

Fall 2018 AAG Council Meeting

Nov. 2 - 4

Baltimore, Maryland

MINUTES

ATTENDING

Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach, *President*; David H, Kaplan, *Vice President*; Derek Alderman, *Past President*; Deborah Thomas, *Treasurer*; Cathleen McAnney, *Secretary*; Douglas Richardson, *Executive Director*; Jennifer Collins, David Di Biase, Lorraine Dowler, Wendy Jepson, Jamie Winders, Karen D. Johnson Webb – East Lakes, Rebecca Kelly – Middle Atlantic, Lindsay Naylor – Middle States, John T. Hayes - NESTVAL, Sriram Khe’ – Pacific Coast, John Kupfer - Southeastern, Michaela Buenemann Southwestern, Woonsup Choi – West Lakes, Sarah Stinard-Kiel, Student Councilor.

STAFF

Candida Mannozi, Zan Dodson

Luzzadder-Beach opened the meeting at 9:15 AM and welcomed all those present.

Opening

Luzzadder-Beach called for the adoption of the Agenda. Kupfer moved to adopt the Meeting Agenda, Naylor seconded the motion. *The motion was paused to allow Kaplan to request that Agenda items 10.1 and 10.2 (Annual Meeting) be moved up in the agenda. Alderman seconded this request. There was general consensus from Council.*

Luzzadder-Beach called the motion to approve the agenda. Hayes moved, Alderman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Luzzadder-Beach asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Council Meeting Minutes

McAnney asked those Councilmembers who’d participated in the Spring 2018 Council Meeting to reconfirm their votes approving the Spring 2018 Council Meeting Minutes.

Hayes noted a correction to a sentence on p. 6 of the Fall 2018 Council Minutes: “Sriram Khe’ would like to see language that reflects views that small losses in portfolio value may not violate our fiduciary responsibility.”

Alderman moved to approve the Minutes as amended, Kupfer seconded the motion. The motion passed with 19 yeas and 1 abstention (Kaplan).

President’s Comments: Luzzadder-Beach started by discussing the upcoming 2019 Annual Meeting themes: Geography, GIScience and Health; Geographies of Human Rights; and Physical Geography in Environmental Science. She stated being very pleased about the three themes and the crossover between them that she has been seeing thus far. Luzzadder-Beach said that she would like to focus on Professional Conduct issues at the AAG, not only with how they tie into the focus on human / civil rights at the Annual Meeting, but also how we

(the AAG Council) need to help foster respect for each other personally and professionally. Luzzadder-Beach then invited Kaplan to speak.

Vice President's Comments: Kaplan proposed pursuing three initiatives in the course of his tenure on the AAG Council: Kaplan began by noting how honored and excited he is to be the current Vice President, and that during his tenure, he would like to pursue the following three initiatives:

- 1) Efforts to embrace and accommodate under-represented institutions in geography (i.e., community colleges, historically black institutions, Hispanic scholars, etc.). Kaplan noted that these institutions are incubators of diversity and that many geographers come out of these institutions. Kaplan stated that he is establishing a set of panels at the 2019 Annual Meeting comprised of representatives from these types of institutions.
- 2) Efforts to make geography more relevant to non-academic geographers (i.e., those who enter the public / private sector rather than the tenure stream). He noted that 50% of those receiving their PhDs do not end up in an academic geography position, and that a large number of them find work outside of the discipline, but in related fields.
- 3) Efforts to reconsider the role and function of the AAG regional divisions. He recognized that they play a very important role in the Association and would like to see them returned to a healthier state. Kaplan suggested creating a task force to look into this. Richardson suggested also conducting an analysis to examine how the context in which the Regional Divisions now operate has changed since the AAG regions were launched.

