

**Southern Rural Sociological Association (SRSA)
Mid-Year Executive Council Meeting, May 18-19, 2012
Atlanta, GA**

MINUTES

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by the President (Dr. Andrew Zekeri) at 8:10am.

In attendance: Drs. James O. Bukenya, Andrew Zekeri, Tanaka Keiko, Robert Zabawa, Douglas Constance, and Robinson.

Confirmation of Minutes of the First Executive Meeting (Feb. 7, 2012, Birmingham)

- The Secretary (Dr. James O. Bukenya) presented a draft of the minutes for the previous executive meeting conducted in the morning Feb. 7, 2012.
- On the request of Dr. Robinson, the minutes were amended to correct a typo (she/he) under the program chair's report section.
- Dr. Constance requested clarification on the last bulletin under the program chair's report (The executive discussed the issue of changing the conference dates but could not come to a consensus), which was provided by the President (Dr. Zekeri).

Dr. Zabawa moved a motion to accept the minutes as amended and was supported by Dr. Robinson and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (James O. Bukenya)

- The treasurer presented the current status of the association's finances (Balance of \$9,102.14) and highlighted the expenses (\$8,430.79) incurred at the Feb. 2012 annual meeting in Birmingham, AL. Dr. Keiko moved a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was supported by Dr. Constance and the financial report was approved.

Journal of Rural Social Sciences Editors' Report (Douglas H. Constance and Gene L. Theodori)

- 1) One issue has been published in 2012: Volume 26.3 on Rural Veterans
- 2) Volume 27.1 is near completion with five papers and one book review (open submission).
- 3) Two special issues are in process (see below).
- 4) SRS and JRSS are now indexed in Agricola.
- 5) Copy Editor Brooklynn A. Wynveen continues to improve the quality of JRSS articles.
- 6) Book Review Editor Ed Reeves continues to perform this function admirably.
- 7) Gene Theodori will step down as JRSS Co-Editor at the end of his three year term at the 2013 meetings in Orlando.

Submission Status:

2009 – 17 submitted: (9 – accept; 8 – reject)
2010 – 22 submitted: (6 – accept; 16 – reject)
2011 – 22 submitted: (7 – accept; 12 – reject); (1 – under revise and resubmit)
2012 – 2 submitted: under review
(submissions for special issues are not included in the totals reported above)
Based on 2009/2011 submissions/completions to date, the acceptance rate is 36%.

Two special volumes in process:

- 1) *Community-Based Research: Analysis of Outcomes for Learning and Social Change* (edited by Anna Kleiner, Katie Kerstetter, and John Green); (12 papers are under late review: Vol27:2)
- 2) *Rural Health* (edited by Dr. Jin Young Choi, SHSU); (15 papers under early review; Vol. 27:3; may be split into two issues – 28.1).

JRSS Cost Structure Proposal

- 1) The Sociology Department at SHSU will subsidize JRSS at the rate of \$1000/yr. during the period the journal is hosted by the department. The funds will be used to support the copy editor.
- 2) The Executive Council may want to consider increasing the submission charge to offset costs.
- 3) We have “limited” submission charges for international papers (two from Nigeria will appear in Vol. 27.1).

Dr. Robinson moved a motion to accept the report and was supported by Dr. Zekeri and the report was approved.

Program Chair Report (Dr. Keiko)

- The total number of registered participants was 62 (34 professional, 26 students and 2 retirees)
- The number of abstracts submitted was 52 papers and 8 posters.
- The number of sessions was 15, with 10 paper sessions, 4 panel sessions and 1 poster session.

Dr. Zabawa moved a motion to accept the report and was supported by Dr. Zekeri and report was approved.

Awards Committee Report (Dr. Andrew Zekeri)

- Dr. Zekeri proposed that we should have two student awards: Graduate and Undergraduate levels.
- Dr. Zabawa suggested that we include a presentation component on the selection of best student paper award.

Other Business

- Awards: Following an extended discussion, the executive agreed to create a new Award (Life Time Achievement) and Dr. Keiko was asked to draft a proposal for this proposed new award to be submitted for discussion at the next general meeting during the 2013 Annual meetings in Florida.

Dr. Zekeri moved a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Dr. Bukenya
Meeting was adjourned at 10:00.