

Minutes of the Policy Council Meeting Summer 2017

11.00 AM, Molly Pitcher Room
Cambridge, MA July 16, 2017
Chair: Len Malczynski, President 2017

President Len Malczynski called the meeting to order.

1) Welcome and Introductions

- a) Len welcomed the Policy Council members and others and added a special thanks to new members, outgoing members and continuing members

2) Discussion and Action on Proposal to Move Home Office to Capitol Hill Management Services (CHMS)

- a) Roberta introduced John Graziano, President of CHMS. He explained what an association management company is and described some things about what to expect from our new partnership with them. They can help the Society fulfill its mission while providing support for operations, such as through meeting planning, accounting services, and access to best practices in association management.

David Andersen asked for some explanation of the contract. John G. explained that the contract is based on a scope of services for the organization delivered based on a fixed monthly payment. Once the Society sets its annual budget, it is up to CHMS to maintain that budget.

- b) Report of VP and AVP Finance—How We Plan to Pay for the Transition from UAlbany to Cap Hill: Eliot Rich.

Eliot explained that we have drafted a “bridge contract” to cover a transition period from now until 2019 and another contract including a specific description of a scope of services covering the 2019 year. The plans include continuity of employment for our current staff as employees of CHMS as well as some contingencies in case our employees do not join CHMS.

Eliot reviewed some aspects of the proposed budget presented in the VP Finance report. The 2018 budget projects a net loss of approximately \$141,000. He noted the inclusion of about \$116,000 in continuity of employment expenses, which corresponds to a pessimistic scenario about transition costs.

MOTION: Lees Stuntz moved (Bob Eberlein seconded) to approve the 2018 budget as proposed in the VP Report. Warren asked what they see as the biggest risk, and David and Eliot highlighted the risk we have each year of a poorly performing conference, which for next year is the conference in Iceland. Another risk we face every year is the performance of our investments.

Nancy asked about the \$1000 budgeted for the PhD colloquium and whether this budget is large enough. Currently, we have \$20,000 designated, which funds the flow of \$1000 in each year's operating budget. Nancy also asked about the source of expected increase in summer school income and sponsor dues and donations.

Motion passed.

MOTION: David Andersen and Eliot Rich moved (Warren Farr seconded) that the Policy Council approve the designations of funds shown on the last page of the VP Finance report.

Motion passed.

LUNCH BREAK

c) Report from the Administrative Committee: John Morecroft (reporting remotely):

Transition to CHMS Administrative and Legal Review

John reviewed the process of creating the transition budgets, specifically that the 2018 budget came about by first generating a 2019 budget and then understanding how the 2018 budget would bridge from current operations to the 2019 version with CHMS. He noted that the Administrative Committee asked a sub-group of Len, Nacho and Brad to work with an attorney to conduct a legal review of the contract. He described an initiative aimed at investing in future special projects comprising a secretariat, further clarification of campaign goals, and a fundraising campaign.

Bob noted that this transition is the most significant transition in the history of the Society and suggested that this is a good time for an open discussion. Warren asked about how interaction with CHMS will work going forward. Warren also asked about what he should do in his role as VP Marketing to help inform the membership about the transition and what will change.

An example of a change is that the website management will transfer to CHMS.

Our webpage will migrate to a different system (Member Clicks) with some advantages in integration of information in one repository. Member Clicks supports chapters well. The conference submission system will also change, with some strengths and some challenges. There will be a committee formed to examine and recommend about how Society governance roles and processes may need to change to fully capitalize on the relationship with CHMS. There will be a proposal later in the meeting to form a search committee to find and recruit an executive director.

Sharon asked about ongoing oversight of the performance of CHMS, and Bob replied that currently is the purview of the Administrative Committee and at least for now will continue to be so. Kim noted the importance of growth activities and ways of funding them and expressed the hope that this transition would create an environment in which these activities could happen.

David Andersen previewed an announcement he will make at the Conference banquet on Tuesday evening regarding launching the seeding stage of a Legacy Campaign. Several people asked questions about what procedures would be in place to decide on use of the funds, monitoring and evaluating how well the activities meet the goals of the Society, and how it compares to the existing work from the strategy committee. Some thought that the sequence of fundraising before articulating ways to use the funds is backwards. Examples of possible uses were suggested, such as funding PhD students to come to a conference and funding an alternative venue for people whose papers would otherwise not be included in a conference. Kim reminded us that the Society strategy, which has been developed and is on the website, should be informing choices about what to do with the funds.