Past President's Comments: Having just attended the West Lakes meeting, Alderman complimented the West Lakes region for hosting a great event. He relayed the division's greetings to the Council. He thanked Doug Richardson and the AAG staff and stated that AAG Presidents are largely able to accomplish their goals thanks to the support and work of Doug and the staff. He thanked Lorraine Dowler on her hard work on the Anti-Harassment Task Force. Alderman mentioned that communication and public outreach were and continue to be key themes for his term of service on the Council. [He noted his surprise at how many members had not read the President's Column and wondered if there is more that can be done to promote it.] He mentioned *The Conversation*, and suggested possibly involving the AAG and its members in their work, as they assist scholars in re-formulating or editing their written work into published pieces accessible to a wider, non-academic audience.

Regional Division Updates

John Hayes, Chair of the Regional Councilors, gave an oral report on the Regional Divisions at the Fall 2018 Council meeting. John thanked the Reg. Councilors for their reports submitted to him via email.

[Subsequently, John was asked by Cathleen to write up his oral report – which is submitted below.]

SEDAAG's annual meeting will be held in Johnson City, TN during November 18-19 with Dr. Marshall Shepherd as keynote speaker. **Councilor John Kupfer** announced that SEDAAG's election of Vice President and state reps was held this Fall with the results to be announced next week before their annual meeting. John Hayes noted that Dr. Shepard of the University of

Georgia was President of the American Meteorological Society in 2013 and previously was a research meteorologist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center for 12 years.

SWAAG's annual meeting, hosted by Louisiana State University, was held October 4th – 6th in Baton Rouge with the theme of “Bridging the Trans- and Cis-Mississippi Regions”. **Councilor Michaela Buenemann** reported that the meeting had about 160 attendees with 22 paper and poster sessions. AAG President Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach gave the keynote address. The Division awarded three summer field research scholarships and two student travel scholarships; this was their first year of awards. The Division publishes an annual Newsletter once per year - edited by Division Secretary Amy Frazier.

Councilor Rebecca Kelly reported that the **Mid-Atlantic Division's** annual meeting was being held at Morgan State University in Baltimore on November 2-3. The meeting theme was “Bridging Divides: Places, People and the Environment”. The Division will hold elections at the meeting to replace their retiring Vice-Chair as well as their out-going Chair Michael Ratcliffe. They announced a new website developed by Division Treasurer, Kelly O'Neil. [note: On Friday, Nov. 2, the AAG Council was very pleased to attend the evening program of MAD's annual meeting. AAG President Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach gave the keynote presentation.]

The **Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Division** held a successful annual meeting on October 5-6 at Kansas State University in Manhattan. **Councilor Deb Thomas** reported that 145 people registered for the meeting representing 31 domestic and international universities. AAG Vice President David Kaplan was a keynote speaker as was Tim Keane of Kansas State. Several departments in the GPRM region are considering name changes or mergers with other departments. Many departments are experiencing significant transitions with retirements and are facing uncertain times if these positions are not replaced. Councilor Thomas reports that this situation has made finding a location for hosting the 2019 regional meeting challenging.

NESTVAL held its annual meeting on October 12-13 at Keene State College in Keene, NH. The meeting began with a lively World Geography Bowl competition between six teams on Friday afternoon. UNH won the competition with Southern Connecticut State receiving the runner-up trophy. AAG President Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach gave the keynote address. Several awards were announced including the AAG Council Award for outstanding graduate research paper, the David Frost Undergraduate student paper award, the NESTVAL Student Research poster award, and the Faculty Research Grant. The Division's annual peer-reviewed journal, *The Northeastern Geographer*, has put out a Call for Papers for its 11th volume to be published in 2019. The journal is edited by Steven Silvern of Salem State University. Councilor John Hayes reported there were several recent name changes among departments in the region: Westfield State - Geography, Planning and Sustainability; Keene State - Geography, Outdoor Recreation and Planning; Bishops University (in Quebec, Canada) - Environmental Studies and Geography; Southern Conn. State (as a result of a merger) - Environment, Geography, and Marine Sciences.

