

SSSA Executive Council Meeting II
Saturday, November 2, 2019, 9:30- 11:45AM
Manchester Grand Hyatt, Floor: 4, Regatta B & C

Attendance: Cynthia Cready, Jeff Justice, Tracy Dietz, Christine James, Elizabeth Kelly, Salli Vargis, Chris White, Jason Casellas, Jennifer Horan, Suvayan De, Lydia Andrade, Keith Gaddie, Kirby Goidel, Rowland Brucken, Samantha Tackett, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Robert Wallace, Pascal Ngoboka, Craig Walker, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, Nicole Farris, Chastity Blankenship

Guest: Kim Dlouhy Lacassagne

I. Call to order 9:31AM by President Cynthia Cready

II. Convention Director Kim Dlouhy Lacassagne's report for the San Diego meeting. We had 331 preregistered, 39 badges not picked up, 8 new registrations, and 6 membership renewals. We had three hotel surcharges. Biggest complaint she received was the lack of internet.

III. Approval of Minutes from SSSA Council from October 31, 2019. Corrections to the minutes included: Treasurer's Report will go back up to where they were in 2017 (corrected). Page 6 CSWE for Social Work conference (corrected). Not a play-by-play of who said what (will reduce content in future). Action items should be listed in future minutes. Mentioned having the reports ahead from affiliates would be helpful for minutes. Minutes approved.

IV. Officers Reports:

A. President

Next year's theme is "100 Years in Counting... Breaking Boundaries in a New Century." We are looking forward to the celebration!

B. Site Director

Nicole will see if we have additional room nights that count towards our block. We need to think about ways to increase our numbers. We will not look at future sites until we get a handle on our numbers.

C. Treasurer

All members need to sign the conflict of interest form and give back to Craig today. Just because you think you have a conflict of interest does not mean you cannot serve—you just need to declare it. If you are representing someone else, you do not need to sign it. Those that are new, I will send you a copy of the 99 Tax document. To be filed November 15, 2019.

D. Secretary

Send Chastity your ideas for exhibits, especially non-profits in the Austin area.

E. SSQ Editors

Keith and Kirby are looking for editors.

F. Communications

Look for a sign-up sheet for the website from Jeff. We do not publish emails and phone numbers. We need to know name, position so that Jeff can reach out to them. Thank you for sending him the affiliate Communications Directors. Thanks for sending him updates for affiliate websites.

V. Committee Reports

A. Awards

We are looking for other awards we have or what we can get. We have had some graduate students who have volunteered significant time for the Council. It would be nice to have an award for those who serve. The Awards Committee is taking over the Lineberry and Bonjean awards. Not fair for the SSQ Editors to determine those awards. Only past Presidents. We did not give any awards last year.

B. Budget and Finance

The budget for 2020 was proposed (see a copy of the budget proposal, which was provided during this meeting). Discussion: Membership is down. Most of the membership comes from participation in meeting, and attendance has dropped. The fees that were proposed last year have not changed. Motion to not change the fees. Motion carries, budget approved.

C. Editorial Policies

Correct what was said at the Business Meeting yesterday. The SSQ contract expires at the end of 2021. If we were going to search for new editors, we would need to start the search today. They asked for time 2024. They proposed we accept the plan not to search. Editors will propose for the extension. Upon recommendation of the Editorial Policies Committee, a motion that we delay initiation of the proposed search. Motion carries.

D. Membership

The Membership Committee needs active individuals willing to send out a series of recruitment emails to help increase participation. Chastity will send an email out to each affiliate to get active members on this committee. The committee decided to send out three recruitment emails over the next year to encourage participation. Yes, there is overlap with what the affiliates are doing. We are trying to figure out what we can do on that because for the next few years we cannot reduce conference hotel costs. We are in a contract with the Hyatt for the next few years. People complained of low session attendance, which is what we can try and work on.

E. Nominations

Apologies from Lydia to those who were elected for three-year terms, and were asked to send information. They should not have to send the nominations committee information when they are not under reelection. The following is a list of the current positions and terms: Treasurer through 2020, Secretary and General Program through 2021, Site and Communications Director through 2022. Motion: With today's election, they will continue to serve. After today, these positions will be three-year terms. Motion carries.

F. Resolutions Committee

No Resolutions. Only three members showed up.

