

Meeting Minutes: 2007 Annual Meeting

Midwest Women's Caucus Meeting
Thursday, April 10th, 2007

Minutes

- I. Call to Order
Christina Wolbrecht welcomed people and called the meeting to order.
- II. Approval of Minutes
Secretary Celeste Montoya presented the minutes.
The minutes were approved (without revision).
- III. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Financial Report
Beginning Balance: \$2,980.76
Revenue: \$930
Expenditures: \$2,230
Balance: \$1,680.76
 - b. Membership Report
44 dues-paying members for 2006-2007
 - c. Relationship with National Women's Caucus
4 members joined through the national caucus
- IV. Old Business
 - a. 2007 Program
 - New evening business meeting
 - Roundtables
 1. Women Faculty in the Classroom: Strategies for Success
(Thursday, 4:25pm, Adams)
 2. Having and Doing It All: Achieving a Work-Life Balance
(Thursday 12:45pm, Red Lacquer)
 3. Mentoring Roundtable on Publishing with Colleagues and Publishers
(Thursday, 9:30pm, Red Lacquer)
 4. Navigating Professional Service: When to Say "Yes" & How to Say "No" (Friday, 4:25pm, Monroe)
 5. Survive and Thrive: Successful Strategies for Tenure
(Saturday, 12:45pm, Monroe)
 6. Roundtable Honoring Iris Marion Young, Winner of the Women's Caucus Outstanding Professional Achievement Award
(Friday, 4:25pm, Parlor F)
 - Minority Caucuses Reception (Thursday, 7-8:30pm, Crystal)

b. Recruitment update

- A number of the suggestions from last year's report were implemented, such as: make announcement about caucus at roundtables, contact graduate directors, wave all fees for graduate students, and move away from breakfast meeting.
- Will Morgan is looking into adding caucus membership to the online membership registration form for MPSA.
- There are complications with sending out mass emails to female MPSA members. The President asked for suggestions for other means of communication.
- There is some confusion about the exact nature of this caucus's affiliation with other women caucuses at national and regional level. Membership terms and payment schedules are particularly confusing for those joining multiple caucuses at once. The President asked for the treasurers to coordinate on this and make suggestions for simplifying the process in the future.
- MPSA contacted the president with the idea to publish roundtable summaries in the MPSA newsletter. We have accepted this invitation, and see this as a way to advertise the Caucus. Thus, the "Tools of the Trade" roundtable summaries will be published in an upcoming MPSA newsletter and broadcast as podcasts via the MPSA website. MPSA will seek the permission of each chair before publishing the roundtable summary and/or broadcasting a tape of the session.

V. Election of New Officers

Christina submitted the following slate of offices:

President: Elizabeth Bennion, Indiana University, South Bend ebennion@iusb.edu
President-elect: Brigid Harrison, Montclair State University harrisonb@mail.montclair.edu
Newsletter Editor: Candice Ortballs, Pepperdine University, Candice.ortballs@pepperdine.edu

Continuing Officers

Treasurer: Tracy Osborn, Bridgewater State College tosborn@bridgew.edu
Secretary: Celeste Montoya, Southern Illinois University Carbondale cmmontoy@siu.edu

Appointed Officer

Award Chair: Michele Swers, Georgetown University mls47@georgetown.edu

The slate was approved.

- VI. President's Remarks: Elizabeth Bennion thanked outgoing president Christina Wolbrecht and the others serving the Caucus, past and present. She stated that the Caucus is a great place to network with colleagues and that she hopes to continue this tradition while soliciting ideas for the future.

VII. New Business

a. Solicit ideas for 2007 Caucus roundtables. Members suggested the following topics:

- women with and without families
- interdisciplinary work
- women conducting field research
- book publishing (dissertation to book)
- mixed methods
- what to expect as new faculty member
- women in administration
- issues of identity and intersectionality
- negotiating maternity policies, contracts, etc.
- job market advice, including how to respond to inappropriate comments
- fellowships and grant writing

The executive committee will narrow down this list and solicit volunteers.

b. Nominations for council president

- The Women's Caucus president is usually nominated for MPSA leadership, this year Christina has to decline.
- Do we need some type of process for endorsing other members?
- Motion passed for nominations committee to be appointed by President.
- Motion passed to endorse Virginia Sapiro for MPSA president.

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