The 81st annual meeting of the **APCG** was held October 24th – 27th in Reno, NV, hosted by the University of Nevada-Reno. The theme was the *Geography of Things*. An Awards Banquet and Presidential Address was held on Saturday evening of the meeting. **Councilor Sriram Khe**

reported that nine students received undergraduate or graduate awards at the meeting. UNR faculty held five field trips in the Reno area on the 25th.

The **East Lakes Division of the AAG** held its annual meeting on October 18-19 in Ada, OH at Ohio Northern University. This was the first time that ONU has hosted the meeting. There were approximately 110 attendees from Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. The new Chair of the Division, Jacqueline Housel, is a geography professor at Sinclair Community College. **Councilor Karen Johnson-Webb** believes Dr. Housel is the first faculty member from a 2-year college to be elected to this position. Michigan State University was able to admit and fund three African American women graduate students for the 2018 academic year - for the first time. Owens Community College has a new GIS program and Ohio State has an interim chair, Darla Munroe. Previous chair, Morton O'Kelly, has been promoted to Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The Department of Geography and Earth Science at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse hosted the annual meeting of the **West Lakes Division of the AAG** on November 1-3. **Councilor Woonsup Choi** reported that there were 215 registrants for the conference (that he will have to miss because he is attending the Fall AAG Council meeting!). The Division will vote on changes to their By-Laws at this meeting - focusing on revisions related to renaming officer titles and roles. There has been some restructuring of the Geography Department at Western Illinois University; it has been renamed as the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Geographic Information Sciences. WIU has a new online post-graduate Certificate in Community Development and Planning, as well as in GIS. They also have a new online undergrad degree program in Geography and Geographic Information Science.

The annual meeting of the **Middle States Division of the AAG** was held on October 26-27 at Montclair State University in Montclair, NJ. On Friday the 26th, the meeting had a World Geography Bowl competition, paper and poster sessions, as well as several field trips. The next day had paper and poster sessions, a business luncheon meeting, distribution of student awards, and a keynote address. **Councilor Lindsay Naylor** asked the Council if the AAG could help with conference registration for the regional meetings. She wondered if each year across the regional divisions - if many conference hosts struggled with creating a conference website and online registration process? As Divisions make strides to 'grow' their annual meetings attendance, their workload increases and can be stressful.

Student Councilmember: Stinard-Kiel stated that the Annual Meeting can be difficult for students to attend, due to its cost (esp. due to delays in registration fee reimbursements from departments.) Some students had suggested that the AAG allow a delay for students, not requiring them to pay their full registration fee upfront. Some students also asked for the provision of a rest/nap room at the Annual Meeting, for those housed far from the meeting venue. She stated a need for departments to encourage graduate student participation in regional meetings.

Career goals: how best to market one's PhD? Stinard-Kiel suggested that the AAG discuss with recent PhDs and people new to the work market (esp. in non-academic careers) what kind of supplemental career advice or guidance they might need from the AAG Jobs & Careers Center or from other sources. Stinard-Kiel also stated that there is a need to improve to career advice/services in many departments. She suggested revisiting former GSAG Student

Representative Sarah Diamond's best practices document on careers and the job market. Stinard-Kiel also stated that students feel strongly that the AAG has a duty to continue to stand up to white ethno-nationalism.

She indicated that students wish to see their moral stance reflected in the AAG's positions and actions. The ensuing discussion noted the AAG's many existing policy statements and actions, and how the AAG can continue to address new hate crimes that have taken place in the past two weeks. President Luzzadder-Beach noted that her next presidential column in the AAG Newsletter will be addressing these issues and events.