3) Overview of electronic session

Len presented a list of electronic votes that have taken place since the end of 2017 Winter PC Meeting and before the beginning of the 2017 Summer PC Meeting

VOTED ON

160: Name change for the Psychology SIG by Özge Pala (Elke Husemann)
Y:13/N:0/A:0/NV:12

161: Approve the creation of a Transportation SIG by Leonard Malczynski (Ozge Karanfil) Y:13/N:0/A:0/NV:12

162: Recognition of the Asset Dynamics SIG by Özge Pala (Leonard Malczynski)
Y:13/N:0/A:0/NV:12

164: Motion to Approve Warren Farr as VP Marketing & Communications by Étienne Rouwette (Pål Davidsen) Y:21/N:0/A:0/NV:4

166: Standing Committee Appointments for the terms 2017-2019 by Étienne Rouwette (Diana Fisher) Y:14/N:0/A:3/NV:8

167: Approve Diana Fisher as Vice President Pre-College Education by J. Bradley Morrison (Robert Eberlein) Y:10/N:0/A:0/NV:15

168: Approve L. Stuntz as Policy Council member to replace D. Fisher by J. Bradley Morrison (Robert Eberlein) Y:10/N:0/A:0/NV:15

169: Approve the minutes of the 2016 Summer PC meeting by Robert Eberlein (David Andersen) Y:15/N:0/A:4/NV:6

170: Amend the language of Policy 10: Committees, Sec 3 (APCC) by Ignacio Martinez- Moyano (Robert Eberlein) Y:18/N:0/A:0/NV:7

171: Congratulate ASEAN Chapter and welcome APCC by Ignacio Martinez- Moyano (David Andersen) Y:19/N:0/A:0/NV:6

172: Approve the 2018 slate candidates by J. Bradley Morrison (Ignacio Martinez-Moyano) Y:20/N:0/A:1/NV:4

173: Designate CHMS as vendor for home office operations by Etiënne Rouwette (Ignacio Martinez-Moyano) Y:17/N:0/A:3/NV:5

174: Authorize Admin Comm to proceed with home office transition by Etiënne Rouwette (Robert Eberlein) Y:17/N:0/A:3/NV:5

175: Authorize expenditure up to \$100,000 for transition costs by Etiënne Rouwette (Ignacio Martinez-Moyano) Y:15/N:0/A:5/NV:5

176: Approve appointment of 2018 Conference Program Chairs by Ignacio Martinez-Moyano (Diana Fisher) Y:17/N:0/A:1/NV:7

179: Recognition of the ASEAN Chapter by Stefano Armenia (Warren Farr) Y:18/N:0/A:0/NV:7

181: Motion to organize the 2018 ISDC at the University of Iceland by Erik Pruyt (Etiënne Rouwette) Y:21/N:0/A:0/NV:4

WITHDRAWN

177: WITHDRAWN-Recognition of the ASEAN Chapter by Stefano Armenia (not seconded)

178: WITHDRAWN-Recognition of the ASEAN Chapter by Stefano Armenia (not seconded)

180: WITHDRAWN-Conference proceedings by Leonard Malczynski (Ozge Karanfil)

4) Vice Presidential reports and updates

Since most reports were moved forward to the Winter meeting, reflecting progress in 2016 and aims for 2017, the only full reports required are from VP Finance (due to the need for audited accounts).

VP Publications: Pal Davidsen:

Pal and Yaman met with Wiley in March about the future of the *System Dynamics Review*. Pal reported that Wiley seems to really care about the future of the SDR. Nevertheless, we need to renegotiate our contract after 2018. Pal suggested that we continue with our current contract. The reply from Wiley was that such a contract could be renewed. The time horizon of the contract remains an open issue. However, service from Wiley in the meantime has been a bit rocky, and we should be considering other alternatives as well. We have been approached by another publisher. Krys Stave, as the incoming VP Publications, will be carrying forward the negotiation process. Yaman also appealed for more submissions to the journal.

MOTION: Bob Eberlein moved (David Andersen seconded) that Eliot Rich be appointed as VP Finance on January 1, 2018, (2018-2019) to fill the remainder of the current (2017-2019) term as David Andersen is retiring. Motion passed

Conflict of Interest Status Report and Review: See online report.

The report, as part of these minutes, lists the members who have disclosed a potential or actual conflict of interest and the nature of the conflict. The Secretary read to the PC all reported conflicts of interest disclosures. The officer or member who disclosed a conflict of interest left the room so as to not be present during discussion and voting. The remaining independent directors (Policy Council Officers and Members) discussed and agreed that in each case they are satisfied that all potential conflicts are being handled appropriately and that no conflict exists that will interfere with the operations of the System Dynamics Society. The decision in connection with these proceedings is recorded in these minutes.

