

AMERICAN FORENSIC ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING NOTES

November 17, 2020 (Online)

Notes taken by Kelly Young

20+ members present.

Call to Order

Motion to approve agenda

Any additions or revisions? None.

Motion to approve. First and second. Approved.

Minutes from last year:

Any discussion or revision? None.

Motion to accept the minutes? First and Seconded. Approved.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Officers for this year:

Kelly Young, Wayne State, President

Eric Morris, Missouri State, remains Exec Secretary

Jarrold Atchison, Wake Forest, Vice President

Shannon Labove, Rice University, Recording Secretary

M'Liss Hindman, Tyler Jr College, Two-year college representative

John Katsulas, Boston College, is Treasurer

Jonah Feldman of the Bay Area UDL is High School representative

Leadership transition:

Not smooth, covid and Kelly admitted fault. We sent out communication on the business meeting, but people reported today that they didn't get the info and the NCA conference site was horrible about displaying this information. So there is a lot that will need to be done after tonight's meeting. Kelly apologized for the issues.

Website Updates:

We are behind – been quite a year. Kelly started on revisions today and will work on this throughout this week to get necessary but small changes made and then try to get more updated. Kelly also started a Facebook and Twitter account for AFA. We are looking for any news to post.

Debate Watch:

Several schools participate – weird year for them, but value is in the dialogue they promote, not necessarily quality of debates. I sent letters to hosts who requested such letters.

Committee membership: Kelly is looking for volunteers for standing committees – several openings.

OFFICER REPORTS:

VP Report – Kelly Young

9 slots overall – moving to remote screwed up planning – we could have had more programming had I known. Had 8 submissions, 6 accepted for a total of 5 panels (one acceptance was a paper added to a panel), 2 rejected. 4 meetings schedule.

Executive Secretary – Eric. No newsletter now, but more frequent communication sent to members. Sent 8 updates over 2020.

Treasure – John. (See financial report offered by financial committee)

NST – Nance Riffe (See AFA-NST Report)

NDT – Adrienne Brovero (See AFA-NDT Report)

NPDA – David Worth – they were able to host a national tournament.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Finance – Dale or John (See Financial Committee Report)

Professional Development – as reported by Kelly Young

- **DSR-TKA Lifetime Achievement Award – Larry Schnoor of Minnesota State University, Mankato – pillar of competitive forensics community, long serving officer in this organization and NST. Congrats!**
- **Distinguished Service Award – need to nominate and award in 2021.**
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- Assessment subcommittee – Brian Lain. Robin Rowland, DCH, Paul Mabry, Richard Paine (North Central), need more NST members: Brian, would you mind chairing this subcommittee to at least get organized and moving forward. I can give you more NST member names.
- Debate/speech development conference at Minnesota – David Cram Helwich will host at National Debate Development Conference. AFA is interested in co-sponsoring.

Educational development and practices – Wayne Fish?

Research Committee – Ben Voth (no report at time of meeting).

2020 Daniel Roher Award – Martin Camper & Zach Fechter (2019). “Enthymematic free space: the efficacy of anti-stop- and-frisk arguments in the face of racial prejudice.” *Argumentation and Advocacy*, 55 (4), 2019: 259-281.

Publication Committee – Varda (none)

From Dr. Beth Innocenti, Editor of *Argumentation and Advocacy*

1. I am delighted to share that *Argumentation and Advocacy* has been accepted for inclusion in Scopus (Elsevier’s abstract and citation database), and we have an application in for inclusion in Web of Science (publisher-independent global citation database; response time can take up to 18 months). For colleagues whose institutions count only publications indexed by Web of Science or Scopus, this is particularly good news. It is good news for all of us as I believe it will encourage more submissions overall and more international submissions of manuscripts to the journal, and increase the journal’s reach and visibility.

2. Below are some numbers that are accurate or close to accurate on manuscripts submitted in 2020. Some submissions may not be reflected in these numbers because they were under review during the transition to a new editor. These numbers do not include “desk rejections” due to lack of fit for the journal. The numbers also do not include the first issue in 2020 because it was already filled by Katie Langford (previous editor).

- 33 manuscripts submitted so far this year
- 8 accepted
- 13 rejected
- 12 under revision by author or under review

3. Please consider submitting your research for the special issue of *Argumentation and Advocacy* edited by Mitchell McKinney and devoted to political campaign debates during the 2020 election cycle. The deadline is January 15, 2021. Questions regarding the special issue may be directed to Mitchell S. McKinney, University of Missouri, at McKinneyM@missouri.edu.

4. Many, many thanks to colleagues who have reviewed manuscripts for the journal.

5. Please consider submitting your argumentation studies research to the journal, and reach out if you would like to talk about submitting your work (bimanole@ku.edu).

Nomination Committee: Brian Lain (none)

New Business:

NDT BoT reform

Discussion: Ed Panetta and Karla Leeper (See NDT BoT amendments document)

Vote exceeds 2/3rds of present members and PASSES.

Alumni Podcasts- Karla

Discussion: Karla Leeper.

Shannon – tournament hosting insurance? Shannon discussed need for event insurance. To be considered.

Good of the order? Any additional business from the membership? None.