Discussion. Luzzadder-Beach opened the floor to discussion. Stinard-Kiel electronically shared a copy of Sara Diamond's best practices with the Council. Kelly noted that we need to find better ways advocate and assist graduate students with their career paths, pointing to the name changes many departments are going through as a potentially problematic factor. She stated that there is also a need to increase enrollment in geography programs. Jepson thanked AAG and Council for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. She stressed the importance of professionalizing students and that this responsibility falls to advisors, teachers, and senior geographers. Jepson also mentioned that she would like to see professional conduct tied more closely to AAG honors and awards. Hayes remarked that graduate supervisors need to encourage students to attend regional meetings. Kupfer agreed with this statement, but also noted the importance of faculty attending the regional division meetings, too -- faculty should lead by example. Khe' remarked that he has noticed a marked decline in attendance at regional division meetings, and suggested that we all need to do a better job at mentoring students, including incoming undergraduates. Naylor noted that it is difficult to mentor students and get to them to regional meetings, and in their current state (regional meetings), are not always worth her students' time (i.e., lack of rigor and no value-added). Stinard-Kiel stated she would like to use Penn State University's model for graduate student clubs and organizations as one for the AAG to consider.

Update on Scott Warren Case

Khe' provided an update on the arrest and legal situation of geographer Scott Warren. Khe' also strongly agreed that the AAG should denounce white nationalism and take a strong stand.

Alderman mentioned the need to not only react to events as they occurred, but to also make broader statements on behalf of the discipline on certain issues. How can the AAG represent its diversity, inclusion, anti-harassment, etc. in its public statements, as well as in its practices and its service to the discipline?

Thomas also underscored the importance of addressing these types of issues.

Jepson asked whether there is a task force at the ready to handle these issues as they arise.

Johnson-Webb inquired how the AAG addresses possible future arrests of AAG members (Scott Warren case, f. ex.)? Luzzadder-Beach requested that the AAG establish a Public Engagement Task Force/Committee. Richardson proposed the establishment of a Rapid Response Committee (much like the Healthy Departments Committee) to respond to public issues or individual situations as they arise. Winders suggested this committee also recommend possible action on behalf of the AAG (to be approved by the AAG Executive Committee).

Alderman volunteered to convene a small number of Councilmembers (Naylor and Johnson-Webb also volunteered) to draft the make-up and charge of this rapid response committee, and then bring it to the Council for review/approval.

There was a suggestion to make this rapid response team separate from a Public Engagement response committee.

Executive Director's Comments

Richardson briefly summarized one of the many AAG policy statements and actions that the AAG had undertaken in recent years, and referenced the AAG Policy Section on the AAG website for further information and background on these actions.

He also reported that there were two agenda items the AAG Executive Committee recommended moving up for earlier discussion in the course of the Council meeting: namely, the discussion of the report and recommendations from the Safe Spaces at the Annual Meeting Task Force; and an overview of the years of AAG activity to defeat the exclusionary procurement efforts undertaken by others regarding provision of GIS and mapping services.

Consent Agenda

Richardson asked Council to review the items listed under the Consent Agenda and identify any that they might like removed from the Agenda and discussed separately. *Kupfer moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, Kaplan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

Executive Committee Request for Early Discussion

Harassment-Free AAG Task Force

Dowler provided an overview of the reasons for the Task Force's formation and its work to date.

The Task Force was to be pro-active, not responsive, to harassment events and issues being uncovered or denounced. The "Harassment-Free" name was chosen by the Task Force members to embody the proactive nature of this task force and its work.

Dowler asked for questions/suggestions from the Council on the proposed AAG Statement and Policy, as outlined in her report. Council discussion resulted in a request for further development of AAG statements/policies regarding structural harassment (i.e., an AAG member being profiled by local police, hotel security, etc.).

The question arose as to whether or how to restrict the taking of photos of a presentation or slide show and further disseminating these materials without the author's/presenter's consent.

There was a suggestion that the AAG make "no-Tweet, no photo, etc." graphics available for speakers to use, should they wish, or to make signs available in the guidance packet for session chairs. Perhaps the AAG might also send out reminders on the Annual Meeting App that attendees should seek consent from anyone prior to taking and/or disseminating pictures of them or their materials.

