

2024 General Business Meeting Minutes Approved March 24, 2025

Monday, March 18, 2024 | 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm CT

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Houston, TX

President Lourdes Ortega, Presiding | Secretary Agnes He, Parliamentarian

Call to order and Land Acknowledgement

The President called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm CT.

Reminded Inclusive Presentation Guidelines.

The President acknowledged the land where the 2024 AAAL conference took place. The acknowledgement reads:

The region from Galveston, Texas to Corpus Christi, Texas is the ancestral and current homeland of the Karankawa, Lipan Apache, Ishak (also known as Atakapa), Cotoname, and other tribal and detribalized peoples from before recorded history to the present day. We express gratitude to these peoples who have stewarded these lands and waters since the beginning of time. We acknowledge the land on which AAAL 2024 takes place as sacred, historical, and significant to the Karankawa Kadla peoples and relatives. Let us treat these lands and waters with dignity and respect, as we would our own relative.

Confirmation of Quorum and Review of Rules of Order

The Secretary confirmed quorum (110) and reviewed the following rules of order.

- The agenda sets the order of business for the meeting; the meeting will proceed according to the agenda.
- If anyone would like to discuss a new topic or consider a new proposal not on the agenda, they should (a) contact the Chair(s) of the relevant committee(s) or (b) contact any member(s) of the EC, before or after the Business meeting.
- It is important to follow parliamentary procedure to ensure the meeting runs smoothly and fairly.

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Paul Matsuda and seconded by Sarah Cushing that the meeting agenda be approved. The motion carried.

Approval of the March 2023 General Business Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Meg Malone and seconded by Patsy Duff that the March 2023 Annual Business Meeting Minutes be approved. The motion carried.

In Memoriam Reflection for Past President Tim McNamara – Patsy Duff

Past President Patsy Duff presented a moving eulogy of Tim McNamara, offering reflections on his impactful professional achievements and his remarkable personal qualities. The audience respectfully observed a solemn ten-second silence as a tribute to Tim McNamara's memory.

Report of the President – Lourdes Ortega

The President thanked the membership, the volunteer leaders, committees, and the business office. She highlighted a few specific accomplishments in the past year:

- AAAL conferences go multilingual starting with AAAL 2024.
- Our bylaw changed in October 2023, adding a new JEDI Officer to the EC.
- We created a designated JEDI contingency fund to deposit 20% of net operation yearly income.
- We developed the following public communications:
 - AAAL Conferences: Locations, Principles, Logistics (April)
 - Recognizing the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (July)
 - West Virginia University Proposal to Eliminate World Language Department (August)
 - In Memoriams: Jon Henner (August), Tim McNamara (September)
 - Solidarity Statement for the People of Iran (October)
 - AAAL Executive Committee Solidarity Statement on the Violence in Israel and Gaza (October)

The President praised and thanked the OEOC and the PAEC for their extraordinary efforts to enrich the Association with their AAAL Oral History Project, AAAL's Advocacy Campaigns on social media, AAAL Webinars and Workshops, and Briefs. She encouraged the membership to take advantage of the resources created by OEOC and PAEC.

The president expressed gratitude toward past AAAL leaders for generosity and prescience. Specifically,

- New Grabe/Stoller Graduate Student Award, endowed with \$50,000 to FFAL by Fredrika Stoller and Bill Grabe (President 2001-2002)
- Networking Event designed by and for Early Career Scholars, an initiative of Patsy Duff while President (2021-2022), will now be a permanent element in the conference program.

Lastly, the President expressed her gratitude for having the honor and privilege to have served AAAL.

Report of the Treasurer - Scott Jarvis

The Treasurer presented detailed balance sheets for assets, liabilities and equity, detailed conference statements from the last three years, and income and expense statements. The Treasurer stated that AAAL is doing better financially than expected. 2023 was a good year financially, with good revenues from our annual conference as well as from investments. The Treasurer cautioned that, at the same time, given cost increases, there will be a need to increase conference registration fees.

Report of the Secretary – Agnes He

The Secretary provided a general summary of the work related to AILA and JEDI in the past year. She shared with the membership that the EC has received responses to the AAAL announced Call for Nominations for the AILA Executive Board and that the President will soon communicate the EC's decision to the AAAL nominee and AILA. She informed the membership that the AAAL Inclusive Presenter Guidelines have been submitted to AILA for consideration for AILA Endorsement. She also reminded the membership of the 2024 AILA Congress.

