

**Society for Personality Assessment – Graduate Student (SPAGS) section  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
March 6, 2009  
The Westin Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL**

PRESENT:

*Members:* Martin Sellbom, Chris Hopwood, Elise Simonds-Bisbee, Elizabeth Koonce, Sandra Horn, Pilar Sumalpong, Danielle Burchett

*Absent:* Joyce Williams

*Substitutes:* None

1. Explanation of Agenda by Martin
  - a. All in attendance agreed to the set agenda.
2. Debriefing on SPA Board Meeting
  - a. Budget:
    - i. There is lowered attendance, especially in workshops, due to lowered economy. Thus, there is less money in the budget. Last year was a record low and this year was a little better. It is difficult to break even.
    - ii. They are considering selling their condo in Falls Church, VA and putting the profited money into investments. Consultants have been hired to work on finances.
  - b. Listservs:
    - i. The listservs for SPA and SPAGS are in place and working.
  - c. Fall meeting:
    - i. The annual SPA Executive Board Meeting will be in the fall. Church will act as the representative for students, and will have a vote in decisions.
3. Decisions Regarding the Induction of New Officers
  - a. It is nice to have the changing of the board members be at some point during the SPA Annual Meeting. This year, we're changing part-way through the annual meeting.
  - b. Implications: Who should attend the SPA Board of Trustees Meeting – the outgoing or incoming president? Who should run our meeting? We agreed that we should switch at our SPAGS meeting. The outgoing president should attend the SPA Board of Trustees Meeting and will run the SPAGS meeting.
    - i. Vote: All agreed.
  - c. We may want to make it longer if possible. Perhaps a dinner meeting just before the SPAGS outing would be a good time.
4. Webpage
  - a. We hope to continue the website. We should all add information and photos to the webpage. Martin was coordinating the webpage, and we should send him our information for the website.

- b. It may make sense to have a committee in charge if we want to make sure it is good. Martin is happy to chair this committee.
  - c. It may make sense to have this person be in charge of the listserv as well.
  - d. It could make sense to have a Facebook group, too.
  - e. It could be nice to have a place for all students to enter their names and research interests on the SPAGS website.
5. Committees
- a. Social Responsibility Committee (Diversity Committee)
    - i. Could be abandoned or put onto hold
    - ii. The goal was to work on keeping the public from seeing tests, but that may not be our job
    - iii. Another goal was to compare the demographic of SPA vs. APA Assessment Section, but we may just need to work to encourage diversity rather than to spend resources measuring the level of diversity
    - iv. One potential role is to involve undergraduates in SPAGS. An idea mentioned was to have an undergraduate poster presentation
    - v. It may make sense to change the name to the “Diversity Committee”
    - vi. Unanimous Vote: Chair will be Pilar
  - b. Technology Committee
    - i. Unanimous Vote: Elizabeth will chair
  - c. Research Enhancement Committee
    - i. This should be merged with the Technology Committee
    - ii. Goal include working on the listserv, the website, acknowledging student papers on the website, getting more money for SPA student awards for research, providing links to grant money possibilities on the website, and possibly doing a study on the level of assessment research conducted at graduate programs, internships, and postdoctoral sites .
    - iii. Chris was the chair, but probably should not be a chair. It would be best to have this be combined with the Technology Committee
  - d. Education Committee
    - i. Carlo Veltri no longer wants to be the chair
    - ii. Goals included doing a good search of internship, postdoctoral sites that are focused on assessment. Goals also included conducting a survey of interns and post-doctoral fellows.
    - iii. Unanimous Vote: Chair will be Sandra
  - e. Elections Committee
    - i. By default, Martin will be chair.
  - f. Programming Committee
    - i. Goal includes having a graduate student social at the SPA annual meeting.
    - ii. It may be possible to get funding to have a reception with snacks.
    - iii. It should not be held at a bar, so that undergraduates under 21 and people who are not interested in going to a bar can attend.
    - iv. Unanimous vote: Chair will be Danielle
6. Chris’ Thoughts for Next Year
- a. Goals:

- i. Get more students involved. Recruit more people. Recruit students who are already in SPA to become more involved.
  - ii. Have better advertising and recruitment methods.
  - iii. Accomplish goals that are set.
  - iv. Possibly require that SPA student awards require SPAGS membership (although, as it stands now, all registered SPA members are technically SPAGS members).
  - v. Perhaps a poster-only award could get more people involved. (But, we need to remember that there was an award from SPA starting this year).
7. The meeting was adjourned on March 6, 2008, at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Burchett