

**APSA REP SECTION BUSINESS MEETING**  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2008  
BOSTON MARRIOTT AT COPLEY PLACE, SALON D  
12:15-1:15 PM

Call to Order: 12:15 pm EDT, by Pei-te Lien, co-President of the APSA Organized Section on REP.

**Presiding Officers:** John Bretting and Pei-te Lien (co Presidents)

**Introduction and welcome** from Pei-te Lien, continuing co-President. Discussed a brief agenda and mentioned that the senior co-president John Bretting could not be present at the meeting due to health reasons. Pei-te is the first Asian American woman to preside over the REP Organized Section business meeting. Welcome and thank you!

**Reports and Announcements**

**Minutes:** Motion, second, and unanimous acclamation to accept minutes from August 31, 2007 meeting of REP (prepared by Russell Benjamin). Minutes approved by all in attendance. Valerie Martinez-Ebers motions to approve. James Lai seconds motion.

**Treasurer Report** (Julia Jordan-Zachery):

Jordan-Zachery says the treasury had \$ 8429.94 as of July 1, 2008. Jordan-Zachery recently changed her institutional affiliation; this may explain the account being off by \$76 from APSA's records. The amount does not include anticipated payment for the reception and other expenses this year. She says that many of these costs can be replenished by more dues-paying members. Last year, the reception alone cost \$2,992.95. It will no doubt increase this year. Jordan-Zachery suggests that the section can offer a journal as part of the section and increase membership dues. Currently, our dues are \$8. She suggests dues should be increased by \$2, but we need to offer something in exchange. Melanie Price motions to accept report. Tony Affigne seconds. Unanimous support for acceptance.

**Report from 2008 REP Program Co-Chairs Ange Marie Hancock and Adrian Pantoja.:**

Neither are present. Lien provides report from the newsletter. 273 paper proposals received, 23 full (including co-sponsored) panels composed, 27 panels were eventually composed with support for theme panels from Jane Junn's and Ed Keller's program committee. Mark Sawyer, who is present, and Diane-Michele Prindeville are 2009 program co-chairs. We officially have 560 members as of July 21, 2008. More panel attendance is needed in order to keep panel allocations proportionate. No need to approve report.

**Newsletter Senior Editor Kim Geron:**

Geron suggests a more active online presence, which has begun with distribution of the e-newsletter. Catherine Paden assisted Geron in composing the newsletter. All REP members should have received newsletter via e-mail. It has been posted on the REP website. Fifteen bad email addresses out of a huge email lists of members provided by APSA, but we need to make sure everyone receives the newsletter. Catherine has agreed to try to release more than one newsletter per annum. No discussion.

**Best Book Award Committee Chair Ben Marquez:** Not present, but Lien briefs attendees. Committee included Stephanie DiAlto , Keesha Middlemas , Rodolfo Espino, Angela Lewis. They reviewed over 65 books but decided against issuing any award this year. (Marquez later explained via email that the committee looked for things any scholar does when evaluating an article or book: good, theoretically based questions, good arguments, good data, and a good narrative. After reading the books, the committee met, used its collective judgment, and made the decision.) Lien promises to push next year's committee to work harder and identify at least one winner.

**Best Dissertation Award Committee Chair Tony Affigne:** Committee members are Diane Prindeville and HT Quan. Thirteen dissertations were submitted, 5 were read very closely, and 2 winners were selected and they will be recognized at the reception tomorrow evening. Vesla Weaver and Daniel Ho Sang were the two recipients.

**Best Paper Award Committee Chair Lisa Garcia Bedolla:** Geron provided report. No award was given this year, because process began too late. Geron suggests more self-nominations and encouraged more proactive efforts to make sure an award is presented at next year's ceremony.

### **Nominations and Elections:**

James Jennings chaired the committee. Paula Mohan could not be present due to her children's illnesses. Handout provided. Lien becomes senior co-President. Michael Jones-Correa will be the other co-President. Lien reviewed the list of officers. Jason Casellas will continue as Secretary. Julia Jordan-Zachery continues as Treasurer. Gia Barboza will be new web administrator.