With respect to JEDI, we continue to be guided by principles of JEDI as we recognize and celebrate excellence, in terms of the types of awards we give, the composition of the award committees, the awardees selected, as well as the eligibility requirements for applications for the awards. Moving forward, we will continue to review

and revise AAAL policies and procedures to ensure JEDI is adequately addressed and incorporated. We are eagerly looking forward to the new JEDI Officer joining the EC.

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) – Ashley Moore/Liz Miller

Ad Hoc Committee Chair Ashley Moore and AAAL Member-at-Large Liz Miller shared the history, mission, membership, actions and initiatives of the JEDI ad hoc committee. Specifically:

- Commissioned in Spring 2023
- Formed to ensure that concerns related to the advancement of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion are centered in all AAAL practices and policies
- AAAL Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access Task Force (2022-2023)
 - Manka Varghese
 - Ashley Moore
 - Patricia Baquedano-López
 - Valentino Rahming
 - with Executive Committee Liaison Ryuko Kubota

Ad Hoc Committee members:

- Usree Bhattacharya
- Suresh Canagarajah
- Jennifer Phuong
- Trish Morita-Mullaney
- Elizabeth Miller (co-Chair, Executive Committee Liaison)
- Ashley Moore (co-Chair)

JEDI Officer

- In October 2023, the AAAL membership voted to create a new officer of the Executive Committee devoted to justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.
- To achieve a quorum, 206 members (10% of the membership) needed to vote, and a two-thirds approval was required to make this change to our Bylaws.
- 256 AAAL members voted, of which 224 members (87%) voted in support.
- You will vote for the JEDI officer in the next AAAL election.

Actions taken in the past year:

- Revised the approach for inviting accommodations requests
- Drafted the language for the creation of a permanent JEDI Standing Committee once the JEDI Officer is in place
- Developed a list of questions related to accessibility and equity concerns for Conference Chairs to ask when visiting hotel sites
- Developed a list of questions and concerns related to accessibility and equity concerns for Conference Chairs and their teams to keep in mind when planning the conference more generally
- Developed the Inclusive Presenter Guidelines now posted to the AAAL website

Current and upcoming initiatives:

- Working on an Anti-Harassment policy for AAAL
- Will analyze data from 2024 post-conference survey related to accessibility and inclusion
- Anticipate looking at AAAL's diversity auditing structures

Report of the Nominating Committee – Amanda Kibler

- Introduction of current Nominating Committee members
 - **Elected members:**
 - Julieta Fernandez
 - Guofang Li
 - Jamie Schissel
 - Emma Trentman
 - **President-elect:** Peter de Costa
 - **Chair:** Amanda Kibler
- Review of the upcoming slate for membership vote
 - **Second Vice President:** Francis Hult
 - **Treasurer:** Paula Winke
 - **JEDI Officer:** Usree Bhattacharya
 - **Member-at-Large:** Yumi Matsumoto
 - **FFAL Trustee:** Chantelle Warner
 - **Nomination Committee (4 to be elected):**
 - James Coda, Bridget Goodman, Janice McGregor, Kevin McManus, Ebtissam Oraby, Prem Phyak, Gail Prasad, Kevin Wong

- **Book Award Committee (2 to be elected):**
 - Anna de Fina, Anna Mendoza, Shelley Staples, Meike Wernicke
 - **Research Article Award Committee (2 to be elected):**
 - Jenna Cushing-Leubner, Wenhao Diao, Angelica Galante, Rachel Shively
- Reminder that people can self-nominate for positions (if qualified)
 - Watch for the call for nominations coming out in summer 2024 for 2025 elections!

Report of the Graduate Student Council - John Wayne dela Cruz / Oksana Moroz

The Chair of GSC reiterated GSC's mission and reported the activities and accomplishments by GSC's subcommittees, including Diversity Survey, engagement through Social Media, Newsletter, and Event Planning.

Report of the Public Affairs and Engagement Committee - Bedrettin Yazan

Committee Members:

- **Chair:** Bedrettin Yazan, University of Texas at Austin
- **Vice-Chair:** Anwar Ahmed, University of British Columbia
- John Wayne dela Cruz, McGill University (GSC Designee)
- Unju Anya, Carnegie Mellon University
- Katherine Moran, Center for Applied Linguistics
- Amelia Tseng, American University
- Peter De Costa, Michigan State University

Committee Description

The Public Affairs & Engagement Committee (PAEC) is a AAAL standing committee that was formed in December 2016. It provides “an important means by which AAAL members can bring their collective expertise to bear on issues of social importance and inform public debate by speaking to issues of social and professional relevance” (AAAL Standing Rules). The PAEC is charged with engaging AAAL in the public domain.

