

**Southern Rural Sociological Association (SRSA)**  
**Mid-Year Executive Council Meeting, July 9-10, 2010**  
**Hyatt Place Hotel, Atlanta, GA**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order (morning of July 10)**

- Meeting was called to order by the President (Dr. Anna M. Kleiner) at 8:37am.
- The president welcomed members of the Executive Council and thanked them for attending and for their continued dedication to the association.
- Executive Council members in attendance included: Anna M. Kleiner, Thomas W. Gray, Andrew A. Zekeri, Keiko Tanaka, James O. Bukenya, Douglas H. Constance, and Douglas Clayton Smith.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting (2010 Orlando meetings)**

- The Treasurer/Secretary (Dr. James O. Bukenya) presented the minutes for the two previous meetings that were conducted in Orlando Florida. [The minutes were taken by the former Treasurer/Secretary, Dr. Edward B. Reeves].
- Dr. Andrew Zekeri moved the motion to accept the minutes as presented and Dr. Keiko Tanaka seconded the motion.

**3. Old Business:**

**a) Treasurer's Report (Dr. James O. Bukenya)**

- The treasurer presented the current status of the association's bank account which reflected the following:

**Bank Account Balance (July 9, 2010)**

Balance Transfer from Ed Reeves—May 28, 2010	\$11,773.35
Deposits—March 31, 2010 to July 7, 2010	\$320.00
Payments—March 31, 2010 to July 7, 2010	-\$6.94
<b>Balance—July 9, 2010</b>	<b><u>\$12,086.41</u></b>

- Dr. Thomas Gray moved the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented and Dr. Andrew Zekeri seconded the motion to approve the treasurer's report.
- In a discussion that followed, Dr. Bukenya inquired whether the treasurer should be sending receipts to individuals paying for manuscript submission. Dr. Douglas Constance (Journal Editor) noted that there was no need to send receipts to individuals who pay with checks unless the individual asks for the receipt.
- Dr. Anna Kleiner suggested that we develop a stationary with the Association logo to use in instances where we need to issue receipts. Dr. Douglas Clayton Smith (Managing Editor) added that he has a stationary with the Association logo used by the editorial to acknowledge received manuscripts.

- Dr. Andrew Zekeri reminded Dr. Thomas Gray (Past Program Chair) that the Association still owed him \$400 for his overpayment for the Orlando 2010 meeting. In response Dr. Thomas Gray noted that he will double check with the past treasurer Dr. Edward Reeves and have the issue resolved. Dr. Andrew Zekeri also noted that he kept the check stub used for the referenced payment.
- Dr. Anna Kleiner noted that the Association owed her \$150 which was charged on her credit card by the Hyatt Place Hotel, Atlanta, GA for payment for the conference room where the Mid-Year Executive Council Meeting was held. She will send a bill/receipt to the treasurer for reimbursement.
- The treasurer inquired from the Executive Council on how he should make the decisions to pay or not to pay when he receives a request or a bill. The consensus was that the treasurer should make the decision and in instances when he is not sure about a submitted bill, then seek counsel from the Association President.

**b) Webmaster's Report (Doug Smith)**

- Dr. Douglas Clayton Smith noted that the 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of the Journal was posted on the website in March, 2010.
- He added that there is no much change for now but changes are expected when the new issue of the Journal is ready.
- Dr. Anna Kleiner suggested that the webmaster should remove the Association's member list from the Association's website.
- Dr. Douglas Clayton Smith also noted that while the website will be upgraded and the link to the Association Journal modified, the volume numbers of the new Journal will continue in sequence with the old Journal but the website will be modified to accommodate access to both old and new Journal.

**c) Journal Editors' Report (Doug Constance)**

- Doug smith has finalized the last issue of SRS, THE SPACIAL VOLUME ON "Innovations in Teaching Rural Sociology" edited by Keiko Tanaka.
- Edward Reeves agreed to serve as JRSS Book Review Editor
- Submission status:

Year	Submission	Accepted	Rejected	Under Review	Review & Resubmit
2008	2	1	1	0	0
2009	15	6	7	0	2
2010	8	1	4	2	1

- There is also one invited paper from George Floro.
- Eight papers are accepted for the 1<sup>st</sup> issue of IRSS.
- Three book reviews have been accepted.
- Two special volumes are in process: Theorizing the Global Agrifood Systems... edited by Jason Konefal and Maki Hatanaka; and Social Issues Associated with Unconventional Natural Gas Development edited by Gene Theodori.
- One other potential special volume by Tom Gray.

