

**2016 Business Meeting
Minutes
March 20, 2016 (5:15pm-6:30pm)
Sheraton Toronto Center Hotel**



Executive Board in Attendance: Barbara Applebaum (President), Debby Kerdeman (President Elect), Frank Margonis (Immediate Past President), Josh Corngold (Executive Director), Megan Laverty (Board Member), Claudia Ruitenberg (Board Member)

Members in Attendance: Lynne Alexandrova, Rene Arcilla, Dave Backer, Sigal Ben-Porath, Jane Blanken-Webb, Andrea Boyea, Deron Boyles, Nick Burbules, Cristina Cammarano, Ann Chinnery, Samantha Deane, Alexander Elnabli, Paul Farber, Jacob Fay, Amanda Fulford, Cara Furman, Kevin Gary, Mathew Schertz, Heather Greenhalgh-Spencer, Jo Hinsdale, Glenn M. Hudak, Kathy Hytten, Kanako Ide, Clarence Joldersma, Kip Kline, Natasha Levinson, Gad Marcus, Paula McAvoy, Dini Metro-Roland, Avi Mintz, Nasim Noroozi, Trevor Norris, Walter Okshevsky, Ryan Ozar, Nakia S. Pope, Sam Rocha, Tomas Rocha, Carl Anders Safstrom, Amy Shuffleton, Sasha Sidorkin, Paul Standish, Kurt Stemhagen, Ashley Taylor, Rebecca Taylor, Audrey Thompson, Winston Thompson, Sharon Todd, David Waddington, Rachel Wahl, Bryan Warnick, Doron Yosef-Hassidim

President Barbara Applebaum called the meeting to order.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2015 business meeting minutes.

President Barbara Applebaum delivered the President's report. She extended thanks to several people including Barbara Stengel and the ad hoc finance committee, the ad hoc committee to update the PES Constitution, etc. She described some special accomplishments this year, including the outstanding Kneller Lecture (courtesy of Linda Alcoff), the very well-attended Jobs for Philosophers of Education (JOPE) pre-conference institute organized by Cara Furman, and the development of manuals to help clarify the duties of various PES officers.

Josh Corngold delivered the Executive Director's report (enclosed).

Deron Boyles delivered the finance committee report (enclosed). He noted that the finance committee will continue closely to monitor the society's finances and will adjust the dues/registration structure accordingly. He also noted that institutional support helps a great deal.

Chris Higgins delivered the Ed Theory/PES Yearbook report (enclosed). There was some discussion of the 2014 yearbook, which has not yet been published. Nick Burbules and Chris Higgins apologized. The editor who was originally assigned to 2014 did not work out, and that threw off the timeline. They are working on getting it back on track. There was also some discussion about trying to get the yearbooks indexed with SCOPUS (which some members noted is particularly important for international scholars). A motion was made, seconded and carried to explore this possibility further.

Claudia Ruitenberg discussed the proposed amendments to the PES Constitution (see enclosed document). She discussed the amendment process (which is detailed in Article

VI). She noted that the voting on proposed constitutional amendments takes place by electronic ballot after the business meeting. Claudia discussed the removal of the term “fellows” from the constitution. Nick Burbules noted the history of the distinction between members/fellows. Historically, the term “members” was reserved for “amateur” philosophers of education (schoolteachers, etc.). Claudia also discussed the addition of the position of the Communications Director. And Claudia discussed the amendment regarding when the transition of officers take place.

Kathy Hytten discussed the proposed changes to the PES Bylaws (see enclosed document). She clarified the process, noting that proposed changes to the bylaws (unlike proposed amendments to the constitution) are voted on during (not after) the business meeting. She discussed the specific addition to the bylaws of an updated description of the elections committee. Claudia discussed the specific addition to the bylaws of a description of Special Interest Groups. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to omit the word “breakfast” from the sentence that reads, “A SIG is not entitled to a paper or alternative session on the program, but can request of that year’s Program Chair the inclusion of a breakfast meeting on the program.” Then, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to pass the newly amended bylaws.

Matthew Schertz, who teaches an ethics courses at the University of Montana, discussed an effort by the University of Phoenix, Pearson, and ETS to develop national standards for ethics and then develop a for-profit course around those standards. These corporations want to make it a requirement that the course be taught to teachers, and then they will offer the course for \$399. Teachers will be paying for this out of pocket. Matthew Schertz wants to alert PES members about this. He wants to create a module that is free, believing that charging such a fee for an ethics course is unethical. He wants everyone to go to their state and investigate whether their state is adopting this U of Phoenix/Pearson/ETS initiative.

Nasim Noroozi offered a proposal to create a new “Postcolonial Education” SIG. A motion to consider the proposal was made and seconded. There was some discussion about the most appropriate title for the SIG. The title that was settled upon is “Decolonial Studies.” A motion to approve a new “Decolonial Studies” SIG was made, seconded, and carried.

Natasha Levinson delivered the Program Committee report (enclosed). She noted that there were a high number of submissions this year. The program committee members had to read 16 submissions each, and she gave a big thanks to everyone involved. There was some discussion of technology. Many participants made last minute requests for technology—especially PowerPoint projectors—which PES is unable to provide. Providing this sort of technology adds at least another \$10,000 to the hotel bill. Nick Burbules asked whether it would be cheaper for PES to buy our own portable projectors to bring to the conferences. Deron Boyles noted that this raises lots of contractual issues with the hotel. In many cases, PES would be on the hook for technology fees even if we brought our own projectors.

