

## **Interpretation & Performance Studies Interest Group – Eastern Communication Association**

**Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting Philadelphia, PA - Thursday April 23, 2015**

**I. Meeting called to order by Christi Saindon at 3:35**

### **II. Old Business**

A. Approval of 2014 minutes with corrections:

1. Christi Saindon moved to have a brief discussion of the 2014 minutes and send out for a finalized vote by the membership. Deanna Shoemaker seconded the motion. Jennifer Shamrock would send the minutes to the membership for the vote.
2. Various possibilities for amendments to Item III F were discussed. Mary Milno suggested that names be removed, and that the language read: “There was a misinterpretation of procedure and after a lengthy discussion of both leadership and procedure, the two nominated 2015 co-planners removed their names from consideration for the position to resolve the issue.”  
Deanna Shoemaker concurred with this idea to remove names.
3. There was some general discussion of the wording and process, with Heidi Rose then moving to accept the amendment to item III F as dictated by Christi Saindon (in place of sending them out for a vote). Jennifer Shamrock seconded the motion.
4. The amendment passed with a vote of (8) yeas and (1) abstention.
5. Heidi Rose moved to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Christi Saindon. The minutes were approved as amended.

B. Report on Programming –

1. IPS had 4 panels for the 2015 conference
2. Mostly panel submissions with 2 paper submissions; our programming included a roundtable, performance showcase, documentary, and paper panel.
3. There was some discussion of whether more panels would be possible, and Jennifer Shamrock shared that we had no space for the papers, though she tried to get them accepted as a fifth panel
4. Discussion of regret that we couldn't create an opportunity for a workshop with Lisa Jo Epstein in Philadelphia. It was suggested that perhaps in Baltimore we could try to engage in an informal activity as an interest group.

C. Christi Saindon was the representative for the Executive Council.

1. The 107<sup>th</sup> Convention (ECA 2016) will be held in Baltimore, MD with earlier dates: March 30 – April 3. The hotel is the Hyatt Regency. There had been no decision on 2017 as of our meeting time; there was a leaning toward Boston, but also discussion of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington DC; this was likely to be voted on Sunday.

2. The program planner has told us that program slots are now being granted according to the ECA by-laws and a formula based on IG membership. We will only have 2 slots next year; one of which will be our business meeting. This led to discussion. Deanna wondered if we are being encouraged to partner with other divisions? Lisa added that, to her knowledge, it's a way for them to work within the by-laws, but it is likely that other groups who have many slots (i.e., Organizational Communication) may not fill theirs. Christi explained that we have 35 members, so the calculation is that we need 2 slots. It was suggested that perhaps we do another program slot instead of the business meeting and move the meeting. Dre suggested that, to make sure the membership increases, check the IG box when registering and come to the business meeting. Christi suggested that if we had just a few more members we might have a few more slots.
3. Christi also mentioned the mobile app; if anyone has problems to let the leadership know; it will be used next year and into the future
4. Exec council also voted on Executive Director. 2 people were nominated; one did not follow procedure, so Cheryl A. Casey (Champlain College) was elected to replace Ron Arnett.

D. There was continued discussion of only having 2 program slots and concerns about the division being cut. Dre stated that, in her experience as planner, if we have an Executive Director who is supportive of the IG it makes a difference. Last year we had 8 panels, some with other interest groups, but negotiating with the Executive Director may help us to get more for 2016. We discussed strategies for increasing the membership, including registration (there was some discussion of encouraging students to check the box when registering). Heidi wondered if we would be more successful if we change the name of the IG to Performance Studies? Deanna echoed that the field has already had the conversation; it's a good suggestion to consider. Christina Beck suggested that perhaps flipping the name (to Performance Studies and Interpretation) might help, and to reach out to other IG to partner for next year. Lisa suggested some possibilities, including Media Communication, Rhetoric & Public Address, Voices of Diversity, Instructional and Interpersonal Communication, Organizational Communication, and Applied Communication. We agreed that Media Communication, Voices of Diversity, Rhetoric, and maybe Political Communication were the most natural fit.

#### E. Elections –

1. Discussion of NCA Legislative assembly, ECA representative: We could put forth a name to Cem to nominate someone to represent ECA (from our group).
2. Christi will serve again as Executive Council Representative for 2017.
3. Discussion of program planner election: Lisa Weckerle offered to serve as planner for two years. Discussion: some argued that it might be good to have fresh eyes, while others suggested that perhaps having some consistency would be good, especially given that we're working to rebuild our organizational history. After discussion, Christi nominated Lisa Weckerle to serve a second term as program planner; Heidi seconded the nomination. Lisa Weckerle was voted unanimously and stated that she will work hard to build us back up to more strength.