The Executive Council. Each member has a two-year term. Niambi Carter is now at Purdue University. Five new nominated members, including Lorrie Frasure, Ron Hayduk, Amy Rasmussen, Gabriel Sanchez, and Paru Shah.

Graduate Student Issues Committee Chair: Tamitha Walker.

Jennings requests floor, and says that Lien and Mohan have worked hard, communicated with individuals, and should be commended.

New Book Award Committee Chair is Andrew Aoki.

New Best Dissertation Award Committee Chair is H.L.T. Quan.

New Nominating Committee Chair is Paula Mohan.

Vote on new council members: Motion by Valeire Martinez-Ebers to accept slate, Seconded by Christine Brenner and Ron Schmidt, Sr. Mark Sawyer moves to accept by acclamation. Unanimous approval. Audience cheers and claps.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business:**

APSA Labor Project Petition Drive:

Asks for individual rather than section support. Labor dispute with Aramark. Health Insurance is expensive. 20/300 workers have benefits. Contract expired, and the company has threatened union activists. She distributes petition. Meet at mall entrance of Convention Center at 1:15 pm tomorrow for nonviolent protest. Online petition is the same, so no need to sign twice.

Lien distributes flyer on new e-communication system for organized sections designed by APSA. The system will launch in a couple of months.

Martinez-Ebers discusses the lifting of moratorium on APSA association awards. We can make some REP awards association awards. Moratorium began in 1987, with only two women's names and Ralph Bunche. Peter Katznelson appoints committee to come up with names which reflect increasing diversity of association.

Lien discusses awards ceremony from previous day. Discusses how some committee members of APSA awards do not reflect the diversity of the association.

Martinez-Ebers suggests that many active living scholars deserve recognition.

Brenner says we can appoint an ad-hoc committee to generate names and arguments for why certain individuals from REP can be recognized.

Lien asks for volunteers for the Ad hoc committee. Martinez-Ebers, Tony Affigne, and Manny Avalos volunteer to spearhead effort.

Jordan-Zachery discusses dues of \$8, and how these dues should be increased. Other sections in the discipline and their efforts are also compared. Many Black and other minority women are leaving the profession; the lack of space to publish is often a leading frustration. Increasing dues is an option, by offering a journal like the Women and Politics section and its new journal. An e-journal could also be an option. Dues need to be increased regardless. To safely run the section, at least a \$2 increase would be necessary. One solution is to have a two-tiered dues schedule with graduate students and faculty paying different rates.

Affigne comments that we've never had \$8,000 in the bank, so raising dues is not altogether urgent. Historically, the association does not want the dues to discourage membership. Journal is a separate issue. Two-tiered system is not necessary if the level is low enough, and it is difficult to administer. None of the sections have such a system.

Graduate students in the room do not think that a \$2 increase would be cost prohibitive.

Lien still concerned about recruitment and making sure that we expand REP membership.

Jones-Correa wonders if the presenters in REP panels are members. If not, they should be contacted and encouraged to join.

Daniel Gillion suggests graduate students just need to be told about becoming members.

Affigne says growth has been steady over recent years. Flyers were distributed at REP panels and dances in the past.

Martinez-Ebers sent a letter of invitation to anyone who notes they study REP in APSA documents.

Leal says even paper proposers who may or may not have their papers accepted should also be contacted for section membership (BEFORE they are rejected).

Michael Platt asks--Is it clear what the benefits of membership are?

Affigne responds by citing the following benefits: awards, newsletters, community, nominations to APSA committees. Advertising our services is key.

Recruitment, Dues, and Journal are three separate issues which need additional consideration.

Schmidt, Sr. moves to raise dues to \$10 contingent on bylaws. Affigne seconds. Unanimous support.

Brenner moves that incoming president appoint a study committee to bring a recommendation about journal. John Garcia seconds. Unanimous support for motion. Jordan-Zachary, Ron Schmidt, Sr, David Leal, and Chris Stout agree to serve on study committee .

Motion to adjourn from the membership. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by Jason P. Casellas, Secretary for Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Section (#32) of the APSA