G. Site Policy Meeting

Is it possible to have a conference not at hotels? We need to look at the cost of other types of conference spaces. Do we need to switch the times since the universities might not be able to give us space? We have thought about that possibility (on campus) and how that could limit our timing. **Action: requested the Site Director look into other options.**

H. Election of Officers

Moved that we elect the officers as presented. Discussion? Motion carries.

VI. Affiliate President's Reports

A. Anthropology

Elected for 2020-2021. They feel the name change to be a huge problem.

B. History

Patricia Ovesny will be the chair for the next two years. Undergraduate and graduate awards will come from their budget. They are considering having a guest speaker and reaching out to a history individual in Austin.

C. Economics

Suvayan De is the incoming President. Hoping the program chair can serve for two terms. They are up from 50s to 60s. Attended several sessions, and there were many good presentations.

D. International Studies

Chris White is the incoming President. Haroon Khan will be the Chair. The panels went well. Steven Phillips will be for the following year.

E. Political Science

Jason Casellas is President-elect. Will McLean will be the Chair. Had a discussion on declining membership and attendance. Same dates as Midwest. Expect about 25-30. Created an ad hoc committee to see what we can do for declining membership. Let us know what you are doing and what you find.

G. Social Work

They had a good business meeting. New officers are coming in and new people on committees. A student volunteer will be their Communications Director. He was the same student who won that award. Thanks, Pascal, since the award helped to get that student and his cohort to the conference. No cancelations. Lot of positive movement. People disappointed about the name change. People want it to be national. They will support the name change. There is a California travel band. For example, they are not allowed to get funding to travel to Texas. Looking at that for beyond 2023, which could be important. New Treasurer.

H. Sociology

Elizabeth Kelly will be the President. Pretty good attendance at the sessions. They have to think about an election between October and April. They had a joint reception with History and Women's and Gender Studies, which they want to continue. There is a newsletter that they are bringing back.

I. Women's and Gender Studies.

They also had a good business meeting. Co-chair so we can have that individual shadow and learn the role. New Treasurer. Starting some social media accounts to hopefully boost membership. Focusing on 100 years and also 100 years of Women's Suffrage. Want to have some focus on that. Joint celebration. Talked to graduate students, many panels overlapped that they wish they could see. We should combine more sessions together. Double-booked presenting in the same session. If someone is added after cannot do a lot about that. Someone that has more one account in All Academic during the same year.

VII. Old Business:

A. Affiliate Nominations to SSSA Committees

If there are empty committee member slots, the President will reach out to get people in those committees. Hopefully, with the change in having a Communications Director, we will have better communication to make sure the website is up-to-date and correct.

B. Bonjean and Lineberry Awards

For the time being, they could be the same Committee. If we created a special committee that could create more diversity. The past Presidents should have diversity. Five or six past Presidents, could be a problem for them meeting?

Motion: Move that Bonjean and Lineberry awards be determined by the Awards Committee. Discussion: should we have them do work that they do not know they are doing? Nothing to stop the past Presidents from reaching out to others and bringing them into the discussion. What if we ask the Awards Committee for their recommendations on how to select them?

Friendly Amendment (and **Action**)

The Awards Committee be directed to develop criteria and/or plan for determining the winners for the Bonjean and Lineberry awards and bring that back to the Council by the time of the mid-year meeting for the Program Chairs. Motion carries. All past Presidents are eligible to serve on that Committee.

C. Communications Committee

President will be reaching out to get representation from each affiliate for a Communications Committee.

D. Ad-hoc Student Travel Grant Committee

We have a list of the award recipients on our website. Do we want to have greater affiliate representation to determine these awards? We need to have time to review the results before we make this permanent. The Ad-hoc Committee is President appoints the new Vice President as the chair of that committee. President will work with Salli to determine the members of this committee.

E. Membership Survey and Name Change

The name change on the Membership Survey is OK. We need to survey others that are not part of the association. We will never know if the name influences the likelihood of attending that meeting.

We should authorize the Site Director to include additional questions of what might be of interest to potential members. What do people find valuable for conferences? With help from Sam Fisher from Political Science. The survey will go out in a couple of weeks. Should we delay? Give more time for the Membership Committee to work on increasing membership? Will Wiley let us have past participants that we can send them out? Two surveys? One on what would perhaps increase membership. Give time to build membership? For both surveys, we should include; does this type of conference count differently at your institution? Could it be sent to just to department chairs and deans?

