

ASA Council meeting
August 21, 2023, 7:00-7:45 AM ET

Attendees: Stefanie Mollborn, Mieke Beth Thomeer, Miles Taylor, Monica Kirkpatrick Johnson, Hope Mimbs, Marc Garcia, Melanie Plasencia, Christine Mair, Anna Muraco, Duygu Basaran-Sahin, Janet Wilmoth, Emma Zang, Merril Silverstein

I. Call to order

1. Stefanie Mollborn called the meeting to order

II. Approval of 2022 minutes

1. Minutes were approved

III. Treasury report

1. Mieke Thomeer provided overview of key issues related to changes in income and fundraising

IV. Committee Reports

1. Chair misc.

1. Sent out Google doc to the membership to find volunteers for certain service roles. Successful way to get volunteers for multiple different committee leadership/service roles

2. Developed (with past secretary/treasurers, Janet Wilmoth, and Stefanie Mollborn) way to share SALC Archives with interested members, with a permission/confidentiality form

3. First year of BIPOC junior travel awards. All awardees were on the SALC ASA program and picked up checks at the mentoring dinner

2. Program committee

1. Stefanie Mollborn introduced the overview of the sessions for the ASA 2023 meeting

1. Included special panel on inclusivity in aging & life course research and SALC

2. Membership committee

1. Hope Mimbs and Anne Barrett have been working on increasing membership, including posting about it on social media and encouraging student memberships and gift memberships. They are looking for people to join the membership committee and getting more ideas. The committee will look for more creative ways to increase membership and diversity moving ahead, a priority for the 2023-2024 year

3. Communications

1. Duygu Basaran Sahin presented all reports related to the various forms of communication – Newsletter, Web, Connect/Listserv, Facebook, Twitter. She provided an overview of the various ways these outlets help in terms of getting the word out for different kinds of news, including the strategy of posting most communication to members being posted in each way.

Some main announcements:

1. For newsletter, three issues published every year. The two editor system (Shannon Shen and Stephanie Ureña) is working well
 2. Switching from Connect to listserv (starting Sept 1). If people would like to share announcements to membership, then email Adam Roth directly at adam.roth@okstate.edu
 3. For Facebook, be sure to email Jeffrey Lentz at jeffrey.g.lentz@emory.edu when want to post announcement there and to fill out the membership question on Facebook when requesting to join
 4. For Twitter, helpful if members tag @ASA_SALC in relevant posts. continuing the #BIPOCSALC initiative but would like to discuss how to get more people to engage. Marc Garcia commented that may be helpful if sent out Google doc to get more people to sign up for this to be highlighted. Duygu Basaran Sahin is interested in stepping down from this Twitter role and looking for a replacement
4. Committee on Professional Development and Mentoring Report
 1. Melanie Plasencia provided the report. Sent survey to student/junior members to get insights on what they would like to provide. Set up new initiatives for mentoring activities to support students, including regular meetings (over Zoom) with specific mentoring topics, listserv specifically for junior members, and the mentoring reception that occurred last night on August 20 from 8-10 pm (about 60 people attended). Melanie Plasencia suggested would be helpful in future to have a sign up sheet on Google doc in future to make it easier on committee to find volunteers to be the “mentor” at each table
 5. Research Groups and Roundtables Committee –
 1. Report provided by Emma Zang and Marc Anthony Garcia. Roundtables were only articles (no research roundtable option this year). 36 were accepted, with 9 tables
 6. Committee on Nominations
 1. Merril Silverstein provided the report. He solicited self-nominations within SALC through multiple different methods and discussed the main criteria for determining the final pool. Four were nominated for chair, seven were nominated for the council positions, and three for student representatives

V. New Business

1. Junior BIPOC/scholars of color support pilot project:
 1. Stefanie Mollborn presented an overview of this initiative so far, including the original proposal being a 3-year pilot project (just completed the first year—six awards were given). Awardees given a travel award and, if interested, assigned a mentor. (All already were section members, but if not a member, then would offer to pay their section membership.) Top priority was for junior BIPOC/scholars of color who were on the program (including section sessions and roundtables), and all who qualified under those criteria were given the award. This year, the chair (Mollborn)

headed the initiative, included doing the mentorship matching (this year, able to match each junior scholar with their preferred/suggested mentor). One way to handle this in future is to for chair to appoint a committee for this in the future. Anna Muraco suggested that send out a form to ask for volunteers, especially for mentors. Miles Taylor said helpful to have call at the business meeting for mentors. Also suggested giving a five year section membership to the awardees. Merril Silverstein suggested that we look to the people nominated for chair/council positions as mentors or people to lead the initiative. Mieke Thomeer discussed the need for continuity in leadership of this initiative, with one person or team of people leading this over next several years

2. Plans for membership recruitment and retention efforts:

1. Miles Taylor discussed concerns of membership staying under 600, and the amount of effort in the past it has taken to be over 600 (which means differences in resources/sessions from ASA). Main concern in thinking about membership declines is challenge to supporting and growing junior scholars and diversity efforts. Miles Taylor has discussed this with ASA leadership. Our section trends are matching ASA's member trends. Ideas are more gift memberships (including advertising those more), but these are due July 31 (not allowed to be purchased in August or September). Also discussed emailing former SALC members who still belong to ASA. Merril Silverstein discussed idea of partnering with other sections and having people join both sections, but in the past, this only gained ten members. Melanie Plasencia discussed meeting people in other sections doing aging and life course research but not members of SALC; may want to have a template email that chair could send to people that a current member of SALC recommended possibly join. Marc Garcia mentioned looking at ASA program for aging and life course topics and emailing those presenters.

VI. Outgoing and incoming members

1. Stef Mollborn thanked the outgoing officers and council members.
2. Stef Mollborn also provided an introduction for the incoming members.
3. Miles Taylor is in charge of the meeting schedule for next year. Excited to keep/expand travel award and have discussion about a new award, and continuing to support membership. For themes and sessions for next year, continue themes of inclusiveness, potential session of LGBTQ+ topics in life course and aging, and soliciting other ideas.