

IASNR Council Meeting
July 7, 2009
Vienna, Austria

Council Members Attending: Stephanie Malin, Al Luloff, Rick Krannich, Kathy Halverson, Matt Carroll, Jim Asher, Tom Beckley, Linda Kruger

Others Attending: Tom Beckley, Gene Theodori, Jim Finley

Clarification on voting membership: Gene, Tom, and Jim are not voting members. Five Council members were not present.

Executive Director's Report: There was no printed report but Krannich took this time to structure the rest of the meeting and will cover the election results and announced the following leadership decisions: Executive Director – Al Luloff; Secretary – Jerry Vaske; and, Treasurer – Secretary, Jim Finley.

Business Office Report: Luloff reported currently 636 members, but expected some new members at this meeting. Attendance at the Vienna meeting currently about 390 and with walk-ins expects the final count will be about 420. He distributed the attached Secretary-Treasurer report. Membership fluctuates by meeting location. We get people back as the conference comes close to people. Having meetings at distant international venues repeatedly may contribute to declines in membership. Luloff emails folks who drop out. The organization is in strong financial shape, but not to the point that a fiscal loss for a meeting would allow it to survive. The budget statement shows the balance through 2008. Fifty dollars of each membership goes to Taylor and Francis to pay for the Journal.

Further discussion on membership and location ensued. The Vienna meeting has lower Asian participation. The Malaysia meeting will hopefully will draw new members and encourage the return of Australians.

There was a question about meeting income and losses. We require organizers put \$10 per attendee into the meeting cost. If there is a meeting profit, 50% goes to IASNR and 50% stays with the host organization. Most people have been cautious about setting registrations too high; however, some meetings have been very successful (Vancouver, and Burlington). This particular meeting (i.e., Vienna) has not had transparent books. PayPal works well in US; but, in Europe the payments have to move from Euros to Dollars and so forth. So, BOKU established accounts in their institution and we do not have an understanding of costs and income; we believe we will receive a clear accounting. Al suggested that all future meetings transact only through PayPal. He also asked about establishing a procedure for addressing meeting losses if they occurred. He wondered if the organization was willing to take a risk of underwriting costs for third world attendees. He suggested the committee consider moving the meeting to an international venue every third year, rather than biannually. Rick saw reason for shifting the venue to less frequent

international meetings. To avoid loss every meeting is currently budgeted on 400 attendees to help ensure costs are covered. There was a suggestion the Council develop a policy for venue selection. Linda noted that USFS employees can not pay through PayPal. IASNR can take credit cards outside the PayPal system. Federal sponsorships for ISSRM are dropping off and to attain sponsorships IASNR will have to become more innovative.

Journal Report: Tom noted he has been the Journal editor for one year. Patricia is working well with the process. Taylor and Francis provided a 21 page report. Impact factor has gone up. Submissions are increasing: 293 in 2008 and projections for 2009 are for over 300. International submissions are up, which was a goal for the organization. Finding good reviewers for international articles is difficult – sometimes require 10 or more requests. In 2010 there will be 12 issues for 1,200 pages. Currently accepted journal article publishing backlog mean it takes a year to get an article through the system. With Taylor and Francis's system, articles are scheduled by acceptance date and this makes it difficult to do thematic issues or to pair articles. They have invited Tom to visit their facility. Acceptance rate is dropping and it is about 30 to 35 percent. Even with 12 issues, acceptance rates will likely continue to drop. Tom and Troy will put a one-pager in the Journal relating to this issue addressed to reviewers and authors. Kathy asked about how they solicit reviewers – every manuscript is different. Rating system on reviewers in the electronic database is helpful; he has used Google to search for reviewers, paper bibliographies, and “Library” web-base. How do we add to the reviewer data-base? People have been asked to sign-up on the data-base. We could use the meeting registration list to solicit reviewers and have them register with keywords for subjects. There are issues with training and education of reviewers found this way. Tom almost always tries to have a “known” reviewer on each manuscript. There was further discussion about asking associate editors to identifying reviewers – this has not been done. Matt expressed concerns about editors (Tom and Troy) and their work load and the potential impact on graduate students with the falling acceptance rate.

ISSRM 2010: Gene announced the 2010 ISSRM will be June 6-10 in Corpus Christi, Texas. One sponsor gifted five-digits. Looking for outside fiscal support, he asked for sponsorship names and leads. One sub-theme is energy exploration and production and they will try to have at least one panel on energy – renewable and non-renewable. The host site is the Omni Hotel where there are 20 meeting rooms. He has to secure 80 percent of the rooms in the motel to cover meeting room costs. Website is being developed and should be available soon. Registration fee currently set at \$305, but may be able to drop this with good sponsorship.

Student Award Committee: Gene has chaired this for five years and is going to step down after this year. It is a worthwhile and rewarding experience. Submissions were down this year. He has in the past selected his own committee using international representatives each time. Need to find someone to fill this role. Al will send an email to all council members looking for a committee chair.

ISSRM 2011: Planning is moving forward. It may be the highest risk meeting to date. Have a proposal for the 2012 meeting in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Al and Rick could

continue to work with the Edmondson group or pick a site review committee. Linda volunteered to work on the site committee. Al and Jim will look at the proposal and then reach out to the council. There is an offer from Brazill to host the 2013 ISSRM.

Student Chapter: Not staying active. Maybe the Student Affairs Committee can follow up and consider this. A proposal was advanced (attached) to do a longitudinal study on student membership and their experiences. The committee wanted to share it at this time and to get some input. Kathy offered to help. The Council would retain control of the mailing and handling of the student survey. The critical question for the survey is how to retain student members.

Student Forum: A bit over 30 students. They appreciated the opportunity and the student rate. They expressed concerns about the paucity of SE Asian and Malaysian student participation.

Nominations: Need to appoint a committee and the Newsletter drafting committee. Need to consider the Life Membership Committee. There are other needs: A committee on constitution and bylaws and filling positions; procedure for conducting membership at-large elections. Al indicated he will try to have two conferences calls annually (March and October) to conduct some of the Council's business. Need to act on the Electronic membership list.

Adjourned at approximately 1:20 p.m.