

Minutes for Ethnic Geography Specialty Group (EGSG) Business Meeting at the 2011 AAG Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington

**Session 2846, Washington State Convention Center Level 2, 7:30 P.M.-8:30 P.M.
Wednesday 4/13/11**

Ethnic Geography Specialty Group (EGSG)

Past Chair: Emily Skop (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs)

Chair: Stavros T. Constantinou (Ohio State University, Mansfield)

Vice Chair: Heather Smith (University of North Carolina, Charlotte)

Secretary/Treasurer: Selima Sultana (University of North Carolina, Greensboro)

2010-2011 Board of Directors:

Joy Adams

John Frazier

Susan Hume

David Kaplan

Alan Marcus

Thomas Ptak

Madhuri Sharma

Ian Yeboah

Ezra Zeitler

1. Introduction of established and new members of EGSG who are attending the business meeting
 - Welcome to all
2. Approval of minutes for the business meeting of EGSG during the 2010 Washington, D.C. AAG meeting
 - Approved
3. Chair's Comments. *Stavros Constantinou*
 - Stavros begins with EGSG fiscal health
 - Things were quite dire after funds paid out for last year's awards
 - Club 50 support (voluntary donations) has been essential to maintaining health of accounts
 - Club 50 Volunteers thanked for writing generous checks to EGSG
 - Stavros mentions possibility of raising dues noting that other groups have dues in

- the ranges of \$15, \$12, etc
 - EGSG is currently at \$6
 - Raises questions about whether we should we increase our dues. This would remove need for volunteer donations
 - This would also allow us to support awards and support REP and have safety baseline
 - Lawrence notes that since 1992 we have rarely raised dues
 - Motion from Lawrence to raise professional dues to \$10 and leave the student dues to \$3
 - Discussion: Query about what average is; whether \$10 is acceptable; should we increase student dues above \$4
 - Question called
 - Unanimous approval. EGSG dues will be \$10 per year for non student members and \$3 for student members
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- Move on to reminder of **bylaws** (passed 2 years ago) and **election** process
 - Overview of ballot construction, open spots, nomination process and clarification of duties for open spots on website and awards committee
 - Lawrence Estaville nominated, and agreed to stand, for open spot on Awards Committee
 - Micheline Van Riemsdijk, nominated, agreed to stand, for open spot on Program Committee
 - Ramon Concepcion-Torres, nominated, agreed to stand for open spot on Web Committee

4. Elections

- The following persons will join their colleagues already elected and serving their terms of service.

Newly elected Board Members (2011-2013)

Dr. Jose R. Diaz-Garaya, Coppin State University
 Dr. Edris Montalvo, Cameron University
 Mr. Luis Sanchez-Ayala, Universidad de los Andes
 Dr. Qingfang Wang, UNC Charlotte

Newly elected Awards Committee Members (2011-2013)

Dr. Jacqueline Housel, Miami University
 Dr. Richard Gioioso, SUNY at Purchase
 Dr. Carlos Teixeira, UBC Okanagan
 Dr. Ines Miyares, Hunter College
 Dr. Susan Hardwick, University of Oregon

Newly elected Website Committee Member (2011-2013)

Mr. Paul McDaniel, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Mr. Ramon Concepcion Torres, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Newly elected AAG Program Committee

Dr. Heike Alberts, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Dr. Dave Kaplan, Kent State University

Dr. Micheline Van Riemsdijk, University of Tennessee

5. Secretary/Treasurer's Report. *Stavros Constantinou reports in absence of Selima Sultana.*
 - Now doing well, largely a function of Club 50 contributors, \$2,143
 - Membership has stayed at 125 non student members and 96 student members
 - Stavros encourages group to encourage others to join the group
 - Lawrence notes we are now over 200 members, a significant milestone
 - This combined with health of funds to be recognized as positive trends
 - Stavros congratulated for his leadership

6. Report on the EGSG Newsletter. *Stavros Constantinou reports in absence of Tom Boswell*
 - Appreciation of newsletter editors' excellent work on newsletter which was completed and distributed during week of conference