Motion: Authorize the Site Director to add appropriate questions to our survey and to create a second survey to see what academics want at conferences. Motion carries. Tracy, Chastity, Jonathan, Elizabeth to help Nicole create survey questions.

F. Documents and Procedures Task Force

Send to Elizabeth to revise for consistency and then she will send to Treasurer. Communications Director has a Google Drive so that we can upload files instead of emailing there reports and having email overload. Good for historical documentation as well. Jeff will create a 100 years page so he needs people to send documents. We need people to take photos and use tag them.

Motion: recommend past President Pascal to commend him for his services for our organization. Motion carries. President to send written communication to his Dean thanking Pascal for his service.

G. Communications Director

Motion in Orlando for his \$7,500 (not \$750 as stated in minutes). Renewal one year term. The position needs to be evaluated. The Executive Committee will then vote. We need to vote separately on the contract. We revert back to our Texas bylaws if we do not have documentation in our Oklahoma bylaws. It's daily work. He is very quick to make changes to the website. Do we want to stay with the \$7,500 stipend? Is this the appropriate amount?

Motion: The President to do an evaluation of the current Communications Director and be authorized to create a contract for services to 2020. Motion carries.

Motion: We create a budgetary item for the support for a Communications Director. Motion carries.

Motion: We amend the 2020 budget to reflect the support for a Communications Director. Motion carries.

H. Hotel Use Policy

On our website we have that it will not be waived. Too rigid? There needs to be some criteria if we decide to waive this fee and who has the authority to make this decision. We did not meet the room block. One hotel use fee was waived. The President can only waive registration. We have waived registration fees to encourage participation in the meeting for students. Temporarily changed our hotel policy to 75 miles due to Florida law. They can pay the hotel surcharge fee when they register for the conference.

Motion: Do not waive the hotel fee. Motion carries.

I. Bylaws Issues

Due to the transitional period, we are not quite in compliance with Section 8.2.A of the Bylaws regarding minimum membership requirements for affiliate inclusion in the rotation of the Office of SSSA Vice President. Similar to the Council's decision at the mid-year meeting regarding affiliate voting representation on the Council, consider suspending action on 8.2.A. during this transitional period.

Motion: To suspend the action of Section 8.2.A to 2020. Motion carries.

J. Ad-hoc Strategic Plan Committee

Salli Vargis, Chastity Blankenship, Lydia Andrade, Jonathan Marion, Jennifer Horan, Suvayan De, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, and others to be determined. Can affiliate Presidents submit bylaws to Communications Director? We need to be able to show members how to do things. Name Change Tabled. Anyone can make a motion at the next Business Meeting to discuss.

Motion withdrawn: We change the Southwestern Social Science Association to Social Science Society Association to take place in 2020.

Motion: Authorize the Strategic Planning Committee to consider the name change impact. Motion carries.

VIII. Announcements

Mid-year Meeting for General Program Director, 2020 and 2021 SSSA President-elect and the 2020 and 2021 Program Chairs, Date to Be Determined in Austin, Texas. There should be three hotel nights covered.

Meeting adjourned at 11:53AM.

Actions:

1. The Site Director to investigate other options for lower-cost meeting spaces.
2. The Awards Committee be directed to develop criteria and/or plan for determining the winners for the Bonjean and Lineberry awards and bring that back to the Council by the time of the mid-year meeting for the Program Chairs.
3. The Site Director to add appropriate questions to our survey and to create a second survey to see what academics want at conferences.
4. The President to send a written communication to Pascal Ngoboka's Dean thanking Pascal for his service.
5. The President to complete an evaluation of the current Communications Director and create a contract for services to 2020.
6. Amend the 2020 budget and includes a budgetary item for the support for a Communications Director.
7. The Strategic Planning Committee to consider the name change impact.

