

ISPP Governing Council (GC) Meeting

Website Synopsis

January 17-18, 2019

Trabant University Center, Multipurpose Room South College St.

University of Delaware

Newark, DE USA

DAY 1

Ideas were discussed to increase income and help balance the budget, one being to raise our membership rates. The GC approved the immediate increase of membership rates as recommended by the Treasurer. Chris Federico is to work on a new cost structure for conference rates, beginning with 2020.

The GC is working to update the current ISPP Constitution. There was discussion about the position of the Councilor, the number of Vice Presidents, the operating committee structure, and having Diversity Advocates on each committee. The GC voted to eliminate the position of Councilor. Dave Redlawsk to make revisions on the proposed Constitution language per today's discussion. The discussion will be continued after these changes are implemented.

Fundraising for Scholars Under Threat has been challenging. The amounts given to individuals have been reduced, and funding is now being offered only for living expenses, and not research. The committee plans to continue to have a roundtable discussion at the conference. Observers are needed for upcoming trials. The GC approved endorsing the petition for Academic Freedom in Palestine after foreign university professors from Birzeit University have had their visas denied and are unable to leave Palestine.

The GC voted to hold the 2022 conference in Santiago, Chile, with Buenos Aires and Lima as second and third options. There was discussion about the financial aspects of holding the conference in South America, and Dave Redlawsk noted that the GC had previously decided to look at conference finances over a series of three years, to allow for holding the conference in locations where ISPP may take a financial loss.

This year's conference had over 900 submissions. Of those, ~200 asked to be part of the Conference within the Conference (CwC) – Gender in Political Psychology.

There are several searches going on for new positions at this time. The search committee plans to make a decision on the new journal editorial team in the next week or two. *Advances* only has one proposal so far; the deadline has been extended by a month to allow for more applications to come in. The publisher search is underway and will be discussed tomorrow. The ISPP Newsletter Editor search has not been put together since a decision is still needed whether a Director of Communications will continue to exist with the new operating committee structure or not.

An important task as understood by the initiatives committee was to create a shorter definition of diversity to help guide future committees and decisions so that we can easily recognize future diversity priorities. Benchmark goals for membership diversity have been identified. The Initiatives Committee has been directed to determine what diversity data ISPP would like to collect along with the wording for this. This committee will also work towards increasing the diversity at ISPP conferences, noting that the vast majority of attendees are presenters, so this must be worked on with the Program Chairs and also with where/how the Call for Papers are distributed.

Rather than paying a higher price for a more robust version of Survey Monkey, it was suggested to use survey software that a GC member has access to via their university. Caution needs to be exercised with the data and collection in relation to GDPR. The CO can distribute the survey link.

The Mentoring Program was discussed. It was first noted that this program is different from the Mentoring Luncheon. Different promotions of the program may be needed and it may be important to think differently on how we recruit mentors for this program. As a new program we need to determine its value and whether or not to continue with it. It is the sense of the GC that if the Initiatives Committee decides to move this forward with the Mentoring Program, they are tasked to do so.

An e-mail from Hong Kong again brought up the idea of regional chapters of ISPP. The Initiatives Committee believes there is potential to consider this idea. A subcommittee was formed to review this idea and possibly bring it up at the July GC meeting.

The updated proposed Constitution: returned the VP positions to three-year terms and includes an enactment clause that states the GC has to adopt By-laws no later than the second GC meeting following the adoption of the new Constitution. A broad diversity statement was added. The Councilor and all references to the Councilor were dropped. The Nomination Committee direction and oversight was changed to be given to the Past President instead of the Councilor. It also specifies the Finance Committee will be chaired by a member of the GC appointed by the President. This then means we are doing away with the third VP position. The proposed Constitution also allows for the possibility of a virtual January GC meeting. It was clarified that the proposed Constitution, as written now, continues to require two meetings of the GC each year. The general consensus was approval for this wording of the proposed Constitution.

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DAY 2

Funds have been included in the budget this year for supplies to make the conference more family-friendly. Chris and Sev are to look into the possibility of providing childcare at future conferences. Dave asked Aleksandra to work with Chris and add this idea of family-friendly conferences to the diversity and accessibility of ISPP within the Initiatives Committee for the future.

It was noted that our travel policy needs to be revisited and strategized in order to review the funds allocated for GC travel. The Finance Committee was asked to review this and come to the July meeting with an actual proposal. It was suggested that the current ISPP President send a letter to the Dean or equivalent for all the newly-elected GC members indicating the honor it is to be a part the ISPP GC, which could open a discussion about how their universities can help them fill this role. Part of that would be supporting their travel to attend GC meetings.

It was decided that the Communications Committee will work together to determine what the role of Director of Communications is and how the tasks they are responsible for could possibly be handled. This will be decided on and implemented before July as Jolanda's term will be ending at that time.

The deficit for 2018 was plugged by the holdover that was decided on the year before. The Councilor noted that if we have a surplus (with our current Constitution) it must be placed in the endowment. In the same way, if we have a deficit, the funds instead go towards filling the deficit first. The budget was adopted as amended.

The Early Career Committee would like to increase the visibility of the ECC members. The committee is working hard to ensure diversity and gender equality in ECC conference events such as the Mentoring Lunch and ECC roundtables. It was noted that this Luncheon has always had a waiting list and we may want to consider expanding this in the future. Sev to look into the possibility of adding a few more tables to the Mentoring Lunch if there is physically room in the space for Lisbon. As the Director of Communications, Jolanda thanked the ECC for all their work.

Mike Streeter and Caroline McCarly from Wiley attended to share their publication proposal and give an update on the journal. We have worked to clear out the backlog and instead of a year's worth of materials in Early View, we now only have about 5 months' worth left in Early View. The increased number of articles this year will not show up for another year on the impact factor. Mike discussed the shared vision between Wiley and ISPP, noting in particular the larger article output. Both Mike and Caroline reviewed Wiley's interpretation in the current library marketplace and the effects this has on ISPP publications.

In light of the approaching contract deadline, we have begun the process of reviewing options to renew with Wiley, or contracting with a new publishing company.

Bert, by virtue of the fact that he is Chair of the Finance Committee, and the ED were approved to access the endowment fund account at the direction of the GC. This was done in part to provide oversight to the Treasurer.

Another idea for controlling conference costs is to partner with other organizations that also have annual meetings around the same time and the same location as ISPP. This partnership may increase the buying power for both organizations while the contracts remain separate for each. It was noted this would be on an ad hoc basis and groups and organizations would change year to year. Additionally, ISPP might want to consider creating its own repeat business by selecting one brand of venue. One of the main challenges with this is that not every brand will have an appropriate venue, particularly in size, in each destination we select. These are just some ideas for the GC to note and consider for the future.

A request was made for any individuals to join as observers at the trial of one of our members in Turkey on February 7th. Dave pointed out we are particularly focused on trials where members of ISPP are on trial.

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