7. Report on EGSG's Web Site. (www.unl.edu/geography/ethnic) *Stavros Constantinou reports in absence of Ezra Zeitler*
 - Ezra also doing an excellent job maintaining and updating the website
 - We will consider linking ours to broader AAG website initiatives
 - Discussion about listing of past chairs and awards winners on the website
 - Need to confirm that lists on the website are complete and up to date

8. Report on EGSG's Student Paper Competition *Heike Alberts*
 - Susan Hume was Chair of this committee. Heike Alberts reports
 - Committee members Susan Hume and Jim Smith
 - Had a number of submissions at both UG and Graduate level
 - Winner is Yang Yang student at Humboldt State University for her paper "The Hidden Island of Strangers from another Shore: Historical Chinatown in Eureka (California)"

9. Report on EGSG's Best Dissertation Proposal Award. *Madhuri Sharma*
 - Alan Marcus was Chair of this committee. Madhuri Sharma reports
 - Committee members Qingfang Wang and Madhuri Sharma

- 4 different proposals received
- Committee set criteria and measured each
- Winner is Paul McDaniel, student at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, for his proposal “Transitioning Immigrant Settlement Geography, Public School Change and Response, and Community Receptivity in Charlotte, North Carolina”
- Murat Es student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill received honorable mention for his proposal “Turkish-Dutch Mosques and the Construction of Transnational Spaces in Europe”.

10. Report on EGSG’s Distinguished Scholar Award. *Stavros Constantinou reports in Dave Kaplan’s Absence*

- Carlos Teixeira winner for 2011
- Will give address April 14th at 2:40PM in Room 620 of the Washington Convention Center
- Lawrence Estaville and Heather Smith serving as discussants
- Next Year’s (2012) winner announced as Wei Li. Thunderous applause!!!

11. Report on EGSG’s Distinguished Ethnic Geography Career Award. *Stavros Constantinou reports in Dave Kaplan’s Absence*

- In 2010 Winner is Lawrence Estaville. Received recognition at REP conference
- In 2011 Winner is John Frazier
- Recognition of Jim Allen as first winner of this award in 2008

12. Report of Distinguished Ethnic Geography Service Award of EGSG. *Stavros Constantinou reports in Dave Kaplan’s Absence*

- Wei Li is recipient for 2011

13. Report on Specialty Group Chairs meeting. *Stavros Constantinou*

- Most of the time spent on webpage efforts and informational items
- For AAG 2011, 7,300 people registered for conference
- 900 sessions organized by specialty groups, 1300 sessions overall
- AAG membership close to 11,000
- Query from the floor about membership breakdown by ethnicity
- Joy Adams comments that there is some information about this in April newsletter and that AAG is seeking information about ethnicity and other demographics from departments for both faculty and students.
- See new AAG April newsletter as well as disciplinary data clearing house on AAG website for further information about these initiatives.

14. Report on REP VI. *John Frazier*

- 440 registrants exceeded expectations for this multicultural event
- Announced that University of Puerto Rico, San Juan to host for 2012
- John introduced 2 co-directors, Angel David Cruz and Carlos Guilbe, both Professors of Geography at the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan. John remains the Director.
- They are very pleased to be hosting conference, encourage the bringing of families
- Conference will be held about a month before the elections
- John has already travelled to PR, great site, university provided enthusiastic response
- National committee will work with local hosts to plan
- Aiming for website information available on May 26th, 2011
- Aiming for an even larger group than in past REP conference
- Intercontinental hotel \$139 per night, beachfront

15. Suggestions for paper sessions and field trips for the 2012 AAG meetings in New York City, February 24-28, 2012.

- Emphasize that next year's meeting in FEBRUARY
- Deadlines for abstract will be much earlier
- Query about further sites ... after NYC is LA, then Tampa, then Chicago all of these are in April

16. Other business?

- None raised

17. Meeting Adjourned.