



PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Minutes of the February 24, 2015 Board Meeting Hillman Library - Room 207

Executive Board Present: Leslie Eibl, President; Carrie Wardzinski, President-Elect; Margarete Bower, Past President; Ryan Splenda, Secretary; Sharon Palchak, Director

Committee Members Present: Lynn Berard, Partner & Community Relations; Rachel Callison, Communications; Chris Heil, Member Relations; Margarete Bower, Member Relations; Carrie Wardzinski, Program & Events

I. CALL TO ORDER

Leslie Eibl brought the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Group members all know each other so introductions were not necessary.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was emailed February 23, 2014 and distributed at the meeting. It was approved without changes.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the October 21, 2014 Board Meeting at the Katz Graduate School of Business were approved.

V. OFFICER REPORTS

President: (Leslie Eibl) Discussed three main priorities and is sending the 2015 Strategic Plan to Rachel for posting on the Pittsburgh Chapter website:

1. Social Media: enhancing the use of various social media platforms within the chapter, especially LinkedIn. There was discussion about using LinkedIn for group entities as well (ex. SLA).
2. Explore and promote current and new areas of programming: There was discussion of hosting mini conferences that could be sponsored by vendors. Carrie mentioned Dow Jones and Factiva wanting to sponsor our chapter.
3. Mentoring opportunities: Discussion about asking/inviting students to shadow board members so they can learn what it is we do and use it as a resume builder.

Leslie shared the following information from SLA Leadership Summit:

- SLA hired change consultants to look at SLA structure and come up with recommendations for improving the organization. There was also discussion about the difficulties SLA is facing financially. The 2014 Financial Report concluded that the deficit has reached \$1.06 million. SLA has refurbished HQ, but has not sold it yet. Registration for the Annual Conference in Boston is going very well. Worldwide membership of SLA now stands between 7,500-8,000 people. The Pittsburgh Chapter's annual reporting was on time and the listserv gave good marks for our chapter.

ACTION ITEMS:

(1) **Vision & Mission Vote**: Leslie moved to reaffirm the Vision & Mission Statements and Strategies. All approved.

(2) **Social Media Presence**: Leslie and Sharon have agreed to examine how other chapters use various forms of social media (LinkedIn and maybe Twitter) to engage their members.

(3) **Mentoring article for *The Confluence***: Leslie will be writing an article for the next issue of *The Confluence* about mentoring and opportunities for any members interested in shadowing a chapter board member or committee chair.

(4) **2015 Strategic Plan**: Leslie will be sending the 2015 Strategic Plan to Rachel for posting to the website.

President-Elect: (Carrie Wardzinski) Carrie has made a list of programs for 2015. The first event is scheduled for March 16, 2015 as a tour of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary's Library, Museum, and Archives. Carrie is also making connections with ALA President, Courtney Young, in the hopes of having her come to speak with our Chapter. There was discussion of ramping up our marketing efforts in the hopes of getting more people to join our Chapter. Our Chapter needs talking points as to why SLA is worth joining (Lynn mentioned that we offer fellowship and networking opportunities).

ACTION ITEMS:

(1) **iSchool at Pitt August Orientation** - Leslie is contacting Wes Lipschultz about our chapter's presence at the iSchool's main orientation for new students in August.

(2) **ALA President and Dow Jones** - Carrie is in the middle of talks with Courtney Young (ALA President) about coming to Pittsburgh and meeting with our chapter. She is also talking to a representative of Dow Jones with regards to their sponsoring something for our chapter. These are both pending.

Past President: (Margarete Bower) Margarete mentioned that we should take a look at the Procedures Manual because dates for creating elections were changed.

Treasurer: (Jennie Crowley – Leslie reported for Jennie) Budget reported as follows: from 12-3-14 Total fund: \$10,306.09 (Pooled: \$6,688.64 + Checking: \$3,617.45) **NOTE:** \$3,000 was transferred from Pooled funds to Checking Account on 12-3-14.

Secretary: (Ryan Splenda) No report.

VI. COMMITTEE TEAM REPORTS

Member Relations Team

Awards: (Chris Heil) Carrie Wardzinski was nominated and received the Chapter Leadership Award, which Eve Wider presented to Carrie at the Annual Business Meeting on 12-3-14. Award Committee organized the Annual Business Meeting at the Mellon Institute Library. 18 of the 21 people who RSVPs attended and the total cost was \$445.81. The Board subsidized the cost of the dinner by \$150 to keep member price at \$20 per person. Carrie Wardzinski also received the 2015 Promising Professional Award and will receive a stipend of \$1,000 to defray the costs of attending the SLA Annual Conference in June.

Employment: (Carrie Wardzinski) No report. People are sending job announcements to Carrie.

Membership Data: (Amy Watson) No report.

Communications Team

Archives: (Donna Beck) No report.

Confluence: (OPEN Leslie Eibl reporting) Leslie contacted someone to be a possible editor – haven't heard back. Leslie will assume this responsibility if the person she contacted does not accept. Do other chapters use blogs now instead of what we do?

Discussion List: (Amy Watson) No report.

Web Manager: (Rachel Callison) Rachel doesn't yet know if a new theme or platform has been chosen yet for the website. There were some bandwidth issues going on and Rachel installed Wordfence software to deal with this problem. For some reason we were reaching our quota.

Partner & Community Relations Team

Mentoring, Networking & Consultations: (Lynn Berard & Denise Callahan) Lynn & Denise owe the Student Chapter (SLAPSG) a speech on job interview preparation and interview skills.

Student Groups: (Alice Doolittle) No report.

Program & Events Team

Program & Events: (Carrie Wardzinski) No report.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Tom Nielsen of SierraLearn reached out to our chapter and asked if we would co-sponsor a series of webinars that he would perform. The cost for co-sponsorship is \$150 and the deadline to get back to him is March 3, 2015. Many questions were asked during this discussion including: what is their business model? Is this a scheme? Etc.

ACTION ITEMS:

(1) Tom Nielsen Webinars via SierraLearn - Leslie is asking Tom additional questions about our sponsoring these webinars (their cost, what does our chapter get out of it, etc.). As of now, discussions are ongoing as to whether we will do this or not, as well as Carrie sending a survey to gauge interest level.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Rachel Callison moved to adjourn at 9:04 PM and Carrie Wardzinski seconded.