



midwest political science association

885 S. College Mall Rd., #382 • Bloomington, IN 47401 • 812-558-0588 • FAX 812-335-1510 • www.mpsanet.org

Minutes from MPSA Virtual Council Meeting | Tuesday, 6/23/2020, 3pm-5pm Eastern
Spring 2020 Council Meeting

Consent Agenda: *If a report is provided in advance, there is no formal presentation, only Q & A.*
Code of Conduct: *Code of Conduct forms must be completed, signed and reviewed before the meeting may start.*
Action Items * *Requires a vote to accept the report, budget, or motion. Committee reports do not need a second.*

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS (Sarah Binder)

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 pm, and Council members were asked to introduce themselves.

2. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

A. MPSA Council Members' Code of Conduct Form (Sarah Binder)

All Council members attending the meeting had already completed a Code of Conduct form.

B. Approve Minutes from the previous Council meeting (Sarah Binder) *

A motion was made and seconded to accept the revised minutes. It passed unanimously.

C. Reauthorize check signing authority (Sarah Binder) *

A motion was made and seconded to re-authorize check signing authority for the Executive Director and the Treasurer. It passed unanimously.

3. REPORTS - Questions and Discussion

A. Executive Director's Report on Programs & Activities (Will Morgan) *

The report discussed that the conference is a key driver of membership growth. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report, and the motion passed.

B. Award Winners (Sarah Binder)

The Award winners are listed as an Appendix in the Report on Programs & Activities.

C. Report on the AJPS (Kathy Dolan, Jen Lawless) *

The Co-Editors have completed the first year of their four-year term. The AJPS remains the top-ranked journal in the discipline according to both Google Scholar and the five-year impact factor. The number of submissions in previous year was a record high and submissions actually increased by 15% in 2019. Turn around actually decreased. There was discussion about the different rates of submission based on gender. There was also discussion about the recent COI policy as well as the Co-Editor's plan for their second year. A motion was made and seconded to accept the AJPS report, and the motion passed.

D. Financial Report (Will Morgan) *

The report noted that in 2019, investment income totaled over one million dollars, a record high. A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report, which passed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Conference Program Chair Report (Eleanor Powell, Jessica Weeks)

The program chairs thanked the program committee for their hard work in creating one of the largest conferences for the MPSA. There was discussion about the complex challenges created by the COVID-19 crisis. The Council thanked them for their service during such a difficult situation.

B. Luis Fraga Doctoral Student Travel Grant (Sarah Binder) *

There was discussion about the grant and Dr. Fraga. A motion was made to create the travel grant and it passed.

C. COVID-19 & Future Conferences (Will Morgan) *

The report discussed that COVID-19 created uncertainty related to conferences, including whether it was possible for Chicago to re-open in 2021 and whether faculty would even be allowed to travel to attend a conference. The possibility of a hybrid conference or a virtual conference was discussed, however the cancellation fees and attrition fees would remain a problem. One solution would be to re-negotiate and extend the contract.

The hotel offered good terms, but there was discussion about whether the MPSA should ask for a few changes to provide the MPSA with more flexibility. After discussion of several different aspects, a motion was made to have the Executive Director continue negotiations for a five-year contract extension with specific terms that would provide the MPSA with greater flexibility. The motion was seconded and passed,

D. Proposed Updates to MPSA By-Laws (Sarah Binder, Will Morgan) *

This business will be discussed in detail at a later Council Meeting.

E. Election of New Corporate Officers pending on-line member vote, (Sarah Binder) *

Members will vote on the slate of officers using an on-line election system, which will take 30 days. A motion was made, seconded and passed that, pending the election results, the new corporate officers for the MPSA will be:

President Elect: Rick Wilson

Vice-Presidents: Irfan Nooruddin, Christina Wolbrecht, Suzanna Linn

President: Diana Mutz

Treasurer: Kyle Saunders

Past President: Sarah Binder

Secretary, Executive Director: Will Morgan

5. ADJOURN (Sarah Binder)

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 5:08 PM.