**Slack Virtual SSSA Executive Council Meeting
SSQ Price 2021**

Attendance: Lydia Andrade, Chastity Blankenship, Jason Casellas, Cynthia Cready, Suvayan De, Tracy Dietz, Nicole Farris, Keith Gaddie, Kirby Goidel, Jennifer Horan, Jeff Justice, Elizabeth Kelly, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Pascal Ngoboka, Katherine Perone, Soumya Sivakumar, Samantha Tackett, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, Salli Vargis, Craig Walker, Robert Wallace, Eddie Weller, Chris White

On May 11, 2020, President Cynthia Cready forwarded an email exchange between Co-Editor Keith Gaddie and SSQ Executive Editor Mike Streeter. They “are recommending a **0% increase in pricing for 2021.**” As Mike explains, “the intent ... is to recognize what we understand will be a market under increased budgetary pressure next year due to COVID-19.” Even though they are recommending a 0% increase, we still need to approve their recommendation in the next several days. The recommendation has been approved by the Executive Committee. It is now before the Council. Thus, President Cready would like to entertain a motion from a member of the Council approving recommendation of a 0% increase in SSQ’s library subscription rates for 2021.

Elizabeth Kelly moves to approve this recommendation. Pascal seconded.

On May 12, 2020 the polled closed. Voting on the 0% increase in SSQ library subscription rates for 2021 motion is closed. There were 14 eligible Ayes (2 nays, 3 present). The motion passes.



Slack Virtual SSSA Executive Council Meeting Postponement of Austin Meeting in 2020

Attendance: Lydia Andrade, Chastity Blankenship, Jason Casellas, Cynthia Cready, Suvayan De, Tracy Dietz, Nicole Farris, Keith Gaddie, Kirby Goidel, Jennifer Horan, Jeff Justice, Elizabeth Kelly, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Pascal Ngoboka, Katherine Perone, Soumya Sivakumar, Samantha Tackett, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, Salli Vargis, Craig Walker, Robert Wallace, Eddie Weller, Chris White

On June 29, 2020, President Cynthia Cready sent a message to the Executive Council about postponing the meeting in Austin.

President Cready, Site Director Nicole Farris, General Program Director Tracy Dietz, and Past SSSA President Lydia Andrade “continued to be in communication with Melissa Edwards, our Experienced representative and liaison with the Hyatt Regency Austin, to explore our options with the hotel as the pandemic evolved. Given ongoing discussions in the SSSA Ad-Hoc COVID-19 Advisory Committee and in the SSSA Communications Committee, along with the city of Austin’s and the state of Texas’s current restrictions regarding gatherings, travel constraints, the uncertainty of the progress of the virus, etc., we began to explore with Melissa the unfortunate option of possibly canceling the hotel/physical meeting. At the end of last week, we heard from Melissa that the hotel was willing to work with us on “any cancellation for this year,” and “would appreciate an opportunity to rebook [us] for a future year ... and will wait to hear from [her] on what year is available.” The next step is for SSSA to forward as soon as possible a notice of cancellation to Melissa so she can take care of the paperwork. A motion to authorize the SSSA President and SSSA Site Director to forward an official notice of cancellation of the Hyatt Regency Austin for October 27-November 1, 2020 and to authorize the SSSA Site Director to work with the hotel to rebook for a future meeting was passed unanimously by the SSSA Executive Committee earlier today. The issue is now before the full SSSA Council.”

Lydia Andrade moved that full SSSA Council to authorize the SSSA President and SSSA Site Director to forward an official notice of cancellation of the Hyatt Regency Austin for October 27-November 1, 2020 and to authorize the SSSA Site Director to work with the hotel to rebook for a future meeting.

Communications Director Jeff Justice seconded.

Discussion:

Would SSSA consider some version of an Online Fall meeting?

Communications Director Jeff Justice mentioned the Communications Committee has discussed an online meeting. At this point, it’s too close to our meeting to make a virtual option. We would have to have a dedicated team managing the technology side of it at the scale where we would have to do it, and from what other associations have reported, the costs would be enormous.

No more discussion. A poll to vote on the above motion was posted on Slack. The poll closed on July 1, 2020. President Cready sent a Slack message, the motion passed with 14 eligible votes in favor of the motion, a majority of eligible votes. A notice of cancellation has been sent to the hotel.

