

Fall 2021 Board Meeting
November 9, 2021 | Jung Hotel

Teresa Clark called the meeting to order at 1:13. She welcomed everyone and acknowledged that this is our first in-person gathering since March 2020.

Governance Reports

President's Report (Teresa Clark)

- The full president's report will be shared on Google Drive, but Teresa summarized the highlights:
 - Oxford Abstracts was acquired to manage the program and registration.
 - *Research in the Schools* proposal was accepted, and new editorship went into effect July 1.
 - More with Midsouth was implemented; first session led by Michael Mills in September.
 - Keynote speaker secured for general session and subsequent Q&A session.
 - Met with committees and directors throughout the year, including a special board meeting about the annual meeting.

Executive Director's Report (Randy Parker)

- Randy shared that this year's annual meeting will cost more than planned due to having to use third party caterers (more than double).
- The balance in the account is sufficient to pay bills for the conference.
- There are five institutional memberships and one exhibitor. Randy commended Kasia, Rebecca, and Kelly for their hard work.
- Oxford Abstracts cost more than OpenConf but saved Eventbrite fees.
- Shared the MSERF obligations for donations and that they are ready to donate to the organization if needed.
- Board dinner will be held at the Creole House restaurant at 6:30.
- Business center is not open but board members can utilize services via the front desk for MSERA-related needs.
- Teresa shared that last year's board members will be recognized at the general session lunch on Wednesday.

Budget Advisory Committee Report (Rebecca Robichaux-Davis)

- Rebecca shared the copy of the budget with the board.
- Rebecca suggested revisiting the plan for New Orleans going forward due to the high cost. Jane Nell Luster shared that this has been a problem in the past.
- Current and expected proceeds and expenses suggest that everything should be okay, but MSERF will make a donation if the account falls short.
- Eric asked about cost of the Jung, and Randy shared that the organization may want to revisit the food provided going forward for the different events (maybe as an add-on cost).
- A conversation took place about changing "new member" to "first time attendee" to minimize people registering at the wrong rate.

2021 Annual Meeting Reports

Program Co-Chair Report (Amanda Mayeaux & Landon Clark)

- Amanda joined as co-chair in the summer.
- Program Numbers:
 - 237 proposal submissions
 - 220 proposals accepted
 - 194 papers will be presented (including symposiums)
 - 23 papers dropped out of program due to COVID or travel issues
- Landon advocated for continuing to use Oxford Abstracts due to ease of use and registration being incorporated and ability to collect papers. Randy emphasized to the board that the program is a yearly subscription.
- Rebecca Robichaux-Davis asked for a PDF version of the program to also be sent with the link to the virtual program.
- Randy said that members, past presidents, etc. who did not submit a proposal did not receive communications that they are accustomed to receiving.
- Kelly Byrd emphasized that the program chair and university student advisory committee need to be in close communication about the RIP rubric.

Annual Meeting Overview & Distinguished Awards (Teresa Clark)

- Mathews and Bowman awards nominations were made and were approved and will be announced at the business meeting.
- 50th anniversary celebration will take place next year, but the special tracks are still part of this year's program.
- Teresa shared how the city's COVID guidelines will be enforced during the conference and some of the program highlights (keynote speaker, socials, etc.); board members are encouraged to attend all events.
- Adam will send list for board members to sign up for registration.

Local Arrangements (Kelly Byrd & Mindy Crain-Dorough)

- Shared that bags are stuffed and will be distributed with chips and other goodies at check-in.
- Thanked members for work in various capacities.

University Student Advisory Committee (Kelly Byrd, proxy for Lakesha Reese-Penn and Suzanne Franco)

- A form was sent after the registration deadline to students about their needs (16 respondents). One-third had attended MSERA in the past and ~25% were willing to share with other students how to get the most out of the conference.
- There was a conversation about making sure candidates for the position know the expectation and responsibilities.
- Door prizes will be given at the social and at the breakfast, and students will be able to write their research interests on a nametag.

- Clarification is needed about timelines for completing research after proposal submission but before the conference.
 - MSERF's position is you cannot have defended at time of submission.
 - The committee put forward that that language needs to be clear in next call for proposals.
- The rubric was revised so students aren't penalized for pieces of their proposal that weren't submitted.

MSERA Mentors (Larry Daniel)

- There are 51 mentors which is an increase from last year.
- Larry summarized criteria for mentorship.
- Larry and Kasia Gallo worked together to revamp the mentoring program by sending forms to potential mentors and proteges. Fourteen pairs were created; this will be brought up again in mentoring session where more pairs will be created.
- Committee requested the board vote to promote paired mentoring program; passed unanimously.
- Picture of all mentors/mentees will be taken at end of mentorship session on Wednesday.

Distinguished Papers Committee (Michael Mills)

- Award winners have been identified and will be announced at the business meeting.

Evaluation Committee (Sandra Lampley)

- Online survey was updated and will be used for individual sessions; paper copies will be distributed during the business meeting for the entire conference.
- Results will be shared in December so they can be considered at the spring board meeting.

Nominations Committee (Rachelle Miller)

- One nomination was received for every position except SDE/LEA representative.
- Ballots will be digital with paper ballots available if needed.

Technology Committee (Amanda Mayeaux)

- Projectors were provided from multiple members, and Amanda bought adaptors for general use.
- Amanda encouraged everyone to follow the Twitter account.
- Adam asked to change name of the Twitter account to MSERA instead of MSERA Tech.