Dowler outlined the Task Force recommendation to hire the services of an Advocate to serve the AAG during the 2019 and future annual meetings. She indicated that an Advocate provides immediate response/first solution(s) to someone feeling unsafe (i.e., can get them an escort, change their hotel room, accompany them to a specific person in the local police department, and – if so desired - connect them with an AAG ombudsperson). *Richardson suggested that he engage the AAG's law firm to vet the proposed roles and activities of the advocate and ombudsperson, to avoid potential legal pitfalls. General consensus.*

Jepson suggested creating sample scenarios or flowcharts to illustrate the advocate's services to the membership. Johnson-Webb asked how the advocate and ombudsperson will be assessed for their effectiveness after the AM.

Dowler also proposed to link a number of Annual Meeting sessions listed in the Task Force report under a "Harassment-Free AAG" banner/theme/tagline. General consensus.

“SUMMARY AND REQUEST FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL

With the understanding that statement and policy documents will be reviewed by the AAG law firm, and other documents such as the survey will be edited, the following provides an item checklist for approval by the AAG Council.

1. Anti-Harassment Statement
2. Anti-Harassment Policy
3. Adoption of an on-site Advocate for the Meeting
4. Adoption of an off-site external Ombudsperson for the Meeting
5. The Banner to link events and sessions
6. Visibility Program (including Buttons!)
7. Three-year term for the Harassment-Free AAG task force. In year two the task force will evaluate the results of the survey (June/July 2019) and make recommendations to the AAG Council for adjustments to the program, such as possible workshops at the national meeting. In year three the Task Force will file our final report.”

John Kupfer moved to approve the above checklist including the friendly amendments from Council (as listed below). Alderman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Summary and Request for Council Approval, as listed above, from the Task Force report, was adopted with the following caveats:

- The proposed Anti-Harassment statement and policy are to be reviewed by the AAG lawyer;
- The role and services of an advocate and ombudsperson have been approved but the AAG should compare the qualifications of the proposed advocate with at least one other candidate;
- The harassment survey will be administered at an AAG Annual meeting
- A request was made to make some of the survey language more accessible to non-native English speakers.
- There was a request to include the racial categories consistent with those of the US Census Bureau.

There was a suggestion to reach out to Department Chairs to share some of the Anti-Harassment handouts and flyers the AAG will distribute at the Annual Meeting. General consensus.

Finance

Richardson and Thomas presented an overview of the latest financial information.

Alternative Investments Update

Hayes walked the Council through his revised proposal for fossil fuel divestment. Richardson and Thomas stated that the Finance Committee will meet in February and will review the results from the existing investment report and could then decide about this proposal. He

invited Hayes to Skype in to the Finance Committee meeting. Alderman thanked Hayes for his hard work.

Committees and SGs

McAnneny presented the current Nominating Committee's proposed candidates for the 2019 ballot.

There was a proposal to ask the AAG Nominating Committee to reduce the number of candidates on the 2019 ballot who are standing for election as National Councilors from 12 to six. General consensus.

Honors and Nominating Committee candidates for the 2019 ballot

Honors A: Amy Glasmeier, Kent Mathewson

Honors B: Michael Glass, Scott Markwith, John Pipkin, Andrew Sluyter

Nominating Committee: Natalie Koch, Patrick Lawrence, Kefa Otiso, Murray Rice, Stephen Young, Yolanda Youngs

Revised charge from Enhancing Diversity Committee: The Committee had not finalized a revised charge for presentation at this Council meeting, and requested additional time to gain input from attendees of several sessions they were organizing for the 2019 Annual Meeting. This item was therefore postponed for discussion until after the Spring 2019 Council meeting.

