

Program Development Committee Meeting Minutes

2017 Spring Business Meeting
Kansas City, Missouri
Saturday, April 22, 2017

Call to Order

The meeting of the Program Development Committee was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Tim Sekerak (Ore.), Chair.

Attendance

The following members of the committee were present: Sarah Armistead (Va.), Jay Braxton (Va.), Nancy Ellison (Utah), John Hollman (Ill.), Maryann Horch (Va.), Buddy Johnson (Ark.), Scott Kaiser (Ill.), Megan Martin (Pa.), Tara Perkinson (Va.), Rose Ramsey (Va.), Ali Sagraves (Ohio), Sarah Schaben (Mo.), Tim Sekerak, Chair (Ore.), Patience Worrel (Texas), and Joyce Wright (Ala.).

Other members/guests in attendance included Susan Kannarr, ASLCS President, Holly South (NCSL), and Angela Andrews (NCSL).

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Joyce Wright (Ala.), seconded by Sarah Armistead (Va.), the minutes of the last meeting held Thursday, September 22, 2016, at the Fall Professional Development Seminar in Boise, Idaho, were approved.

New Business

Chair Tim Sekerak reviewed the results compiled from attendee responses to the 2016 PDS program survey, and the committee discussed the length of the program, the location, the plenary speakers, and the fact that the concurrent sessions were well-attended.

ASLCS President Susan Kannarr encouraged the committee to think about ways in which to give frequently-used concurrent session topics a twist, as there are a lot of new members who could benefit from discussions on those topics; the committee could find a different way of looking at them so that all attendees will find value. She also mentioned that discussions centered around how various states accomplish the same tasks tend to be helpful. This led into a conversation on the benefits of roundtable-style concurrent sessions, similar to the staff breakout sessions, that typically engage attendees, both well-seasoned and newer, into dynamic discussion.

The Chair discussed the co-sponsorship opportunities presented to ASLCS for a number of sessions taking place at the NCSL Summit in Boston in August. The committee was in agreement that it would be advantageous to agree to co-sponsoring any programs that could be relevant to the members of the Society; these programs would then be included on the schedule that Holly South (NCSL) sends out to members prior to the Summit.

The Chair provided an update on the two plenary speakers that have been booked for the Fall PDS: Christine Cashen and Dr. Paul Chabot. The committee also discussed the selection process for plenary speakers and the importance of those speakers knowing our society well so as to provide a relevant program. Holly South (NCSL) explained that the committee leadership would

be meeting with the plenary speakers via conference call this summer to ensure they have a strong sense of the purpose and function of the society and the PDS. The speakers' topics would also be narrowed down at that time. It was mentioned that the committee could discuss and decide what the speakers need to know about the society at the August committee meeting in Boston.

The committee then discussed the various ideas for concurrent sessions that had been presented by the ASLCS standing committees from their meetings that day, as well as some additional ideas for sessions that could be of interest. Since the committee was tasked with developing eight concurrent sessions, and this discussion brought forth a greater number of ideas, the Chair mentioned that the committee would work toward narrowing the list in the coming weeks and finalizing the programming at the next meeting on Sunday, August 6.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Scott Kaiser (Ill.), seconded by Jay Braxton (Va.), the meeting was adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Sekerak (Ore.)
Chair

Ali Sagraves (Ohio)
Vice Chair

Joyce Wright (Ala.)
Vice Chair