Grote m Cready

Slack Virtual SSSA Executive Council Meeting Postponement of Centennial and Canceling Austin Meeting

Attendance: Lydia Andrade, Chastity Blankenship, Jason Casellas, Cynthia Cready, Suvayan De, Tracy Dietz, Nicole Farris, Keith Gaddie, Kirby Goidel, Jennifer Horan, Jeff Justice, Elizabeth Kelly, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Pascal Ngoboka, Katherine Perone, Soumya Sivakumar, Samantha Tackett, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, Salli Vargis, Craig Walker, Robert Wallace, Eddie Weller, Chris White

On October 2, 2020, President Cynthia Cready sent a message to the Executive Council announcing we have official confirmation of our cancellation (without penalty) from the Hyatt Regency Austin for October 27, 2020 – November 1, 2020. Nicole Farris is working with Melissa Edwards, our Experient representative, to rebook the hotel for a future meeting. We are fortunate to be partnering with Melissa. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of members of the SSSA Ad-Hoc COVID-19 Advisory Committee (Lydia (Chair), Israel, Nicole, Tracy, Craig, Robert, Jason, [and Jeff and the SSSA Communications Committee]) on the many COVID-19 issues that have come up. Regarding our next steps, the COVID-19 Advisory Committee met at the end of last week and is unanimously recommending to the Council:

1. Cancelling the SSSA 2020 meeting, including any digital alternatives, and forwarding all 2020 submissions to the 2021 NOLA meeting.
2. Postponing the Centennial celebrations to the 2021 meeting.
3. Keeping the same SSSA officers in their current positions until the 2021 meeting.

Since this is a committee motion, no second required and discussion could begin. No one had any questions or comments to address.

A poll was posted on Slack, “On the motion to cancel the 2020 meeting, forward 2020 submissions to 2021, postpone Centennial celebrations to 2021, and keep same SSSA officers in current positions until 2021.”

Communications Director Jeff Justice asked the affiliates to send any website changes in a Word .docx file and email him the file at sssacomdir@gmail.com. It's easier to do it as an entire page if possible, but he can work with portions of pages.

Discussion after poll:

What is the plan for the affiliate disbursements for this year? Political Science would like to have funds to support a distance lecture series to carry us through the extended period of no contact.

Treasurer Craig Walked replied that affiliate disbursements are in process. We have not been able to get affiliate information from Wiley so we have decided to just split membership the same way as meeting participation. Craig is in the process of confirming affiliate treasurers and

will send the distribution this week. The disbursement is \$15 per meeting participant and \$15 per member with \$5 for secondary and tertiary memberships. Since meeting participation and membership is down the disbursements will reflect that decrease.

The poll closed and the motion passed with 16 ayes on the same day.

Gente m ready

Slack Virtual SSSA Executive Council Meeting Amended Contract for Austin Meeting in 2020

Attendance: Lydia Andrade, Chastity Blankenship, Jason Casellas, Cynthia Cready, Suvayan De, Tracy Dietz, Nicole Farris, Keith Gaddie, Kirby Goidel, Jennifer Horan, Jeff Justice, Elizabeth Kelly, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Pascal Ngoboka, Katherine Perone, Soumya Sivakumar, Samantha Tackett, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, Salli Vargis, Craig Walker, Robert Wallace, Eddie Weller, Chris White

On May 7, 2021, SSSA President Cynthia Cready posted the current contract with the Hyatt Regency Austin for the 2020 annual meeting. The second document is an amendment to this contract recently submitted by SSSA Site Director Nicole Farris to the SSSA Executive Committee for approval.

The amendment revises two sections of the contract, “room and space block review” (p. 2) and “food and beverage performance” (p. 10). The amendment adds an up-to-July 29, 2020 (90-day out) review of room and space, wherein SSSA will be permitted to reduce the contracted room block up to 50% (to 502 total rooms) (with a proportionate reduction in meeting and event space being held by the hotel for the conference). The amendment also reduces the food and beverage minimum for the conference from \$60,000 to \$30,000. The amendment has been approved by the SSSA Executive Committee. It also requires approval by the SSSA Council. President Cready entertains a motion authorizing the SSSA President to sign the posted amendment to the contract on behalf of the SSSA. After a seconded motion, and any discussion, a poll will be set up in Slack for voting.

Eddie Weller moves. Jennifer Horan seconded.

Discussion:

What are the consequences?

Tracy clarifies: right now it would likely cost us about \$180,000. Governor Abbott has declared the state “open for business” and there are no travel restrictions in the state. If circumstances change, we might have a better position to get out of the contract without significant penalty.

How many submissions do we have?

Tracy clarifies: We have 49 submissions today (175 days out). For Austin last time, 175 days out would have been October 19. We had 17 submissions at that point. For Orlando, 175 days out would have been April 25. We had 12 submissions at that point. So, based on current submissions we are much better than either of those but it is possible people are just submitting earlier. Twenty-three of the submissions for this year have been submitted since March 15; 19 of them since April 1.