Ashley delivered the hospitality committee report. She noted that all of the sessions and banquets went well, and that we stayed on budget with respect to food orders.

Susan Verducci Sandford delivered the Committee on Professional Affairs (COPA) report (enclosed). She discussed the effort to create jobs manuals for the various PES officers, and noted that Barbara picked up that task. She also discussed the new White Papers/Policy

Briefs initiative. Many PES members are already writing philosophical papers related to policy, but there's an issue with our work's accessibility for non-philosophers. The new White Papers initiative is an effort to improve accessibility, along the lines of the PESGB "Impact" series.

Holly Brewster delivered the Committee on the Status of Women (COSW) report. COSW didn't have a preconference this year. She discussed representation of women on the program. A little under a 3rd of the paper presenters were women. Only a 3rd of the paper submissions came from women. Holly would like to conduct some kind of survey about why this is the case.

Sam Rocha delivered the Committee on Race and Ethnicity (CORE) report (enclosed). Sam noted that Kal Alston is the new chair of the committee.

Cara Furman delivered the Jobs for Philosophers of Education (JOPE) committee report (enclosed). The pre-conference was very successful. It was attended by 30 students who came from many different graduate programs in the US and Canada. This year's topic was writing and publishing. For next year, she would love to get outside institutional support for JOPE, so that the organization does not rely on the society. Thanks to Eduardo Duarte for making JOPE happen last year in Memphis and getting it going. Cara Furman wants to discuss a possible name change, but she wants to hold off until there are ideas for a better name.

Paula McAvoy delivered the Membership Committee report (enclosed). She noted that there are still well over a hundred fewer members of PES than there were a decade ago. Now it looks like the number of PES members and the number of registrants for the conference are aligned. The committee has been trying to think about that. Part of the reason may be because the yearbook is now online, so there is less of an incentive to remain a member. A few "radical" ideas have been floated in the committee to try to boost membership, including joining forces with a history group. Nick Burbules asked why people stopped coming to PES? Dave Waddington noted that participants in the recent membership survey cited diffuse reasons. The most common response was a lack of travel funds. Another common response was their field of philosophy was not being represented in the program.

Kathy Hytten delivered the election committee report (enclosed). She announced that Clarence Joldersma was elected to the Executive Board, Sarah Stitzlein was elected to COPA, Sam Rocha was appointed new Communications Director, Josh Corngold was reappointed Executive Director, and Rene Arcilla was appointed the new President-Elect. Rene gave thanks to elections committee and thanked everyone in advance for their forbearance. Rene announced that the 2018 Program Chair will be Megan Laverty.

The following is an addition to the agenda: Nasim Noroozi proposed that PES sign on to a Statement of Solidarity with Syrian Refugees in Canada. A motion to consider the proposal was made and seconded. Nasim clarified that the idea is that PES, as a collective body, will endorse this Statement of Solidarity. Nick Burbules expressed concern about a slippery slope here. There are many political issues that PES could concern itself with—so how do we determine which issues to tackle? Nick noted that he is not against this proposal per se, but he says intense debates over what (if any) political issues to tackle have happened in the past in PES. Another member asked if this is something that the entire membership

should vote upon, given that the people in attendance at this business meeting are a small subset of the membership. Sasha Sidorkin and Walter Okshevksy both expressed concern that signing on to a political statement like this might threaten PES's tax exempt status and suggested that perhaps it is better to ask individual PES members to sign on to the statement. In light of all of these concerns, Nasim withdrew her proposal from consideration.

Natasha Levinson asked about core principles to guide these decisions over what kinds of political issues (if any) PES should tackle. Examples of core principles would be things like:

- The issue should serve the public
- The issue should be educational
- The issue should contribute to the professional judgement of teachers

A task force was formed to explore possible guiding principles for these types of decisions over political issues. Doron Yosef-Hassidim, Natasha Levinson, Lynne Alexandrova, Andrea Boyea, and Amy Shuffleton volunteered to be part of the task force.

Dave Waddington brought tears to everyone's eyes with some uproarious "resolutions" (courtesy of Dave, Amy Shuffleton, and Clarence Joldersma).

Barbara Applebaum passed the President's gavel to Debby Kerdeman. President Kerdeman noted that she is struck by the fact that Rene is honored, Barbara is relieved, and Debby is terrified. President Kerdeman offered thanks for how much time everyone dedicates to PES. She noted that next year's conference will be March 16-20, 2017. Seattle is the location. The hospitality chair is John Hopkins—Associate Dean of Students at St. Martin's University. Ann Chinnery is Program Chair for 2017.

New Business: Paula McAvoy described the new Center for Ethics in Education at the University of Wisconsin Madison. Lynne Alexandrova asked about the SIG pages to the PES website (which seem to be out of date), and she announced a "Love of Wisdom/Knowledge Inquiries" (LOWKI) post-conference event at OISE, University of Toronto.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Josh Corngold, PES Executive Director