Recent contributions:

- Applied Linguistics and Social Justice listserv (almost 400 members)
- Recent AAAL Brief on accents by Tracey Derwing
 - Calling for more proposals for AAAL Briefs and see earlier Briefs: www.aaal.org/aaal-briefs

- Twenty-five (25) colleagues were granted Op-Ed (Write to change the world workshops) grants thanks to AAAL's support

Report of the Committee for Online Education and Outreach - Stephanie Link

Katherine Christofferson (on behalf of Steph Link)

- The OEOC is charged with ensuring AAAL is digitally accessible and provides opportunities for online education and connection.
- AAAALetter, Chaired by: Dr. Sarah Hercula
- Online content and Development, Chaired by: Dr. Marda Rose
- Professional Development, Chaired by: Dr. Steven Moody
- Webinar, Chaired by: Dr. Svetlana Koltovskaia
- Social Media, Chaired by: Dr. Haley de Korne

Report of the Committee on Conference Connections - Dustin Crowther

- Mentoring Program enrollment
- Tutoring pairs
- Thanks for enthusiastic support from the membership
- *Irina Zaykovskaya* will take over as committee chair for 2025 and 2026
- Thanks to *Brittany Frieson*, *Mihiri Jansz*, and *Oksana Moroz* (GSC) for their contributions to the committee
- Call for involvement in the committee

Report of the 1st Vice President – Ryuko Kubota

The 1st VP thanked the conference organizing team and the Business Office for their contribution to the planning of the 2024 Conference and gave an overview of the conference which includes

- 1837 conference registrations
- 25 strands
- New features:

- Multilingual options for proposals and presentation
 - 17 proposals in languages other than English (including 1 colloquium paper proposal)
 - 5 monolingual [presentations other than English and 130 multilingual presentations for AOPT
 - 11 multilingual paper presentations in colloquia
- New format for roundtable presentations
- Greater involvement of Indigenous languages and scholars
- JEDI initiatives (e.g., Inclusive Presenter Guidelines, various accommodations)

Report of the 2nd Vice President – Manka Varghese

The 2nd VP gave a preview of the 2025 AAAL Conference.

The 2025 AAAL Conference will take place in Denver CO, March 22-25, 2025. The Conference Theme is: “relational accountability”.

Plenary speakers

- Wes Leonard, University of California, Riverside
- Patricia Morita-Mullaney, Purdue University
- Hayriye Kayi-Aydar, University of Arizona
- Quentin Williams, University of the Western Cape
- LJ Randolph, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Current ACTFL President

Invited Colloquia

- Plan to have 6 invited colloquia
- 5 invited colloquia will be an extension or sub-theme of the plenaries
- Includes 1 invited colloquia that will be the Wilga Rivers Language Pedagogy Colloquium
- Plenary speakers will be discussants for the colloquia
- 1 invited colloquia will be led by local faculty colleagues on community-based arts education and language
- Organizers TBA

Recognition of the Outgoing Executive Committee Members

The President thanked the outgoing members of the EC:

- Fabiola Ehlers-Zavala, *Past President*, who served AAAL for a total of 7 years in various capacities.
- Oksana Moroz, *GSC Co-Chair*, who diligently and innovatively to represent graduate students, who constitute 45% of the AAAL membership.
- Julie Sykes, *Member at Large*, who provided valuable input, especially in the area of the use of technology in language teaching, and who reminded us to think outside the box.
- Steph Link, *OEOC Chair*, who led OEOC, a highly complex structure with over 30 volunteers, with outstanding dedication and care.

Transfer of Presidency

Then, the outgoing President Lourdes Ortega passed the presidential gavel to the incoming President Peter De Costa in the transfer of presidency.

Recognition of the Incoming Executive Committee Members

The incoming President, Peter De Costa, thanked the outgoing President for her outstanding leadership. He then introduced the new members of the EC:

- Mari Haneda – 2nd VP
- Xuesong (Andy) Gao – Member at Large

Concluding Remarks from the New President – Peter De Costa

The new President thanked the following:

- Business Office for their support
- Ryuko Kubota for organizing the 2024 conference
- Lourdes Ortega for her leadership of AAAL
- Amada Kibler, Chair of NOMCO for their good work
- GSC for their contributions

The new President encouraged members to get involved, to volunteer, and to attend OEOC events. He stressed that AAAL is a hospitable space for everyone, no matter how long or how short one has been with the Association.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. CT

Respectfully submitted,
Agnes He, Secretary