LASG Business Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 3/31, 7:10-7:40 pm

Hilton, San Francisco

LASG Officers in Attendance:

Claudia Radel, Chair

John Finn, Vice Chair

Ben Tillman, Secretary-Treasurer

1. Chair’s Report (Radel)
	1. Minutes from the 2015 Chicago meeting were approved by the floor.
	2. Radel stated that to save time for the officer elections announcements from the AAG chairs meeting would be emailed to the group.
	3. Updates re LASG at AAG 2016
		1. Official events
			1. LASG/CLAG party announced (held after the business meeting)
		2. There were 20 LASG sponsored sessions in San Francisco. LASG chair proposed that the specialty group consider being more proactive in sponsoring sessions next year (i.e. soliciting sponsored sessions and planning some directly ourselves)
2. Graduate Student Officers’ Report (Rudow).
	1. Graduate student officers thanked the graduate student members for their suggestions on AAG sessions benefitting graduate students and asked for continued feedback.
3. LASG Officer Elections
	1. Nominations were received in advance and there were nominations from the floor, followed by discussion and elections.
	2. Elections: Johnny Finn (Christopher Newport University) was elected as Chair, Federica Bono (University of Leuven) as Vice-Chair, and Denielle Perry as Secretary/Treasurer (University of Oregon).
4. Vice-Chair’s Report on Student Awards (Finn)
	1. Johnny Finn thanked award committees. There were 19 proposals for the field study award this year, an increase due to the increased amount of the award.
	2. 2016 Award Winners
		1. Field Study Awards
			1. Phd award: Laura Sauls ($1,000) and MA award: Ramzi Tubbeh ($500).
		2. Paper Awards
			1. Phd award: Nathan Millington ($200); co-author award: Laura Sauls ($100). There were no submissions for the MA/MS paper award.
	3. Discussion of recent changes to LASG awards structures (increase in field award amounts, decrease in paper award amounts, linking to JLAG)
		1. The winning paper will now be optionally submitted to JLAG for publication review (not a guarantee of acceptance for publication)
		2. Revisiting the multi-authored paper award category (three total submissions across two years):
			1. Finn reviewed award submissions for this year and the previous year and recommended future elimination of the multi-authored paper award due lack of submissions and lack of funds. LASG membership voted to continue the award one more year to collect a third year of data and to revisit the issue at the next business meeting.
		3. Finn discussed the viability of MA/MS paper award (this year we received ZERO submissions, last year we received two).
	4. Finn announced the continued need for faculty to encourage students to submit, especially for paper award
5. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report
	1. Membership
		1. 3/31/15: 474 members total (201 students)
		2. 2/29/16: 457 members total (196 students)
		3. There are 50 non-student members and 9 student members located in Latin America.
	2. Budget

Latin America Specialty Group

Secretary/Treasurer Report, AAG 2016

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| Date | Description |  Receipts  | Disbursements |  Balance  |
| *8/31/14* | *Balance forward* |  |  |  *$4,794.78* |
| 9/30/14 | Dues collected for Sept 2014 |  172.00  |  |  4,966.78  |
| 10/31/14 | Dues collected for Oct 2014 |  442.00  |  |  5,408.78  |
| 11/30/14 | Dues collected for Nov 2014 |  474.00  |  |  5,882.78  |
| 12/31/14 | Dues collected for Dec 2014 |  48.00  |  |  5,930.78  |
| 1/31/15 | Dues collected for Jan. 2015 |  208.00  |  |  6,138.78  |
| 2/28/15 | Dues collected for Feb. 2015 |  128.00  |  |  6,266.78  |
| 3/12/15 | Conf of Latin Am Geog - LASG/CLAG 2015 Chicago event | (739.29) |  5,527.49  |
| 3/31/15 | Dues collected for March 2015 |  146.00  |  |  5,673.49  |
| 4/10/15 | Transfer to IPSG for AM15 |  | (100.00) |  5,573.49  |
| 4/21/15 | Groth - Best Paper MA level |  | (250.00) |  5,323.49  |
| 4/21/15 | Courtheyn - Best Paper Ph.D. level |  | (500.00) |  4,823.49  |
| 4/21/15 | Pons - Field Study Award PhD level |  | (600.00) |  4,223.49  |
| 4/21/15 | Park - Best Paper, Co-author |  | (250.00) |  3,973.49  |
| 4/21/15 | Borgias - Field Study Award, MA level |  | (300.00) |  3,673.49  |
| 4/30/15 | Dues collected for April 2015 |  128.00  |  |  3,801.49  |
| 5/31/15 | Dues collected for May 2015 |  88.00  |  |  3,889.49  |
| 6/30/15 | Dues Collected for June 2015 |  74.00  |  |  3,963.49  |
| 7/31/15 | Dues Collected for July 2015 |  44.00  |  |  4,007.49  |
| 8/31/15 | Dues Collected for Aug 2015 |  60.00  |  |  4,067.49  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **8/31/15** | **Balance (- $727.29 from 8/31/14)** |  |  |  **4,067.49**  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| *8/31/15* | *Balance forward* |  |  |  *$4,067.49*  |
| 9/30/15 | Dues Collected for Sept 2015 |  114.00  |  |  4,181.49  |
| 10/31/15 | Dues Collected for Oct 2015 |  632.00  |  |  4,813.49  |
| 11/30/15 | Dues collected for Nov. 2015 |  78.00  |  |  4,891.49  |
| 12/31/15 | Dues collected for Dec. 2015 |  166.00  |  |  5,057.49  |
| 1/31/16 | Dues collected for Jan. 2016 |  174.00  |  |  5,231.49  |
| 2/29/16 | Dues collected for Feb. 2016 |  230.00  |  |  5,461.49  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **2/29/16** | **Balance** |  |  |  **5,461.49**  |

 Less $1,900 in awards

 Approximate April 2016 balance after AAG award disbursements **$3,561.49**

Note: The LASG/CLAG party did not cost as much at anticipated so CLAG graciously refunded

LASG’s $500 donation

Dues Received by Academic Year:

AY 2011-2012 $2,332

AY 2012-2013 $2,086

AY 2013-2014 $1,792

AY 2014-2015 $2,012

AY 2015-2/29/16 $1,394