Name change of the Study of the American South SG

Alderman provided background on this item and reported that the AAG Executive Committee recommends to Council to reject this request. *Alderman moved to reject this name change request. Hayes seconded the motion, all aye, one abstention.*

Retired Geographer Affinity Group name change request

After reviewing the request presented by the Affinity Group's Board, *the AAG Council decided to ask the Board to provide more context to their request (i.e., how much of their membership has weighed in on this request?). This decision passed by general consensus with one abstention.*

Caribbean Geography SG petition

Council reviewed the petition presented by the proponents of a new Caribbean Geography Specialty Group. Kupfer moved to approve the formation of the Caribbean Geography Specialty Group. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Film Geography Specialty Group

The resubmitted petition to form the Film-making and Screening Specialty Group was reviewed by Council. *Collins moved to approve the formation of the Film-making and Screening Specialty Group, Hayes seconded the motion, which passed with 19 yeas and one abstention (DiBiase).*

Specialty Group Annual Reports

DiBiase, in his role as National Councilor Chair, provided an overview of the Specialty Group annual reports. He noted that the Urban Specialty Group has the largest number of

members, the Graduate Student Affinity Group has 1,300 members, and that the newly established Black Geographies Specialty Group experienced a 268% growth in its first year. The Business Specialty Group's membership decreased by 20%. *He noted that the most frequent suggestion from SGs is for the AAG to support participation in our Annual Meeting for Global South (i.e., Developing Regions) members. DiBiase suggested that the AAG consider starting a matching funds campaign.*

Mental Health Task Force

Deborah Thomas provided an overview of the lengthy report of the Mental Health Task Force and asked for Council volunteers to review the report and make recommendations to Council at the Spring 2019 meeting. (Volunteers: Deborah Thomas - Chair, McAnneny, Choi, and Mannozi as AAG staff liaison.)

Kaplan proposed two motions:

Kaplan moved to form an ad hoc committee – following on Glen MacDonald's charge and David DiBiase's previous work – to examine actions that the AAG can take to broaden the participation of non-academic geographers and to further the training and mentorship of students in non-academic careers. Kaplan moved, Kupfer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (DiBiase and Luzzadder-Beach volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee).

Kaplan also moved to form an ad hoc committee to reconsider the role of the regions in the AAG. Ideas to be explored would include how the regions are currently configured, revitalizing the regional meetings, allocation of resources and support to the regions, an analysis of the changed environment in which Regional Divisions operate, as well other issues that may pertain to the health of the AAG regional divisions. Kaplan moved, Collins seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Lindsay Naylor and John Kupfer volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee.)

McAnneny moved to add the National Councilor Chair to the Committee on Committees. Alderman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meridian Place Operations

Election of Regional Councilmembers

Council discussed the interpretation of the AAG Constitution regarding election of AAG Regional Division Councilors. The AAG Council examined the AAG Constitution and Bylaws and concurred that all AAG members residing in any AAG region should be allowed to elect the Councilmember from that Region. *Richardson moved and Alderman seconded a motion to clarify that all AAG members residing in an AAG region should be allowed to elect that Region's Councilmember. The motion passed unanimously.* Implementation of this resolution will be undertaken by the AAG in coordination with the Regional Divisions.

Executive Director Succession Plan

Kaplan moved that Council instruct the Search Committee to provide Council with a slate of 3 candidates and that Council meet in the summer of 2019 to review the candidates. The

ensuing discussion resulted in a general consensus to table this motion and wait for the search committee to provide updates to Council at the Spring 2019 meeting, after consultation with the selected search firm.

Winders asked the Councilmembers to email her or Kupfer their suggestions for fleshing out the current ED job description, which they can then share with the Search Committee and the search firm. Richardson also pointed the Council to the AAG Long Range Plan, which covers the goals and priorities for the Association.

Request from the Biogeography Specialty Group

Council discussed the petition from Biogeography SG to revoke their recent award to Henri Grissino-Mayer.

