



System Dynamics Society
POLICY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
Friday, May 25, 2018

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

In Attendance

Ignacio Martinez-Moyano, President
Eliot Rich, Vice President – Finance
Bob Eberlein, Vice President – Electronic Presence
Len Malczynski, Vice President – Meetings
Diana Fisher, Vice President – Pre-College Education
Ken Cooper, Vice President – Professional Practice
Lees Stuntz, Council Member
Nancy Hayden, Council Member
Raafat Zaini, Council Member
David Andersen, Assistant Vice President – Finance
Brian Buff, CHMS Vice President of Association Management – Staffing the Meeting

Note: This was a single-item agenda regarding the appointment of a new Executive Director for the Society.

Call to Order/Roll Call

President Martinez-Moyano called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. He asked Brian Buff to conduct the roll call.

Welcome

The President welcomed and thanked everyone for their presence at the meeting when the Policy Council would be making a decision of incredible importance for both the near and long-term future of the Society.

Meeting Waiver Notice

On behalf of the Secretary, the President provided notice of the meeting waiver as the Policy Council was provided with less than 30-days notice for this special meeting. Per the By-Laws, the Society was required to seek a waiver of the 30-day notice in order for the meeting to proceed. A waiver was sought from all members of the Policy Council and there was unanimous agreement to proceed with the meeting.

Executive Director Search Committee Update

On behalf of the Search Committee, Vice President – Finance Eliot Rich provided an overview of the Executive Director Search process, which will successfully conclude at this meeting with the vote on the recommendation. Many volunteer and staff hours went into the search. The Society is indebted to the leadership of Don Greer, who led the effort to craft the position requirements and announcement. 30 candidates from across the world applied for the position. Of these, 18 were complete applications. At the request of the Search Committee, CHMS was asked to review and provide a list of suitable candidates based on association management experience. A list of 6 was provided to the Search Committee—of which 4 were selected to be interviewed. The interviews were conducted with Search Committee members participating

across many time zones. Based on the compiled reviews and committee discussion, Dr. Mark Nelson was the first choice and this was presented to the President. The President, in turn, asked that the executive leadership (Immediate Past President Len Malczynski, President Ignacio Martinez-Moyano, President-Elect Martin Schaffernicht, and nominated President-Elect Birgit Kopainsky) hold a second interview with the Dr. Nelson. Based on this conversation, the executive affirmed the Search Committee's recommendation and this information was also conveyed to Administrative Committee Chair Bob Eberlein.

Dr. Nelson accepted the Society's offer. He will begin his tenure on July 1, 2018—using July and August to learn about the Society, meet with key stakeholders, Roberta Spencer and CHMS. On September 1, 2018, Dr. Nelson will assume full operational responsibility and authority for the Society. Dr. Nelson will also be completing a few consulting projects over the summer.

Motion to Accept Recommendation of the Search Committee

Motion: The Policy Council approves the selection of Dr. Mark Nelson as the next Executive Director of the System Dynamics society with an effective date of appointment of September 1, 2018.

Motion by: Eliot Rich

Seconded by: Bob Eberlein

Discussion/Comments

Bob Eberlein thanked the Search Committee and sees the appointment as an exciting opportunity for the Society.

Eliot Rich accepted the thanks on behalf of the Search Committee.

Len Malczynski added his gratitude for the work of the Search Committee and for their dedication to staying on beyond crafting the position description to take part in the candidate review and interview process.

Ignacio Martinez-Moyano stated that he participated through all the interviews as an observer and was impressed by the commitment of the Search Committee members and magnitude of their service in helping to shape the future of the Society.

Lees Stuntz reinforced the message that selecting a new Executive Director is the most important duty of the Policy Council—and she added her thanks to all involved in the process.

David Andersen expressed his pleasure of the recommendation of Mark Nelson. He knows Dr. Nelson and believe he will be great to work with in advancing the mission of the Society.

With the completion of discussion, the President called for the vote.

Vote: A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Following the vote, Eliot Rich shared submitted comments by Brad Morrison and Martin Schaffernicht supporting the appointment of Dr. Mark Nelson.

The Next Steps

Brian Buff was asked to provide an overview of the next steps in the Executive Director appointment. The Policy Council was asked to keep the appointment news private as staff and

other key stakeholders will be informed first. A Messaging-Communications Plan is being finalized and will be shared with the leadership, along with talking points about the incoming Executive Director and the transition. An introductory session for the Policy Council with the new Executive Director will take place the week of June 4, 2018 and a Doodle poll will be sent out to solicit the best date for this meeting.

Closing & Adjournment

The President, once again, thanked everyone for their support and presence.

Bob Eberlein made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Eliot Rich and passed unanimously.

The Special Meeting of the Policy Council adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brian Buff

on behalf of Secretary Brad Morrison

**The next Policy Council Meeting is scheduled for
Monday, August 6, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.
in Reykjavik, Iceland.**