



**American Association for Public Opinion Research
Executive Council Minutes
Tuesday, May 9, 2023**

ATTENDANCE:

Council:

Jennifer Agiesta, Vice President
René Bautista, Incoming Councilor-at-Large
Paul Beatty, President
Jennifer Hunter Childs, Associate Secretary-Treasurer
Aleia Clark Fobia, Associate Communications Chair
Marjorie Connelly, Standards Chair
Michael Delli Carpini, Associate Education Chair
Bianca DiJulio, Incoming Associate MCR Chair
Ned English, Incoming Associate Standards Chair
Yazmín García Trejo, Communications Chair
Ana Gonzalez-Barrera, Inclusion and Equity Chair
Liz Hamel, Councilor-at-Large
Allyson Holbrook, Associate Conference Chair, also *POQ* Editor
Ricki Jarmon, Councilor-at-Large and Incoming Associate Secretary-Treasurer
Frauke Kreuter, Incoming Vice President
Cameron McPhee, Associate Standards Chair
Patricia Moy, Past President
Heather Ridolfo, MCR Chair
Alisu Schoua-Glusberg, Councilor-at-Large
Rodney Terry, Associate Inclusion and Equity Chair
Jerry Timbrook, Associate MCR Chair
Bob Torongo, Incoming Associate Communications Chair
James Wagner, Education Chair
Gina Walejko, Incoming Associate Conference Chair
Brady West, Conference Chair
Anna Wiencrot, Secretary-Treasurer

Staff:

Tristanne Staudt Executive Director

Invited Guests:

Brian Giblin, Oxford University Press

Kristin Olson, *JSSAM* Editor

Eric Plutzer, *POQ* Editor

Jenny Thompson, *JSSAM* Editor

Peter Miller, Chair, Ad-Hoc Committee on Publisher Options

I. Welcome, Call to Order, DEI Reminder, Review and Approval of Minutes (A/R) –Beatty

Beatty called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm EST.

Beatty welcomed the Council and opened the session by reminding everyone that the meeting will follow Robert’s Rules of Order. Beatty reviewed Robert’s Rules of Order for new Councilors and reminded incoming councilors that they are welcome to participate in discussions but may not make motions or vote until the gavel passes. He asked Councilors to self-identify before speaking so that meeting minutes could accurately capture motions, seconds, and comments. Beatty asked Councilors to be mindful of the goals of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all discussions.

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Beatty presented minutes from the April meeting.

MOTION: [by Ageista, seconded by McPhee] to approve the minutes from the April 2023 Executive Council meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

II. Consent Agendas (A/R) – All

Beatty asked if any of the items from the consent agenda needed to be pulled out for further discussion. Hearing none, Beatty asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

MOTION: [by Agiesta, seconded by Holbrook] to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

III. Appointments (A/R) – All

Wagner presented one nominee for Chair of the History Subcommittee of Education.

MOTION: [by Delli Carpini, seconded by Moy] to approve the nominee for the Chair of the History Subcommittee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Terry presented two nominees for the IEC as one-year advisors (the nominees are past IEC chairs).

MOTION: [by McPhee, seconded by Ridolfo] to approve the nominees for advisors to the IEC. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

McPhee presented a nominee for Chair of the Standards Definition Subcommittee.

MOTION: [by Schoua-Glusberg, seconded by Wiencrot] to approve the nominee for Chair of the Standards Definition Subcommittee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Connolly and McPhee presented three nominees for the Transparency Initiative Coordinating Committee of Standards Committee.

MOTION: [by Agiesta, seconded by Timbrooke] to approve the nominees for the TICC Subcommittee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

iv. Finance Committee (I/O) - Wiencrot

Wiencrot presented the April financials thanks to the quick work of our accountant. We have already exceeded our membership and journal revenue goals. We have seen incredible sponsorship numbers. Wiencrot walked through the financial report, noting that we are cautiously optimistic that we may not have to withdraw cash from our investments this year.