Jepson mentioned communications she received (as a member of the AAG Honors Committee) for the possibility to revoke AAG awards from persons who may be found not to be deserving of that honor. She shared the examples of NSF and AAAS policy for handling such cases. Richardson proposed getting legal input on such policies and then present these to the Council.

Council concurred that it would need to wait until a formal finding has been reached by the University of Tennessee - Knoxville on Grissino-Mayer, before acting on the Biogeography SG's request. Luzzadder-Beach volunteered to follow-up with the Specialty Group to update them on the Council's deliberations to date. Alderman also suggested letting the current Department Chair at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville know of the AAG Council's interest in the matter.

Publications

Memorial for Robert Kates in AAG Annals

Richardson invited Council to suggest nominations for an author or authors to memorialize the late Bob Kates, a former AAG President, in the *AAAG Annals*. Susan Cutter was proposed. Thomas volunteered to ask her.

Proposed changes to the *GeoHumanities* editorial board

Khe' commended the editors on the care they have taken to internationalize their board. *Thomas moved to approve the changes proposed by the editors to the GeoHumanities editorial board. Khe' and Hayes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Proposal for a new journal on GeoMedia

Richardson invited Khe' to present a proposal, received by the AAG from an AAG member, for a new AAG journal on GeoMedia. Khe' stated that he believed a series of special issues might satisfy this request. Khe' proposed approaching the *GeoHumanities* editors, to ask them if they would be open to publishing occasional special issues on GeoMedia. Some concern was expressed by several Councilors (Winders, Dowler) about making such a request to a relatively new AAG journal such as *GeoHumanities*. *Richardson stated he would approach the GeoMedia proponents and the GeoHumanities editors to see whether they'd be open to some form of alternative collaboration.*

Proposal for a new, online-only, student-driven journal.

Khe' presented his proposal for an online-only, student-driven journal to the Council. Questions were raised regarding other similar already established online venues or blogs, and how this could reach a broader audience beyond geographers. Other questions were operational, such as the market for such a journal, editorial costs and stipends, etc. General discussion resulted in tabling this to the Spring Council meeting. In the interim, Khe' will check back with the Publications Committee on refining this proposal; Johnson-Webb will contact GTU to share this proposal with them and obtain their input regarding possibly using their journal; and Sarah Stinard-Kiel will canvass the AAG student membership.

Policy & Outreach

Richardson provided an overview of the policy activities of the AAG. He gave the history and some detail on his and the AAG's years-long engagement in opposing repeated attempts to propose exclusionary procurement legislation for mapping and GIS services. He reported on the recent victories of removing these damaging provisions in the proposed Geospatial Data Act (GDA), and a second victory of passing the Geospatial Data Act of 2018, in both the House and the Senate, without those damaging procurement provisions. He also pointed out the many other AAG initiatives, statements, responses, sign-ons, and other policy-related activities that took place in the course of 2017-2018.

Annual Meetings

Kaplan recommended shortening the time slots for AAG Annual Meeting presentations to 15 minutes. Richardson said he would work with staff to analyze the feasibility and impact of this proposal.

Honors & Awards

McAnneny presented the members of the first Fellows Selection Committee for Council approval: McAnneny (1-yr), DiBiase (1-yr), Korine Kolivras and Patricia Gober (2-yr) ; Cindy Pope and Stephen Hanna (3-yr). Alderman moved to approve the Fellows Selection Committee, Collins seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

McAnneny presented the list of AAG Honorees. *Alderman moved to approve the 2019 AAG Honors as presented by the AAG Honors Committee. Kupfer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.* Alderman encouraged the Councilors to nominate candidates for AAG Honors in future award cycles.

Council

Luzzadder-Beach proposed to have the Spring 2019 Executive Committee meeting on March 1-3, 2019 in Austin, TX. General agreement.

Luzzadder-Beach thanked the AAG staff and the Councilmembers for their hard work and participation in this meeting and adjourned the Fall 2018 Council Meeting at 11:43 AM on November 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathleen McAnney
AAG Secretary