More discussion from members about the uncertainty of government policies, and funding for travel.

Poll posted on May 7, 2020. Poll closed on May 8, 2020.

Voting on the Hyatt Regency Austin contract amendment motion is closed. There were 11 eligible Ayes, a majority of eligible votes. The motion passes. President Cready will sign the amendment on behalf of the association and forward it to our Experient rep (liaison between us and the hotel).

Andre M Cready

**Slack Virtual SSSA Executive Council Meeting
All in the Loop**

Attendance: Lydia Andrade, Chastity Blankenship, Jason Casellas, Cynthia Cready, Suvayan De, Tracy Dietz, Nicole Farris, Keith Gaddie, Kirby Goidel, Jennifer Horan, Jeff Justice, Elizabeth Kelly, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Pascal Ngoboka, Katherine Perone, Soumya Sivakumar, Samantha Tackett, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, Salli Vargis, Craig Walker, Robert Wallace, Eddie Weller, Chris White

On February, 10, 2021, President Cynthia Cready sent the following Slack message

Tracy, Jeff, and President Cynthia Cready met with three virtual platform vendors. Two provided a bid. Deliverables were comparable between the two but All in the Loop provided greater flexibility to us in timeline and was slightly less expensive at \$30,250 (see attached contract for more detail). We recommended using All in the Loop to the SSSA Executive Committee. The Executive Committee passed a motion recommending the same to the SSSA Council. President Cynthia Cready would like to entertain a motion to authorize the SSSA President to sign on behalf of the association the contract to use All in the Loop as the association's virtual platform vendor for the 2021 annual meeting (provided contract in Slack).

Eddie Weller moves to accept. Suvayan De seconded.

Discussion?

What is our current budgetary impact and burn, relative to the number of participants we anticipate?

Tracy Dietz responds that she has heard from about half of participants. Of those, about 40% have said they plan to come to New Orleans. A very small number have said they are withdrawing completely and then about 60% said they want to present virtually. Nicole may have a sense of the numbers of officers who are coming. As you all already know the new contract has a 0 attrition penalty so we will only be charged for the rooms the association uses for officers. We will not be penalized for failure to meet a room block. In addition, the room rate was decreased by \$50 per room per night. No food and beverage minimum. If appropriate, we can purchase some types of snacks or drinks from them as I believe they are trying to be as generous as possible. I want to discuss the options we talked about with Cynthia before going into detail here. The costs for registration desk staff should be lower. We will need to rent fewer projectors but may need to rent a camera or two from the hotel. We cannot say how those costs will play out.

A poll was posted to approve All in the Loop. One day later, on February 11, 2021, the poll closed. Voting on the motion to sign with All in the Loop is closed. The vote was 15 Ayes, 2 No, and 1 Present, with a majority of eligible votes in favor. The motion passes.



**Slack Virtual SSSA Executive Council Meeting
New Orleans Amended Contract and Registration Fees
February 2, 2021**

Attendance: Lydia Andrade, Chastity Blankenship, Jason Casellas, Cynthia Cready, Suvayan De, Tracy Dietz, Nicole Farris, Kirby Goidel, Jennifer Horan, Jeff Justice, Elizabeth Kelly, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Pascal Ngoboka, Soumya Sivakumar, Samantha Tackett, Salli Vargis, Craig Walker, Robert Wallace, Eddie Weller, Chris White (based on voting and “hellos” for rollcall in Slack)

On January 31, 2020, SSSA President Cynthia Cready emailed the Council and sent a message via Slack to let us know our next meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb 2, 2021 at 3:30pm, CST. She called our Slack meeting to order on February 2, 2021 at 4:30 PM.

President Cready reminds all Executive Committee members and affiliate Presidents who are planning to attend the annual meeting on-site in New Orleans to send Nicole the information she needs to make your hotel reservation by close of business Friday Feb 5.

President Cready also reminds members to say hello for roll.

I. Conference Hotel Addendum

The first item on the agenda is the conference hotel contract addendum posted above. New terms include reducing the group’s room rate by \$50 to \$189/night, decreasing the total room block 63% to 446, with essentially no penalty for not meeting it. Instead the addendum commits us to review the new room block at two and one months before the meeting to release rooms and space if needed.