Pal questions the default site policy. Len says he is forming an ad hoc committee to look at Conferences “writ large,” including the default site policy and conference paper acceptances.

Warren says he, as VP Marketing, is here to support other VPs. Please contact him to tell him how he can help.

5) Standing Committee Reports

These reports are presented at the Winter meeting. Subsequent issues only to be reported, though other items may also be raised.

- a) Administrative Committee: John Morecroft: Done above.
- b) Awards Committee: Erling Moxnes: See online Winter 2017.
- c) Organization and Bylaws Committee: Brad Morrison: Nothing to report.
- d) Publications Committee: Pål I. Davidsen: Done above.
- e) Society Program Oversight Committee: Andreas Größler: See online Winter 2017
- f) Strategy Committee: Etiënne Rouwette: See online Winter 2017.
- g) Nominating Committee: Announced the slate to take office in 2018 (and 2017 partial terms) and the open positions for the following year (2019).
 - The Proposed Slate of Candidates to Take Office January 1, 2018
 - President-Elect** (2018)–Martin Schaffernicht
 - VP Electronic Presence** (2018-2020)–Bob Eberlein
 - VP Membership** (2018-2020)–Özge Pala
 - VP Publications** (2018-2020)–Krystyna Stave
 - Policy Council** (2018-2020): Shayne Gary, Hilde Martinussen, Josephine Musango, Rafaat Zaini
 - 2017 New and Replacement Candidates
 - VP Marketing and Communications** (2017-2018)–Warren Farr (partial term, replacement of Peter Hovmand, approved 2017.02.12)
 - VP Pre-College Education** (2017-2019)–Diana Fisher (new position approved 2017.04.12)
 - Policy Council Member** (2017-2018)–Lees Stuntz (will serve through 2018 as replacement for Diana Fisher on the Policy Council, approved 2017.04.12)

- Open Positions for 2019
 - President Elect:** (2019)
 - Vice President Marketing & Communications:** (2019-2021)
 - Vice President Meetings:** (2019-2021)
 - Vice President Professional Practice:** (2019-2021)
 - Policy Council (2019-2021):** 4 Members

6) Motions/Action Items

MOTION: Move to Approve of Minutes of Winter 2017 Policy Council Meeting (Bob Eberlein moved, Pal Davidsen seconded. Motion passed)

7) Strategic discussions: Len Malczynski

- a) Certification Ad hoc Committee: We have gathered 30 to 40 syllabi of System Dynamics courses, assembled them in a table, and plan to compare to a System Dynamics learning taxonomy
- b) Conference planning Ad Hoc Committee: Len is planning to form a committee to look into a variety of issues about conference papers and the overall program, such as paper submission, location, logistics, selection processes, and so on. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please let Len know.
- c) Conference site selection 2019 Asmeret and Munaf from Albuquerque presented a preliminary proposal to host the 2019 conference in Albuquerque.

MOTION: Bob Eberlein moved (Brad Morrison seconded) to approve the president's appointment of a Committee to Search for an Executive Director to include Birgit Kopainski, Peter Hovmand, Eliot Rich, Hyungjung Kim, John Ansah, Etienne Rouwette, and Don Greer. Motion passed.

MOTION: Bob Eberlein moved (Brad Morrison seconded) to treat Albuquerque as the finalist for the site for the 2019 ISDC and that the PC make a final selection by September 30, 2017. Motion passed.

MOTION: Nancy Hayden (Bob Eberlein seconded) moved to task the SPOC with chartering a committee to study the program and paper selection process to understand the high rejection rate experienced in 2017, identify issues, and develop recommendations for the Policy Council to consider and address the concerns raised about the high rejection rate and the relative autonomy of the program chairs. The Committee should make a preliminary report to the Policy Council by September 30, 2017.

Discussion ensued, and it was the sense of the Policy Council that the committee needed to do its work in a manner that would avoid blaming anyone for past issues.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned Lees Stuntz moved (John Ansah seconded). Motion passed.

RECAP OF MOTIONS PASSED:

MOTION: Lees Stuntz moved (Bob Eberlein seconded) to approve the 2018 budget as proposed in the VP Report.

MOTION: David Andersen and Eliot Rich moved (Warren seconded) that the Policy Council approve the designations of funds shown on the last page of the VP Finance report.

MOTION: Bob Eberlein moved (David Andersen seconded) that Eliot Rich be appointed as VP Finance on January 1, 2018, (2018-2019) to fill the remainder of the current term (2017-2019) as David Andersen is retiring.

MOTION: Move to Approve of Minutes of Winter 2017 Policy Council Meeting Bob Eberlein moved (Pal Davidsen seconded).

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Respectfully Submitted,

Brad Morrison

Secretary