The following items were discussed following the editor's report:

- Dr. Douglas Constance noted that the Association is not charging submission fees for International submissions.
- The executive discussed the issue of setting page number for manuscript submission. Dr. Douglas Clayton Smith noted that since it is an on-line Journal this should not be a big deal. Dr. Keiko Tanaka moved a motion that the number of words should be set at a maximum of 10,000 words. Dr. Andrew Zekeri seconded the motion.
- Dr. Douglas Constance (Journal Editor) suggested that the Association should put out three (3) issues of the Journal each year to facilitate consideration for Journal indexing. He added that this would require soliciting for more special issues to supplement the traditional open access issue.
- It was suggested that the executive council should encourage people to organize special sessions during the Association's annual meetings and then draw special issues from such sessions.
- The editor noted that the editorial team plans to get the first new issue of the Journal before the Rural Sociology Meeting.
- The president suggested that the editor should create a flyer to advertise and promote the Association's Journal. In response the editor noted that the editorial team will do this as soon as the new issue of the Journal is out.
- Dr. Douglas Clayton Smith suggested that we select leizion who go to different Association meetings to distribute association fliers and solicit manuscripts for the Journal. Dr. Keiko Tanaka added that this will actually expand the membership.
- Dr. Douglas Constance (Journal Editor) suggested that during the Feb. 2011 Executive Council meeting he will submit a proposal for providing funding support for the copy editor. He suggested that these funds could come from the manuscript submission fees. He noted that right now, the copy editor is working on a voluntary basis. His suggestion is to maybe pay the copy editor a flat fee per year or fee per article. He emphasized that the Journal is one of the assets that represents us as a professional.

**d) Awards Committee Report (Tom Gray)**

- Dr. Thomas W. Gray noted that last year there was no nomination for extension and public service Awards.
- For 2011 meetings, he plans to develop a specific and separate call for nomination for awards to increase the number of nominations. The President suggested that the Award committee should develop a pamphlet focusing on the awards and have it permanently placed on the Association's website.
- Dr. Thomas W. Gray suggested that the Association should establish a new award [Public Service Award] for institutions. Dr. Douglas Constance supported the idea and noted that the award should be in the category of a Lifetime Achievement Award for service to the SRSA either at the individual level or institutional level, and for senior professionals in the association. He added that the recipients could be given a slot as a keynote speaker at the meetings. Dr. Douglas Constance suggested that the Award could be an open competition/submission, but the Executive Council

might have people in mind to be considered. However, if it is for the institution, then it should not be an open submission but rather for the Executive Council to select the institution.

- The consensus was that the Award Committee should come up with a proposal/framework for the lifetime achievement award and present it to the Executive Council at the next meeting. The proposal should address issues such as how to select these individuals/institutions and what characteristics should be considered.

**e) Program Chair Elect/President (Andrew Zekeri /Anna Kleiner)**

- Dr. Andrew Zekeri suggested that the Executive Council should set a firm deadline for abstract submissions for the 2011 meetings in Corpus Christi, Texas.
- The Executive Council set Oct. 18 as the early deadline for submitting abstracts for the 2011 meetings in Corpus Christi, Texas.
- The meeting for SRSA is set to begin on Feb. 6 and continue through the 8<sup>th</sup> (if we have sessions on Tues. morning) 2011 in Texas.
- The president suggested that we put a footnote in the announcement to encourage our members to reserve their hotel rooms in the Bay front Tower.
- Dr. Thomas W. Gray suggested that the program chair should keep the Tues. morning open for sessions to avoid scheduling so many papers per session.

**4. Other Business**

- The Executive Council should work on modifying the Association logo as it works on rebranding and reorganize the Association.
- The editor noted that so far there is a positive feedback on the Journal name change.
- The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 following a motion moved by Dr. Andrew Zekeri and seconded by Dr. Keiko Tanaka.