In response to a query, Wiencrot confirmed that our investments were doing better this year than last year at this time. Wiencrot discussed the significant investment losses last year.

v. Executive Director's report (I/O) - Staudt

Staudt reviewed her report posted on Dropbox. She referenced both the membership numbers and the record Conference numbers. Staudt recapped the good financial situation, possibly projecting a surplus (as opposed to the budgeted deficit). She noted a possible fifth staffing role as an education coordinator instead of a conference logistics coordinator. The logistics contractor that was used for the current conference has worked out very well.

Beatty noted high membership churn, with 800 members from last year not renewing, although our current membership number is similar to last year at this time. He wondered who decides not to renew their membership and if we could do anything to increase their engagement. MCR plans to follow up on this.

vi. Conference (I/O) - West

West highlighted the Conference Report on Dropbox. He was particularly excited about the collaborative papers, which involved having a subject matter expert work closely with a survey researcher. These submissions totaled more than 70 submissions and surpassed his

expectations. The Brainstorming Corner will happen again. West praised and thanked key individuals for their amazing efforts, which helped make his vision a reality: Darby Stieger for her work with the sponsorship committee, generating record sponsorship; Jackie Weisman for the emails preceding the conference; the local AAPORites for preparing things to do in Philly; and the Welcoming Committee for coordinating the pre-conference activities.

VII Education (A/R) - Wagner

Wagner noted the new call for the *POQ* editorship. Applications are due November/December 2023. The new editor will start with responsibilities in January 2025, with the editorial transition occurring in July 2024.

MOTION: [by McPhee, seconded by Ridolfo] to accept the call for the *POQ* editorship. The motion passed by majority vote with one abstention.

VIII. Standards (I/O) - Connolly

There have been two active standards complaints. One was ruled a nonissue by the evaluation committee and closed. The second is still under consideration by the evaluation committee.

There is a Standards Definition Committee booth in the exhibit hall.

IX. Inclusion and Equity Committee (I/O) Gonzalez-Barrera

Gonzalez-Barrera presented highlights of a presentation on metrics and accountability that will be presented by Joe Murphy later in the conference.

In the discussion that ensued, councilors raised a few questions and points. One related to how AAPOR's membership diversity compares to the diversity in the field. While it might not be possible to measure the diversity in our field, comparison to the population in general should be achievable.

Another related to whether any of the outcomes of the Executive Council's DEI training would be put into the IEC final report. This is not possible since the IEC completed its final report prior to completion of the DEI training.

It was noted that the DEI training was focused on the EC, which is more diverse than AAPOR's membership. How can we take what we learned in the DEI training to encourage diversity in the membership?

One councilor suggested supplementing the quantitative report in the future with qualitative exploration with members.

X. Committee on Publisher Options Update (A/R) - Miller

Beatty introduced this topic, explaining how Miller and colleagues have been working on journal publisher contracts, and currently are pursuing a renegotiated contract with Oxford University

Press. Miller recapped the RFP issued and provided an overview of the three proposals received. He then walked through the current contract proposal.

Miller proposed hiring a part-time copy editor for AAPOR with savings from the new Oxford University Press contract. He suggested asking if ASA would like to partner in this effort.

Miller suggested eventually moving these journals to open access. He believes that within the next 5 years, these types of options will proliferate. Right now, there aren't good financial options for open access. The most read articles in *POQ* are from its special issues or historical articles that are all available for free. AAPOR receives a discount on open-access fees, but authors pay for these article processing charges. Miller also requested and received at least one article from each issue to be open access for at least one month, at least on a temporary basis.. This is an opportunity to promote those articles at that time.

Miller noted how Raym Crow was tremendously helpful in this whole process. He also thanked the committee members who worked with him on this long arduous process.

One councilor asked how the new contract would impact AAPOR financially. Miller indicated that it was better than break-even but he is not sure how much better.

MOTION: [by Moy, seconded by Jarmin] to accept the contract with OUP. The motion passed by majority vote with one abstention.

Wagner reminded Council that Miller has recommended a part-time copy editor position. This will be taken up at a future meeting.