2022 and Beyond Reports

2022 Annual Meeting & President Elect (Michael Mills)

- Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- The operations manual update deadline is being extended to end of November; Michael asked board members to send updates.
- Teresa is establishing an ad hoc committee to operationalize the operations manual that will continue into Michael's term.

50th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee (Rebecca Robichaux-Davis)

- The 50th will be held in Little Rock instead of NOLA per vote in the special board meeting.
- A summary of planned activities and goodies was given.
- Will work with next program chair to ensure same spots in the program are saved as was originally planned for this year's program.
- Time capsule can't be found; request made to members to look for pictures/videos of the burying to help find where it is buried.
- Request made to send pictures to Rebecca and Randy from any previous MSERA meetings.
- Request for 50 for 50 participation made to board members.

Future Site Committee (Minadene Waldrop)

- 2022 will be in Little Rock, 2023 in Pensacola, 2024 in Louisville, and 2025 back in New Orleans (but the hotel has not yet been confirmed).
- A location and site are needed for 2026. Minadene shared the form for members to "volunteer" a city for the meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Constitution & By-Laws Committee (Jane Nell Luster, proxy for Gail Hughes)

- A proposed change regarding the responsibilities of the secretary and the membership list was sent to the membership on July 13 in *The Researcher*

Development Committee (Franz Reneau & Dustin Hebert)

- Summarized activities from previous year.
- Discussed Qaspir and encouraged board to pursue/support this (and other similar) opportunities for corporate sponsorship.

Membership Committee (Raglena Salmens & Nykela Jackson)

- Showed the special t-shirt and shared its availability for purchase.
- Requested that people complete the "What Makes MSERA Special to You" Google Form or Flipgrid because there have been limited responses; QR codes will be distributed to attendees at registration as well.
- A standard MSERA shirt and/or polo will be developed as well.

Publications Committee (Stacy Fields)

- No report given.

Publications Reports

Researcher (Tina Allen)

- Three issues of *The Researcher* were sent out. The first two were electronic and the third was the printed program.

- Came in ~\$900 under budget.

***Research in the Schools* (Eric Oslund)**

- Working on website updates.
- The plan for the first issue is to solicit people comparing old research to new research to discuss what has changed over time. The next issue will be the paper winners.
- The editors are cleaning up process flow within the editorial team.

Website (Tina Allen, proxy for Dustin Hebert)

- Dustin has a new vision for the website.
- Rachelle asked to check website for references to sending checks to her and correct it.

Other Leadership Reports

Historian (Jane Nell Luster)

- The directories for the last ten years are now in cloud storage.
- Jane Nell will stay historian for another year; recommended board considers what criteria are required to be a historian. It was suggested that this is assigned to the operations manual ad hoc committee.

MSER Foundation (Ava Pugh)

- Summarized the history and board members of MSERF.
- Nine students were awarded RIPs last year.
- Jwa Kim had to step down, so representatives are needed from Tennessee and Florida.

LERA Liaison (Kathy Campbell)

- Details about the LERA annual meeting are still being determined.

SRERA Liaison (Randy Parker)

- Will reach out to last year's paper winner to determine if they want to go to AERA.

Archives (David Morse)

- No report given.

LDE/SDE Representative (Shannon Chiasson)

- No report given.
- Rachelle mentioned a nominee is needed for the position.

Director Reports

Alabama Director (Kelly Byrd)

- Focused on deans, associate deans, program coordinators, department heads, honors colleges, and directors of graduate studies when promoting the conference.
- Encouraged members to promote organization at their own university research symposiums.

Arkansas Director (Stefanie Sorbet)

- Cleaned up the Arkansas list but didn't get the response she was hoping for.
- Randy sent 2019 and 2020 members the call for proposals.
- Minadene proposed sending flyers to contacts and asking them to put them in their buildings.

Florida Director (Sherry Shaw)

- Sherry seconded Stefanie's difficulties.
- There was a conversation about disappointment with follow-up in getting people to participate.

Kentucky Director (Melissa Chapman)

- Echoed concerns of other state directors.
- Planning on focusing on soliciting student participation.

Louisiana Director (Amanda Mayeaux)

- Utilized LERA resources.

Mississippi Director (Kasia Gallo)

- Contacted schools that did not attend previous meeting, but saw same issues as other directors.
- Sherry proposed state directors touch base throughout the year to hear what others are doing.
- Conversation about orientation took place. It was suggested that Michael implement something for the spring board meeting.

Tennessee Director (Eric Oslund)

- Suggested sending something from an official account instead of personal accounts. He saw this from another ERA and thought it was a good idea.

At Large Directors (Tina Allen, Sandra Lampley, Charles Notar, & Minadene Waldrop)

- Met and coordinated efforts for emailing different years per Teresa's charge.
- Minadene proposed establishing an international student director position. Franz expressed his perspective as a former international student.
 - Rebecca mentioned that institutional memberships could be encouraged to designate one student membership to an international student.
 - On a motion from Charles Notar and a second by Amanda Mayeaux, a discussion ensued about establishing a task force to explore options for a committee.
 - Adam proposed to adding this to the responsibilities of the Student Advisory Committee.
 - Franz and Michael supported this suggestion since "the mechanism is there."
 - Charles withdrew his motion.
 - Michael will work with the Student Advisory Committee to operationalize this and with the ad hoc committee to update the operations manual.

- Jane Nell asked about the international student demand.

On a motion by Charles Notar and a second by Michael Mills, the meeting was adjourned at 4:51.