4. Discussion of 2017 secretary position; it was suggested that Shauna MacDonald remain as secretary for 2017 year, serving a 2 year term. Dre pointed out that we would need to check the by-laws before making such a decision. Christi will investigate and suggested we table the discussion of secretary being a 2-year position.

### **III. New Business**

A. We discussed possibilities for next year's conference. Christi shared that the theme is: [R]evolution:

“The convention theme [R]evolution asks convention goers to consider the state of our field and the direction for the future and the best path(s) to take. The theme is both a reflection on ECA and also the history of the Baltimore area that has seen many sets of revolutions and evolutions during its statehood.” Deanna suggested the name change might fit with this theme, and wondered if we should try to have high density panels?

B. Lisa wondered if we could change our business meeting, and Deanna echoed that if we did, we might get more attendance. Lisa suggested that we change the format and perhaps make it more social. Jenn asked if we can decide to not use the slot for the meeting? Christi suggested the planner can just make the decision. Lisa suggested we should make sure such a change wouldn't hurt us in the long run. Dre suggested we might have to work this out with the director—perhaps have some sort of evening or later panel, perhaps high density or performance, or performance + open mic, which would encourage people from other divisions to attend, since the timeslot won't conflict with their programming. Christi suggested that Jason Wrench had talked about co-sponsorship and was willing to talk about possible sponsorship for evening events, etc.

C. Specific discussion of panel ideas –

1. Christi asked if it is the hope that we'll continue to bring students? Deanna stated it would be nice to have one student panel, one scholarship – and if we must partner, to make it interdisciplinary. Heidi agreed. Shauna suggested that we have at least one panel that is primarily scholarship with grad students and faculty. Deanna added, maybe we keep things short in a student and faculty panel of scholarship to make it high density (short versions of papers). Heidi suggested we target our current students or Fall, in time for the submission deadline.
2. The deadline for submissions will be early October, with reviews due by November 15.
3. Christi suggested some creative possibilities, something like what we've done at NCA. Heidi explained that this was a year the PS Division had performances in the bathroom, flash mobs, vignettes in the hallway, etc. Heidi had requested permission to do this. Christie (First VP, NCA) liked the idea.

D. Christina Beck (First Vice President, NCA) was at our meeting to share information about NCA 2015.

1. She is organizing the first ever NCA film festival on Thursday and Saturday of NCA. The definition of “film” will be broad, and there is a May 15 deadline for film submissions. She asked that we encourage folks to submit and attend, and explained that they will be open to digital work, filmed performance pieces, etc. Her goal is to emphasize that this is scholarship, so members of the NCA Research Board and individuals from Theatre, New Media & Film Division are serving as reviewers.
2. There will also be an opening session that features other ways of sharing our scholarship, a discussion of P&T documents and taking our work and sharing it beyond the Ivory Tower, on Thursday afternoon.
3. Finally, she is planning to use her President Initiative funds for “enhancing opportunities” with a focus on a project supporting anti-bullying initiatives.

E. Dre reminded us that we do have a Facebook page & Twitter account, and this could be a way to remind folks about events.

F. Christi clarified that we’re tabling the name change discussion and will make the adjustment as soon as we possibly can.

**IV:** Lisa moved to adjourn; Christi seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:48pm.

In attendance: (y = will be a reviewer)

Shauna MacDonald (y)	Villanova U.	<a href="mailto:shauna.macdonald@villanova.edu">shauna.macdonald@villanova.edu</a>
Heidi Rose (y)	Villanova U.	<a href="mailto:Heidi.Rose@villanova.edu">Heidi.Rose@villanova.edu</a>
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Christi Saindon (y)	James Madison U.	<a href="mailto:christisaindon@jmu.edu">christisaindon@jmu.edu</a>
Jennifer Shamrock (y)	Monmouth U.	<a href="mailto:jshamroc@monmouth.edu">jshamroc@monmouth.edu</a>
Deanna Shoemaker (y)	Monmouth U.	<a href="mailto:dshoemak@monmouth.edu">dshoemak@monmouth.edu</a>
Christie Beck	Ohio U.	<a href="mailto:beck@ohio.edu">beck@ohio.edu</a>
Andrée (Dre) Betancourt (y)	Northern Virginia CC	<a href="mailto:DreBetancourt@gmail.com">DreBetancourt@gmail.com</a>
Mary Mino (y)	PSU DuBois	<a href="mailto:obc@psu.edu">obc@psu.edu</a>

**Respectfully Submitted by Shauna MacDonald, Villanova University – Villanova, PA**

**For the April 23 meeting, 2015**

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