

ASC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Friday, April 27, 2007
Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel

MINUTES

Attending: Robert Agnew, Tom Blomberg, Bob Bursik, Todd Clear, Chris Eskridge, Denise Gottfredson, Jeannette Hussemann, Candace Kruttschnitt, Janet Lauritsen, Gary LaFree, Alan Lizotte, Doris Mackenzie, Ross Macmillan, Steve Messner, Alex Piquero, Michael Tonry, Chris Uggen, Pat Van Voorhis, David Weisburd, John Wright.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm

1. Executive Director's Report (Chris Eskridge)

Chris Eskridge updated the Board on developments in the Columbus office, the Society's website, changes to ASC investments, and new U.S. Postal regulations and requirements. To protect the Society's investment portfolio, funds have been transferred to a more conservative allocation of mutual funds. The Divisions are currently in good financial condition, although the Division of Critical Criminology is still working to reduce its current deficit of \$4,400. The Board discussed the high costs of LCD audio/video equipment for the Los Angeles meetings, but noted that costs are expected to be significantly lower in Atlanta and other meeting sites. Chris Eskridge requested funds to help produce oral histories of the Society. A motion to authorize \$2000 for this project was approved by unanimous vote of the Board. Interviews with Freda Adler and Gil Geis will be conducted, with a plan to transcribe them and put them on the ASC website. The Board suggested further consultation with John Laub on this endeavor, as he has produced fine oral history work on the history of criminology.

2. Treasurer's Report (John Wright)

The Society is in very good financial condition, in terms of both balances and cash flow. Costs associated with the Los Angeles meeting were lower than anticipated, with losses partially offset by a rebate from the hotels. Treasurer John Wright reviewed the budget line-by-line with Chris Eskridge and concurred that the Society is on solid financial footing.

3. ASC Committee Reports

a) Award Committees

1. Sellin-Glueck (Gerben Bruinsma, chair)

The committee's nomination of Susanne Karstedt was approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

2. Herbert Bloch (Dick Bennett, chair)

The committee's nomination of Todd Clear was approved by unanimous vote of the Board. The Board praised the detailed report by Committee chair Dick Bennett.

3. August Vollmer (Barry Krisberg, chair)

The committee's nomination of Richard Catalano was approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

4. Edwin Sutherland (Jeff Fagan, chair)

The committee's nomination of Frank Zimring was approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

5. Ruth Shonle Cavan (Cassia Spohn, chair)

The committee's nomination of Aaron Kupchik was approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

6. Fellows (Jim Jacobs, chair)

The committee's recommendations of Denise Gottfredson, David Garland, David Finkelhor, and Doris Mackenzie were approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

7. Michael Hindelang (Barry Feld, chair) (*final due 9/1*)

The committee's work is in progress. A final report will be submitted to the Board by September 1, 2007.

8. Outstanding Paper (Chris Uggen, chair) (*final due 8/15*)

The committee's work is in progress. A final report will be submitted to the Board by August 15, 2007.

9. Presidential Award (Michael Tonry)

The Board discussed the Presidential Award and potential nominees for 2007.

b) Constitution & By-Laws Committee (Gary LaFree and Michael Tonry)

To address inconsistencies in the Society's governing documents, Michael Tonry proposed augmenting the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. He asked that the augmented committee be charged with undertaking a thorough rationalization of the ASC's Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures Manual. By unanimous vote, the Board approved funding of up to \$10,000 to begin implementing the following six-point proposal:

(1) That the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, with augmented membership, be asked to undertake a comprehensive revision, reorganization, and rationalization of the ASC's Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures Manual;

(2) That the terms of the committee's current members be extended

through November 2008;

(3) That additional members to that committee proposed by President-Elect Bob Bursik be appointed effective April 2007 for 18-month terms;

(4) That any of Bob Bursik and his three immediate presidential predecessors (Horney, LaFree, Tonry) who are willing to serve be appointed as additional committee members through November 2008;

(5) That the committee be asked to submit progress reports including a detailed work plan and any proposed drafts to the board at the November 2007 board meeting, proposed drafts at the April 2008 board meeting, and a final report with final proposed drafts at the November 2008 meeting;

(6) That the committee be given a budget up to \$10,000 to support one face-to-face conference prior to the November 2007 Annual Meeting and another face-to-face conference between that meeting and the November 2008 Annual Meeting.

c) Futures Committee (Michael Tonry)

Michael Tonry reported on the activities of the Ad Hoc Futures Committee during his tenure as president. In light of the significant progress already made, he proposed that this Futures Committee be dissolved and its budget returned to the Society. The Board concurred by unanimous vote and left further reconsideration of the Society's mission and functions, its staff organization, and its headquarters to future presidents and Boards.

d) Membership Committee (*no report*)

e) Minority Affairs (*final due 8/15 – no report*)

f) Minority Scholar (*final due 8/15 – no report*)

g) Nominations Committee (*final due 10/1 – no report*)

h) Publications Committee (Doris Mackenzie and Steve Messner)

1. Committee report (Doris Mackenzie) – The Board charged the committee to continue reviewing the budget, layout, and printing of *The Criminologist*. The Committee is expected to provide a final report to the Board in November.