Melissa, our Experient rep, is working with the hotel on a second contract addendum regarding the food and beverage minimum. President Cready will bring this second addendum to the Council when she gets it. President Cready entertains a motion that authorizes me to sign this first contract addendum on behalf of the SSSA.

Eddie Weller moved. Jonathan Marion seconded.

No Discussion.

A poll was posted, on the motion to approve the amended hotel contract. 17 ayes, which is a majority of eligible votes. The motion carries.

II. Conference Fees

Tracy and others have raised the issue of lowering the conference registration fee for virtual only participants, as other associations have done.

Craig Walker proposes a motion on fees for a virtual participant, professional member \$20; student member \$10. Retain the difference between member and nonmember.

Discussion:

Do we continue with the 10% raise for people who register late? Discussion on \$5, \$10 late registration fee. If the fee should be higher for face-to-face late registration versus virtual attendees. If late registration impacts equipment. Registration helps for the program.

Craig Walker proposes motion on fees for a virtual participant, professional member \$20; student member \$10. Retain the difference between member and nonmember.

Lydia Andrade moves to accept the virtual fees proposed by Craig. Jonathan Marion seconded.

A poll was posted in Slack. 15 ayes, which is a majority of eligible votes. The motion carries.

III. Hotel Surcharge

President Cready mentions Program Chairs are also covered up to 3 nights based on the recommendation of the General Program Director. Three program chairs were no show since San Diego. We are not covering their stays.

The program chairs who did not show up were from Social Work, Anthropology, and Women and Gender.

No Food & Beverage addendum yet. Hotel room rates are \$189 a night.

Tracy moves we retain the hotel surcharge for those participants who attend onsite. Lydia Andrade seconded.

No discussion.

The motion passes with 16 ayes.

Meeting adjourns at 4:58 PM.

Justin M. Cready

**Slack Virtual SSSA Executive Council Meeting
SSSA Budget for 2021**

Attendance: Lydia Andrade, Chastity Blankenship, Jason Casellas, Cynthia Cready, Suvayan De, Tracy Dietz, Nicole Farris, Keith Gaddie, Kirby Goidel, Jennifer Horan, Jeff Justice, Elizabeth Kelly, Jonathan Marion, Israel Nandamudi, Pascal Ngoboka, Katherine Perone, Soumya Sivakumar, Samantha Tackett, Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, Salli Vargis, Craig Walker, Robert Wallace, Eddie Weller, Chris White

On October 31, 2020 SSSA President Cynthia Cready sent the following message via Slack:

I am writing to update you on actions taken by the SSSA Executive Committee during their mid-year meeting yesterday. Please note that the fourth item requires Council action.

1. NOLA Hotel Contract. The Committee authorized the SSSA President to sign for the SSSA on an addendum to the association's contract with Hotel Monteleone for the 2021 annual meeting. This addendum extends the review date for room and meeting space from November 30, 2020 to January 29, 2021. I have signed the addendum, and forwarded it to our Experient representative. In parallel to moving forward with a physical meeting, Jeff and Tracy continue to investigate online delivery options.
2. Affiliate Representation on the SSSA Council and Rotation of the Office of the SSSA Vice-President. The Committee voted to continue suspension of action of SSSA By-Laws Sections 5.3 & 8.2.a regarding membership requirements for affiliate representation on the SSSA Council and rotation of the Office of the SSSA Vice President until the next regular meeting of the SSSA Council. As the History affiliate is next in the rotation of the SSSA Vice President, Eddie, as their president, should provide their selection of at least one nominee for the 2021 election to the nominating committee (chaired by Pascal) as soon as possible.
3. Video Conferencing Software. The Committee voted to discontinue contract with GoToMeeting and contract instead with Zoom.

Action Needed

4. 2021 Budget. The Committee voted to recommend for SSSA Council approval the attached proposed budget for 2021, with no increase in meeting or personal membership rates for 2021. As this is a motion from a committee it does not need a second. Is there any discussion regarding this motion to approve the proposed budget for 2021?

Lydia Andrade moves to accept budget. Tracy Dietz seconded.
No discussion. A poll was posted to accept the proposed budget.

The poll closed on November 2, 2020. There were 15 eligible Ayes, a majority of eligible votes. The motion passes.

Cynthia M. Cready

