

**Southern Rural Sociological Association (SRSA)
First Executive Council Meeting, Feb. 3, 2013
Orlando, Florida**

MINUTES

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by the President (Dr. Andrew Zekeri) at 8:15am. He offered greetings and welcomed those present.

In attendance: James O. Bukenya, Andrew Zekeri, Robert Zabawa, Douglas Constance, Kenneth Robinson, Doug Smith, Gene Theodori, Jin Young Choi and Brooklynn Wynveen.

Confirmation of Minutes of the Mid-Year Executive Meeting (May 19, 2012, Atlanta)

- The Secretary (Dr. James O. Bukenya) presented minutes for the previous mid-year executive meeting conducted in Atlanta on May 19, 2012.
- Dr. Zabawa moved a motion to accept the minutes and was supported by Dr. Constance and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (James O. Bukenya)

- The treasurer presented the current status of the association's finances (Balance of \$8,816.54) and highlighted the expenses (\$785.60) incurred to pay for hotel and conference rooms for council members at the Mid-Year Executive Council Meeting in Atlanta, GA (May 18-19, 2013).
- Dr. Theodori inquired of the process that was used in authorizing payment for hotel rooms for the executive council during the Mid-Year Executive Council meeting in Atlanta; and whether the issue was presented in the General Meeting prior to implementation.
- The President (Dr. Zekeri) and other Council Members present explained that the issue was discussed in the previous meetings and was voted on and approved by the Executive Council in Birmingham.
- Dr. Zekeri moved a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was supported by Dr. Robinson and the financial report was approved.

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

Three issues were published in 2012: special Volume 26:3 on Rural Veterans Health Issues; Volume 27.1 (open submission); and special Volume 27.2 Community-Based Research: Analysis of Outcomes for Learning and Social Change).

One special issue is in process (see below). We need to encourage more special issues.

We are receiving an increasing number of international submissions. Many are rejected by the editors as inappropriate for JRSS, but an increasing number are being sent for review. Based on SRSA Council decision, we do not collect submission fees for international submissions.

We are still working with the National Agricultural Library regarding indexing in Agricola. We are in discussions regarding the type/style of meta data they prefer. All of SRS has been indexed; JRSS has not but will be once the meta data issue is resolved.

SRSA should have a discussion regarding our intentions to be approached by a major publishing firm to be part of their suite of publications.

Copy Editor Brooklynn A. Wynveen continues to improve the quality of JRSS articles.

Book Review Editor Dr. Ed Reeves continues to perform this function admirably.

Dr. Gene Theodori is stepping down as Co-Editor. Thanks to Gene for his excellent service.

Dr. Jin Young Choi has agreed to a three-year term as the new Co-Editor.

Dr. Douglas Constance shall assume the new title of "Editor in Chief" for a three-year term

The Sociology Department at Sam Houston University has agreed to subsidize JRSS with significant travel support for the co-editors, as well a travel support for Ms. Wynveen and a subsidy of \$1,000 per year for copy editing services.

Submission Status:

2009 – 17 submitted: (9 – accept); (8 – reject)

2010 – 20 submitted: (6 – accept); (16 – reject)

2011 – 21 submitted: (9 – accept); (12 – reject)

2012 – 17 submitted: (7 – reject); (2 – accept); (5 – revise and resubmit); (2 – under review); (1 – withdraw) (the submissions for the special issues are not included in the totals reported)

Based on 2009 – 2012 submissions/completions to date, the acceptance rate is 33% (trending down).

▪ **One special volume in process:**

Rural Health (edited by Dr. Jin Young Choi, SHSU); 5 papers and 1 research report to be Vol 27:3; to be finalized in February.

▪ Financial support for Copy Editor: Ms. Brooklynn A. Wynveen copy edited 24 articles and 1 commentary that were published in 2012. She is paid \$100 per article/research note and \$50 per commentary for her services, for a total of \$2450. As noted above, SHSU Sociology will pay \$1,000 to Ms. Wynveen for this service. We request that SRSA Council approve the payment of \$1450 to her for duties performed as copy editor for JRSS. Ms. Wynveen’s duties as copy editor are essential to maintain the quality of JRSS.

▪ Dr. Ed Reeves (Book Review Editor) called on SRSA members to submit book reviews and promised to work with anyone interested to guide them through the process.

Dr. Robert Zabawa moved the motion to accept the editors’ report as presented, seconded by Dr. Zekeri. The report was accepted.

Webmaster’s Report (Dr. Smith)

- Ms. Jessica C. Burk was taking over as the new webmaster for the SRSA website
- Ms. Burk had started making changes to the site and more updates were underway.
- Dr. Zabawa moved a motion to accept the report, supported by Dr. Zekeri and report was approved.

Program Chair Report (Dr. Zabawa)

- 10 sessions
- The total number of registered participants was 39 professional and 11 students (Low graduate students)
- For the award banquet luncheon he budgeted for 70 participants and 50 registered

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

Awards Committee Report (Dr. Keiko)

- No report

New Business

- Program Chair Elect: Dr. Theodori nominated Dr. Douglass Smith
- Council agreed to have his name presented at the general meeting
- The next Executive Council Meeting was scheduled for Feb. 5, 2013 at 9:00am in Room I633

Dr. Zabawa moved a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Dr. Robinson. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00am.