2. *Criminology* Editor Search Committee report (Steve Messner). The committee received two strong proposals, each emphasizing quality, diversity, working closely with authors, and mentoring junior scholars. The deciding factors that led the committee to recommend the Maryland proposal were its quality and detail, as well as the accomplishments during Denise Gottfredson's tenure as editor. The Board approved the committee's recommendation to continue *Criminology* at Maryland by unanimous vote.

i) Liasons to Related Societies

1. COSSA (LaFree resolution) – Gary LaFree and Jim Lynch are the two ASC representatives to COSSA. Gary LaFree described efforts to charge COSSA with speaking on behalf of the NCVS and the UCR programs, proposing the following resolution:

Resolved, the American Society of Criminology recommends that the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) actively advocate for the continued support and funding of the two preeminent statistical databases on crime: the Uniform Crime Report and the National Crime Victimization Survey.

Although the Society is limited in its capacity to lobby by virtue of its non-profit status, it may take an official position on the integrity and quality of data on crime and punishment. To better understand the limits of the Society's activities, the Board unanimously approved \$5,000 for the President to examine the scope of the Society's authority and its latitude in education and advocacy on behalf of the scientific study of crime and justice. Questions to be considered include: (1) advocacy on behalf of data integrity; (2) funding for research on crime and justice; and, (3) human subjects and internal review boards. The Board unanimously approved a motion to issue the following statement:

The Executive Board of the ASC recommends that COSSA advocate for adequate funding for the Uniform Crime Reports and the National Crime Victimization Survey programs.

2. AAAS – Karen Heimer will complete her term as AAAS representative in November 2008. It is the Board's understanding and hope that she will also plan the 2009 AAAS sessions and that the succeeding AAAS liaison will coordinate activities with her to ensure a smooth transition.

j) Student Affairs Committee (*no report received*)

k) Student Awards Committee (*final due 8/15, no report received*)

4. *CRIMINOLOGY* Report (Denise Gottfredson)

Editor Denise Gottfredson reported that submissions have increased to a rate of approximately 20 manuscripts per month. She noted changes to the editorial board, adding Charles Wellford and P.O. Wikstrom as Associate Editors, as well as 13 new editorial board members. Changes to *Criminology's* web-based submission system and a new reviewer database were also discussed by the Board.

5. *CRIMINOLOGY & PUBLIC POLICY* Report (Tom Blomberg)

Co-editor Tom Blomberg noted that Florida State began accepting manuscripts in January. The first issue under the new editorship will be Volume 7, Issue 1 (February 2008). He outlined plans to increase submissions to the journal, to rename the current “reaction essays” as “policy essays,” and to move toward an electronic submission model. The Board discussed the reaction essay format and the existing policy regarding revisions, and methods to increase the prestige and importance of the journal. Outgoing editor Todd Clear noted that his final issue will include thirty 2500-word essays on criminology and public policy.

6. ASC Division Reports

a) Corrections and Sentencing (*no report*)

b) Critical Criminology (*no report*)

c) International Criminology (*report received*)

The Board revisited the issue of the Society’s involvement in the United Nations. There is currently no mechanism within the U.N. Economic and Social Council’s protocols for an NGO such as the ASC to withdraw once it has been granted Consultative Status. If the Society wishes to withdraw, however, we should not submit the appropriate renewal paperwork in June 2010. The Board designated Ineke Marshall as our Coordinator of ASC - United Nations Activities with a term expiring in November 2008, and Edith Linn as our Alliance Representative, with a term also expiring in November 2008. The Board agreed to rest on the decisions already made and to ask Ineke Marshall to investigate how peer organizations, such as the American Bar Association and the American Psychological Association, manage their relationship with the United Nations. This would leave the door open for a proposal that carves out an appropriate scientific role for the Society.

d) People of Color and Crime (*report received*)

e) Women and Crime (*no report*)

7. Committee Appointments (Bob Bursik)

a) 2008 Program Committee – President-elect Bob Bursik described his efforts to maximize the diversity of the program committee across areas, programs, and types of scholarship. A motion to approve the slate of appointments was approved by unanimous vote of the Board. Bob noted that one of St. Louis’ great strengths is its musical heritage, so the program committee will work to bring local music to our events.

b) 2008 Standing Committees – In making appointments, Bob attempted to gain representation from each of the divisions and to preserve some institutional memory by retaining the chair from the previous year. The Board discussed having an odd number of persons for each voting committee. A motion to approve the slate so that Bob can contact the individuals and invite them to serve was passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

c) 2007 Membership Committee – Michael Tonry noted that he appointed a membership committee for the coming year.

