC:

- Lourdes Ortega, Georgetown University
2nd Vice President
- Jennifer Leeman, George Mason University
Member at Large
- Haoshan (Sally) Ren, Georgia State
Graduate Student Council Co-Chair

Kendall also thanked Laura for her leadership as President. Kendall also noted that now AAAL will re-evaluate operations and ensure we embrace opportunities for even more inclusive leadership in order to keep transforming and improving the organization.

13. Call for New Business (Kendall King).

Kendall proceeded to ask for new business. Having identified no new business, she proceeded to invite Patsy's remarks.

14. Message from the 1st VP/Conference Chair (Patsy Duff).

1st VP/Conference Chair, Patsy Duff, started her remarks by expressing the honor and pleasure she has in welcoming the membership to Houston, despite how early this may seem.

She talked about the Call for Proposals being available on the AAALwebsite, which lists the plenary speakers, invited colloquia, and other pref-conference events (i.e., workshops). See below:

PLANNED INVITED PLENARY SPEAKERS

Rodney Jones, University of Reading

Who broke the Internet? And who can fix it? Digital literacies in the age of the algorithm

Ute Römer, Georgia State University

Applied corpus linguistics for language acquisition, pedagogy, and beyond

Jonathan Rosa, Stanford University

Never enough language/Language is never enough: Raciolinguistic perspectives on applied linguistic theories of change

Ema Ushioda, University of Warwick

Motivation research and the multilingual turn: Taking a more critical orientation

Lynda Yates, Macquarie University

Getting the balance right: Language learning in and for the contemporary workplace

PLANNED INVITED COLLOQUIA

Language use and linguistic diversity in global peripheral youth cultures: Popular culture and social media

Organizer: Sender Dovchin, Curtin University

Indigenous languages and decolonization

Organizers: Barbra Meek, University of Michigan, & Cherry Meyer, University of Chicago

Political economy of language learning: Beyond neoliberal commodification

Organizer: Joseph Sung-Yul Park, National University of Singapore

Race, Identity and dialect in the Spanish language classroom

Organizers: Glenn Martinez, Ohio State University, & Kimberly Geeslin, Indiana University

Twenty-first century families: Connecting multilingualism, kinship, gender, and sexuality

Organizer: Lyn Wright, University of Memphis

Language program direction: Current and future trends (AAUSC@AAAL Joint Session)

Organizers: Carl Blyth, University of Texas - Austin, Kate Paesani, U of Minnesota, & Johanna Watzinger-Tharp, U of Utah

Language learning beyond English in Europe: Why it matters (EuroSLA@AAAL Joint Session)

Organizer: Clare Wright, University of Leeds

Researching and practicing SFL pedagogies in L2 education: Making SFL accessible (NASFLA@AAAL Joint Session)

Organizer: Marianna Ryshina-Pankova, Georgetown University

ADDITIONAL INVITATION

PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Narrative research methods in applied linguistics

Gary Barkhuizen, The University of Auckland, & Anna De Fina, Georgetown University

CONFERENCE WORKSHOP (carried over from 2020)

Multimodal data transcription and analysis: methodologies and tools to advance your work

AND MUCH MORE.....

Patsy also talked about the working towards incorporating some of this year's programme in 2021, but she acknowledged that not all could be rolled out for a variety of reasons.

She noted that her planning team is led by Dmitri Detwyler and noted that the Confex proposal submission portal will open on June 1st and close on July 15th. She acknowledged that this date may seem early to many, but due to issues with visas, she noted it was important to proceed this way to give ample time to participants to take care of their visas.

She concluded her remarks by noting, on behalf of the EC, that she was really looking forward to welcoming the membership in Houston 2021.

15. Adjournment.

President King adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by Fabiola Ehlers-Zavala, AAAL Secretary
on April 27, 2020.