



ASAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE DE L'ASAC
Sunday, June 13, 9:00 am EDT Virtual
MINUTES

41 people in attendance online via ZOOM.

Mehdi Farashahi opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement statement from Concordia University.

1. Approval of Agenda / Adoption de l'ordre de jour

Approval of the agenda was moved by David Deephouse and seconded by Nicholous Deal. Motion carried. 41 yes

2. Approval of Minutes from the January 11, 2021 AGM

Approval of the minutes was moved by William Murray and seconded by Heather Ranson. Motion carried. 41 yes

3. President's Report / Rapport du président

3.1 CJAS contract

Trish McLaren provided an overview of the current state of our CJAS contract. She reviewed the process around our contract dates and terms of the CJAS agreement. In the upcoming months the Board will ask for membership engagement to develop a strategic vision for CJAS as it assesses the terms of the CJAS agreement.

3.1.1 Executive Elections

Motion: That the ASAC membership approve the appointment of Adri van Hilten to the position of Treasurer for the term of 2021-2024. Moved by David Deephouse and seconded by Heather Ranson. Motion carried: 39 yes, 2 abstentions.

Motion: That the ASAC membership approve the appointment of Deryk Stec to the position of VP Program Elect for the term of 2021-2022. Moved by Morrie Mendleson and seconded by William Murray. Motion carried: 41 yes.

Board president Trish McLaren introduced the Board of Directors for 2021-22:

President: Trish McLaren

Past-President: Kim Bates

VP Program: Mehdi Farashahi

VP Program Elect: Deryk Stac
Treasurer: Adri van Hilten
VP Membership and Marketing: Kunle Akingbola
Secretary and Information Management: Amy Thurlow

3.1.2 2022 Board of Directors Nominations

Three positions will be open on the Board for 2022;

Call for nominations open: Jan 3, 2022

Positions: VP Program Elect, VP Membership and Marketing, President

3.1.3 Thank yous

Trish thanked all Divisional Executives and in particular Divisional Chairs who are completing their terms after three years. She also offered thanks to the ASAC VP Program elect – Mehdi Farashahi and ASAC Conference managers, Tara and Rory. And a big thank you to VP Program, Mark Mullaly – for all his work on the Board and with this fantastic conference

3.2 Report of the VP Program / Rapport de la vice-présidente de la programmation

Mark Mullaly gave an update on this year's program and some background on the shift to a virtual conference. The collaborations with both Euram and Concordia were very positive. Concordia stayed on as host sponsor and provided incredible support even after shift to online.

Submissions were down this year, 100 less than last year. However, the 98 work-in-progress submissions received reflect the highest number of submissions for that category to date. There were 313 submissions in total. 279 were accepted.

Scholar One replaced Easy Chair last year. Scholar One had much broader functionality including scoring, decisions, program development, building sessions, custom export into the conference program. Overall, Scholar One worked very well, providing a smooth and time-saving process.

Mark highlighted the even distribution of sessions across the 3 days of the conference, with a great array of divisional speakers. The program was designed so divisional speaker slots do not conflict with other sessions throughout the program.

On Tuesday of the conference the professional development workshops are designed to collaborate with EURAM. Both conferences together are presenting all workshops on Tuesday. Each of the sessions is built into each respective conference platform.

A new tool called Wonder was introduced to the format this year for social sessions. Wonder is a virtual space where you can experience the virtual equivalent of a hallway conversation or a coffee break. Social evenings have been organized for each evening – including the very popular *Trivia with Rory*.

3.3 Treasurer's Report / Rapport de la trésorière

Adri presented the 2020 audited financials (slides attached). ASAC is in a positive position financially. Cost cutting measures introduced in previous years have meant that the last two conferences have

made money. Based on this, the Board will take a look at reducing conference fees for future conferences.

Discussion followed. A question was asked about whether or not ASAC has a reserve fund. The Board has considered this option but at the moment there is not a reserve fund. A recommendation was made that ASAC keep up to 6 months of operating expenses in reserve.

Motion: That the ASAC membership approve the 2020 financial statements. Moved by Adri Van Hilton and seconded by William Murray. Motion carried: 41 yes.

Motion: That the ASAC membership approve Graham Scott Enns LLP as auditor of ASAC's financial statements. Moved by Adri Van Hilton and seconded by Kunle Akingbola. Motion carried: 37 yes, 1 abstention, 2 no.

3.4 Report of the CJAS Editor

Michel provided the CJAS report (slides attached). Discussion followed as members asked for clarification on how to access CJAS electronically and what the connection was between the ASAC conference and CJAS. Michel clarified that there is no connection between the conference and CJAS. Submissions must be made directly to CJAS.

3.5 Report of the VP Membership and Marketing

Kunle Akingbola reviewed membership, reporting that ASAC has 463 members this year. Kunle announced an online newsletter which will be introduced this year. The call for submissions will be coming in the near future. This newsletter will be a platform to synthesize already published papers in a one- or two-page format. This will provide an ASAC membership engagement initiative, as well as a channel for sharing our research.

3.6 Report of the VP Program Elect

Mehdi Farashahi reported on plans for the 2022 conference.

Format and location - Due to the ongoing pandemic he was not able to provide full details on the conference at this point. Universities have not been able to predict what will happen next year i.e. on campus vs virtual. The plan is to have next year's conference on the West Coast. Hopefully it will be an in-person conference, but it may be a hybrid format. The Board is still looking for an appropriate host for next year. We might have to rent a venue for next year in order to go to the west coast.

Diversification – members have indicated we need to have more diversity in our keynote and divisional speakers. We need to have more diversity throughout ASAC activities, papers, workshops, etc. I have asked all divisional officers to try to encourage more diversity in divisional officers, as well as in the divisional program.

Discussion followed regarding the hybrid conference format. David Deephouse volunteered to help as part of a hybridization task force. There was general support for offering an online option for members next year. And there was also positive feedback on the Grenadine platform.

4. Other Business

There was no other business.

Motion to adjourn. Moved by David Deephouse and seconded by William Murray. Motion carried. 41 yes.