8. Atlanta Site Visit and Program Committee Progress Report

Ross Macmillan and Candace Kruttschnitt thanked Alex Piquero and Doris Mackenzie for their support and assistance in planning the Atlanta meetings. The program committee is comprised of 126 individuals with 26 program chairs, with an internationally diverse representation of the Society's membership. The online submission site was open until March 17, with 1,670 papers and roundtables scheduled. Paper submissions are now closed, but roundtables and posters may still be submitted until mid-June.

Parts of the Marriott Hotel remain under construction, but much of this work will be completed by July 1, 2007. Two tiers of meeting rooms are currently unavailable, but they will be finished by our November meetings. The Marquis ballrooms, however, will not be available for our use.

The local program committees offered ideas for food, tours, and other activities that will help to give these meetings a local flavor. We begin early sessions at 9 am rather than 8 am each day, with plenary sessions starting at 1 pm and no competing sessions during this time. There will be no Saturday brunch this year. Michael Tonry thanked Ross Macmillan, Candace Kruttschnitt, and Jeanette Huessemann for their work in putting these meetings together.

9. St. Louis Site Visit Report (Bob Bursik and Chris Eskridge)

Chris Eskridge reported on the visit to the St. Louis Adams Mark Hotel in February, with the Hilton serving as overflow hotel directly across the street. The meeting website will be important in directing people to shops and restaurants, and a map will also be provided in the program.

Future meetings are scheduled for Philadelphia in 2009, San Francisco in 2010, Washington, DC in 2011, Chicago in 2012, Atlanta in 2013, and San Francisco in 2014.

10. Ad Hoc Teaching Award Committee report

The Board discussed the proposal by Bonnie Berry, particularly the creation of a new ASC award for teaching. Mentorship, peer observations, syllabi, statements of

philosophy, course evaluations, and teaching outside the university were discussed as potential criteria and application materials. The Board noted that a large proportion of our membership is employed at places where undergraduate education is the primary focus. Although separate awards for graduate and undergraduate education were considered, the committee thought it best to begin with a single award. The Board encouraged the committee to come forward with a formal proposal that would specify eligibility, criteria, and standards. Part of the proposal would be to establish a teaching committee, which is currently operating as an ad-hoc committee. A motion to continue the current ad hoc committee for the next year was approved by unanimous vote.

The Committee is also gathering syllabi collections for possible use on the Society's website. The Board offered its encouragement to this effort as well. A teaching tips column was discussed for *The Criminologist*, and Bonnie Berry would be invited to publish a report of her activities in *The Criminologist*.

11. Annual Meeting Training Sessions

The didactic workshops for the 2007 meetings were discussed. Dan Nagin is organizing one workshop on geographic information systems mapping and one on propensity score matching. The Board discussed the need for long-range planning to develop continuity in these offerings and to facilitate building both basic and advanced methodological skills. The appropriate fees for these sessions were discussed, with the goal of operating them at cost. Dan Nagin and Jodi O'Brien were suggested as appropriate committee members and David Weisburd of the Board volunteered to serve as well.

12. New Business

David Weisburd discussed issues regarding the selectivity of papers, the problem of no-shows at sessions, the increasing number of sessions, and their effect on the prestige of our Society. He suggested that greater selectivity would help students to attain funding for travel. The Board discussed how panel chairs and the program committee might take a more active role in selecting papers and ways in which poster sessions and roundtables may offer a partial solution to the structural issue of rising numbers of presenters. The Board then considered its role in educating the membership about norms regarding presentations at a professional meeting. Michael Tonry suggested soliciting reports from all panel chairs that would report on attendance and no-shows. Janet Lauritsen suggested preparing a piece on norms and expectations for the annual meetings in *The Criminologist*.

13. Future Meetings of the ASC Board

- a) Tuesday, November 13, 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm; Atlanta
- b) Saturday, November 17, 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm; Atlanta
- c) Friday and Saturday, April 25-26, 2008; St. Louis