XI. Reports from AAPOR Journals and OUP

Eric Plutzer presented the *POQ* updates as presented in Dropbox.

Kristen Olson presented the *JSSAM* updates as presented in Dropbox.

A suggestion was made to have potential reviewers who decline a review opportunity recommend another reviewer. This is a means to expand the pipeline and increase both opportunities for new reviewers and additional reviewers for the editors.

Praise was given to *POQ* and *JSSAM* for their high-quality, quick reviews.

Brian Giblin from Oxford University Press presented updates. Both journals are performing very well and have good impact factors. There will be changes in how impact factors are calculated, so in the future this will look a little different and rankings will be produced differently. The new impact factors will be out in June.

Moy asked if OUP was introducing minimal article requirements. Giblin said no. Hamel asked if we have demographics of authors in our journals. Giblin said in January, OUP will be able to

produce numbers on demographics of submitted authors. Ridolfo asked if demographics are recorded for reviewers as well. Giblin said he believed so.

As a proxy for editor Emily Geisen, Wagner presented the *Survey Practice* updates. He thanked Geisen for both serving her term and serving until a new editor was selected. Wagner thanked the editorial search committee for their work this year, which resulted in Eva Aizpurua being selected as the new *Survey Practice* editor.

XII. AAPOR Relevancy Program (A/R) - Beatty

Beatty presented two items that relate to his year-long efforts to increase the relevance of polls and surveys to the public and policymakers.

The first was the proposed Emerging Communications Subcommittee of the Communications Committee. Beatty read a charter indicating that the Subcommittee should propose, develop, and evaluate messages and modes for communicating about public opinion and survey research, as well as the mission of AAPOR; prospective modes of communication could include but would not be limited to podcasts, electronic and print publications. Beatty noted that the first podcast had been produced and released, with a second to follow imminently, and a third to be produced soon. This new subcommittee would identify prospective products and messages to follow.

One councilor asked if this should be a standing subcommittee or a temporary subcommittee that evaluates what we are currently doing vs. what we could be doing in the future. Another asked how this interacts with the Education and Publications subcommittees. Beatty responded that this new subcommittee would collaborate with other committees but maintain a focus on new products as needs evolved. There were questions about future funding of the podcast. A suggestion was made that we evaluate metrics of the current communications efforts as a next step. There was discussion about staff and committee roles, and clarification that the subcommittee would look for new opportunities but staff would implement them.

Action on this proposed subcommittee was tabled. Beatty asked the Communications Committee to consider what modifications or enhancements to their structure would be useful to ensure continued innovation.

The second initiative had been raised in the previous council meeting, in which Council approved a prototype report proposed by Frank Newport's working group. The group has reported that the topic of this prototype report will be guns and gun control. The working group consists of Frank Newport, Scott Keeter (Pew), Ashley Kirzinger (Kaiser Family Foundation), Ashley Koning (Rutgers), Bob Shapiro (Columbia), and Aaron Zitner (Walls Street Journal), with new two academic experts on the particular topic: Cassandra Crifasi of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Kristin Goss of Duke, along with Kathleen Weldon, the Director of Data Operations at the Roper Center. It was not clear if all of the working group members would be authors of the inaugural product. Council asked for clarification on whether the working group

had taken diversity considerations into account. One councilor recommended that the working group or Council ensure that they authors and working group were not planning on the product to advocate for particular positions.

A request was made for a one-page document describing the scope, authors, DEI considerations, and metrics to evaluate level of effort required in the production of this report.

MOTION: [by McPhee, seconded by Wiencrot] to approve the topic but request clarifying documentation on authorship, DEI efforts, level of effort, advocacy status, and schedule. The motion passed by majority vote, including one abstention.

XIII. Gavel Pass

Beatty thanked the Council. He noted that this was the first full year under self-management, and praised the Council's dedication, accomplishments and collegiality. Beatty said it was his honor and privilege to serve, and passed the gavel to Agiesta.

VIII. ADJOURN

MOTION: [by Beatty, seconded by Agiesta] to adjourn the Executive Council meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 pm.