**American Statistical Association**

**Section on Teaching of Statistics in the Health Sciences**

**Minutes of the February 2019 Executive Committee Meeting**

**February 28, 2019**

Attendees: Amy Nowacki (Chair), Laila Poisson (Chair-Elect), Jacqui Milton (Program Chair), Maria Ciarleglio (Program Chair-Elect), Jose-Miguel Yamal (Council of Sections Representative), Bob Oster (Secretary/Treasurer), Ann Brearley (Publications Officer), John Doucette (Communications Officer), Carol Bigelow (Portal Representative)

Unable to attend: Jeff Szychowski (Past Chair), Ed Gracely (Webmaster)

Amy called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM (Eastern).

**REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR CALL**

*Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 24 meeting. The motion was made and seconded. The motion was approved.*

**TSHS 2018 AWARDS IN JSM 2019 PROGRAM?**

Bob reported on an email that he received from Rick Peterson at ASA, regarding the listing of our 2018 award winners in the 2019 JSM Awards Booklet. Rick said that “Listing the 2018 winners in the 2019 awards booklet is fine. Due to the timing of their awards, other sections already do this.” Bob replied to Rick saying that “we will send you the names of our award winners that we would like listed in the awards booklet”. Bob will send the names of these award winners to Rick.

Bob will also submit a section award form for Philip Sedgwick, our 2018 Best Contributed Presentation Award winner, to ASA. ASA will then send Philip his award certificate and cash award.

**TREASURY REPORT**

Bob noted that thus far for 2019, we have had $444 in income from section member dues, and no expenses. Our current balance is $13,429.62.

Jeff will continue to try and contact Stata about a potential contribution toward the cost of our JSM mixer for this year.

**APPOINTED POSITIONS FOR 2020**

Laila will contact a few section members about potentially being considered for an appointment as Program Chair Elect for 2020 (Program Chair in 2021). She, Amy, and Jeff came up with a list of several names. There is no strict deadline for making this appointment. Bob noted that it is desirable to have a member in the position by June, so that the individual can attend a training (or meeting) at this year’s JSM for 2020 Program Chair Elects.

**COUNCIL ON SECTIONS (COS) REPORT**

Jose-Miguel reported on the following:

* A new interest group is forming this year. The name of the group is the Text Analysis Interest Group. The COS will be voting for approval and for the charter of this interest group later this year. The group will focus on the use of text as data, prominence of text mining, text analysis, and natural language processing techniques and applications. Jose-Miguel will send a description of the proposed interest group to the executive committee.
* The TSHS Charter is scheduled to be reviewed in 2020. We should make sure that the current version of the charter is posted on our website.
* ASA elections will begin in March. We should put out a blast on our community board about our two candidates for 2020 Chair-Elect – Ann Brearley and Todd Schwartz.

**JSM 2019**

* Program Update
  + Jacqui mentioned that there are two invited sessions, two topic contributed sessions, and 1 or 2 regular contributed sessions. Maria mentioned that there are three roundtables that we are sponsoring.
* Table request submitted
  + Laila submitted our request to reserve a portion of the ASA education table for promotion of TSHS to JSM attendees.
* Scheduling TSHS Executive Committee Meeting and Business Meeting/Mixer
  + Amy received an email from ASA asking her to submit a request for the TSHS executive committee meeting and the TSHS business meeting/mixer. She confirmed with the executive committee that she will request our usual times, which are Monday at 7:00 am for the executive committee meeting and Monday at 6:00 pm for the business meeting/mixer. Amy will bring breakfast items for the executive committee meeting to save the section the expense of purchasing these from the Denver convention center.

**PUBLICITY UPDATE**

Ann mentioned that a brief article about our 2019 section awards will appear in the March issue of Amstat News. The reader will be referred to the section website and/or blog for further information.

**COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

John provided a brief update on the transition of the Communications Officer position from Laila to him.

**TSHS FELLOW NOMINATION**

Amy completed and successfully submitted a Fellow nomination for Peter Imrey. She will keep us informed of the outcome. She made a list (an action calendar) of the steps that are involved in preparing an ASA Fellow nomination packet.

Amy also noted that TSHS may submit a Fellow nomination in 2020.

**TSHS 2019 WEBINAR(S)**

Amy provided an update on the possibility of a TSHS-sponsored webinar for 2019. She noted that a webinar may take place in April or May. She said that there are three topics proposed for TSHS webinars:

* Using RStudio tools to Build Students’ R Skills
* Teaching with Reproducible Research
* Modern tools for creating flipped/blended courses

Discussion then followed regarding whether we can offer webinars to our section members without paying the ASA costs that are associated with the webinars, and specifically whether we should consider using free online software to conduct the webinars. There was also discussion on whether we should continue awarding honoraria to presenters of our webinars, and if so, what the amount of the honoraria should be.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

* Significance Research Briefs
  + Significance magazine wants to recommend various items to their readers. They plan to do this through the use of research briefs, each of which is a paragraph of 60 words or less. One page of the magazine will be devoted to these research briefs. It was suggested that we send a TSHS relevant research brief to Significance.
* Calendar of TSHS Business
  + Amy is putting together a calendar of TSHS business. She will add TSHS action items to this and will keep it up to date. This calendar may be placed on Google Drive.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next TSHS executive committee conference call will take place on March 28, 2019, with the time of the call to be determined by Amy, who will poll the executive committee.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Amy adjourned the meeting at 1:55 PM (Eastern).