

ISPP Governing Council Meeting

16, 17, 29 January 2024

Agenda

Virtual

Catarina Kinnvall, ISPP President, welcomed the Governing Council (GC) to the January virtual GC meeting, expressing gratitude for their service to ISPP. All attendees introduced themselves.

The full and web versions of the July 2023 GC Minutes received unanimous approval.

Liz Suhay (Nominating Committee Chair) presented nominees for three GC positions, ensuring diversity, seniority, and ISPP involvement. Joanne Miller accepted the ISPP President role, Laura Taylor accepted Vice President, and a mix of political scientists and psychologists were nominated for GC positions with 8 out of 10 accepting. A substitution was proposed and approved.

The Nominating Committee updated their instructions and proposed changing the Committee's deadline to the winter, with reviews in March and June. It was emphasized that GC members must maintain active memberships throughout their terms. Liz Suhay (Nominating Committee Chair) recommended approving the current slate with adjustments to position-specific requirements, ensuring nominees have some ISPP involvement, which was approved unanimously.

At this time, there have been 20 applications received for the ISPP Academy, with many more expected before the deadline. There is a proposal for a Virtual Academy to respond to the increasing interest in hybrid and virtual participation, offering seven lectures with online Q&A sessions. Applications will open in August, notifications in mid-September, and the Virtual Academy will be held in November. The proposal was voted on and approved unanimously.

The ISPP Program Chairs, Neil Ferguson, Molly Andrews, and Siugmin Lay, announced that the 2024 Annual Meeting will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel in Santiago. 621 submissions have been received with 108 sessions planned, including 8 pre-planned ones. Section Chairs have been trained and are completing their reviews. Sev Bennett (Executive Director) shared that the ISPP Award Nomination process has been extended. All venue space will be used and the Mentoring Lunch will follow the same format as in Athens, where mentors take mentees offsite. It was noted that AV costs for conferences have spiked since the pandemic along with venue prices.

The Initiatives Committee is focused on advancing the Code of Conduct (CoC) and prioritizing small research grants. There was a proposal to include ISPP membership with conference registration due to a decline in ISPP membership.

Michael Morrell (VP Initiatives) proposed temporarily passing the current version of the Code of Conduct, addressing unresolved issues in July. There was a motion to remove the disciplinary section, which passed unanimously. Another motion to add the Early Career Committee as one of the report recipients passed with two abstentions. The Code of Conduct draft was then approved.

Dave Redlawsk (ISPP Treasurer), presented the financial report. Budget approval, typically in July, was delayed due to a deficit pending resolution by the Treasurer, Finance Committee, and Executive Committee. Budget proposals are prepared by the Treasurer and Executive Director, reviewed by the Finance Committee, and voted on by the GC annually. The discussion covered the 2023 actual budget, 2024 pending budget, and initial 2025 budget, highlighting declines in journal royalty income and membership. Committee roles were outlined: the Finance Committee oversees society finances, recommending Treasurer appointments if needed. GC priorities are the journal and conference, aiming to bolster membership, conference participation, and ISPP activities. Funding sources for the annual operating budget include journal royalties, membership dues, conference registrations, and donations, covering operational, journal, conference, and ECC support expenses. The endowment, separate from the operating budget, funds awards, ISPP Academy subsidies, and new initiatives through reinvested earnings and specific-purpose donations.

A revised 2024 budget, now recommended for approval, removed expenses and increased income to help eliminate the deficit. Discussions included introducing initiatives, pending GC decision. A few budget items were reinstated, such as Program Chair travel to the ISPP Annual Meeting, Scholars Under Threat emergency funds, and need-based Governing Council travel assistance, all of which were approved. The 2024 budget as a whole was subsequently approved.

Melinda Jackson (Strategic Sustainability Committee Chair, SSC) shared that the SSC, a new ISPP committee, is focused on ISPP's long-term sustainability. With one meeting held so far, the committee will plan regular sessions to monitor finances and future endowment use, welcoming input from the GC on proposals for increasing income or reducing costs for sustainable financial strategies.

A decision was made to allow Chilean locals, who are not presenting, to attend the conference at a lower rate (\$30 USD for local academics, and \$20 USD for local students), aiming to encourage membership, showcase the conference, and promote internationalization. This

motion passed unanimously. Additionally, a vote allowing a 50% discount based on need for Chilean scholars with accepted proposals also passed unanimously.

At this time, there are no current candidates to fill the ISPP Academy Director position. The commitment has been shortened from five years to three years.

Concerns were raised about potential misinterpretations of the CoC language. A motion was made to revert to the previous decision on the Code of Conduct, proposing to retain the current short statement used for conference registration, with the Initiatives Committee returning with a revised full version of the CoC at the July Governing Council meeting. This proposal passed with some opposition.

Catarina Kinnvall (President) concluded the Governing Council meeting by thanking everyone for their participation over the past week.

ADJOURNED