

**2023–2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA
SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (EDT)
MEETING CONDUCTED IN PERSON
WITH SOME VIRTUAL PARTICIPANTS VIA ZOOM**

ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Bernstein at 8:15 am.

ITEM #2 – INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present:

Mary Bernstein, President
Rose M. Brewer, President-Elect
Shirley A. Jackson, Past-President
Anthony A. Peguero, Vice-President
David J. Luke, Vice-President-Elect
Glenn W. Muschert, Secretary
Heather E. Dillaway, Treasurer
Meghna Bhat, Board Member
Kristen M. Budd, Board Member
Ebonie L. Cunningham Stringer, Board Member
David G. Embrick, Board Member
Barbara Katz Rothman, Board Member
Cameron T. Whitley, Board Member v*
Shiv Issar, Board Member, Student Representative
Forough Mohammadi, Board Member, Student Representative v*
Giovanna Follo, *Ex-Officio*, Chairperson, Council of the Divisions
Shannon Carter, *Ex-Officio*, Chairperson-Elect, Council of Division Chairs
Annulla Linders, Editor, *Social Problems*
Yvonne A. Braun, Chair, Editorial and Publications Committee v*
Nancy J. Mezey, Chair, Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee
Loretta Bass, Chair, Committee on Committees v*
Elroi J. Windsor, Executive Officer
Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager

Note, "v*" indicates virtual participation.

ITEM #3 – ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Board adopted the agenda presented.

ITEM #4 – REPORT FROM THE EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Committee Chair Yvonne A. Braun presented the Editorial and Publications (E&P) Committee report. Yvonne noted that many people contributed to the functioning of the E&P Committee. In the previous year, the committee successfully concluded the search for a new editor for *Social Problems*. At this year's annual meeting, the E&P Committee evaluated the *Social Problems* editorial team, noting success. The E&P Committee now has oversight of the Justice 21 Committee and recommended that the Board approve adding at minimum one additional Justice 21 member position to focus on publicity and outreach. Marlese Durr will serve as E&P Committee Chair for the 2023-2024 term.

ACTION: The Board approved the creation of a new position on the Justice 21 Committee, a two-year term (once renewable) to contribute to publicity and outreach. The Justice 21 Committee will take responsibility for recruiting for the position. This action proceeds to the By-Laws Committee.

ACTION: The Board approved the report of the Editorial and Publications Committee.

ITEM #5 – PRESENTATION OF THE 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET BY THE BUDGET, FINANCE, AND AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Committee Chair Nancy J. Mezey presented the 2024 proposed budget, clarifying relevant changes and essential points and highlighting possible future trends. Revenues continue to be down. The Budget, Finance, and Audit (BFA) Committee has trimmed expenses while preserving the vital functions of the SSSP. The budget is as conservative as feasible. There is little to cut without compromising the core functions of the Society. The SSSP has a projected budget shortfall of c. \$245K for 2024. The SSSP is financially viable in the short term, considering the robust reserves. However, the budget shortfalls are increasing, which presents a looming existential threat to the Society. The BFA is engaging in conversations to move toward balancing the budget. This conversation is a practical move toward establishing a new financial equilibrium for the Society. Finally, Susan M. Carlson has volunteered for many years as the investment advisor to the Society, a fact noted with gratitude. Susan has recommended that the Society consider investing in the services of a professional socially responsible investing financial manager. Discussion ensued.

ACTION: The Board approved the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee’s report.

PART A. 2024 Proposed Budget

Nancy J. Mezey presented the highlights and details of the 2024 proposed budget.

ACTION: The Board approved the 2024 proposed budget.

ITEM #6 – REPORT FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Student Board Representatives Shiv Issar and Foroogh Mohammadi presented the report’s highlights. The Student Board Representatives have engaged in communication with SSSP student members. In the past year, the priorities of SSSP student members were as follows. First, the students would like to see additional streamlining of the mentoring program. Second, the students would like more information about how to get more involved in the Society. Third, the student members have an interest in attending member-run workshops. Discussion ensued.

ACTION: The Board approved the report from the Board of Directors Student Representatives.

ITEM #7 – REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL OF THE DIVISIONS

PART A – FOLLOW-UP ON TWO ACTIONS FROM THE 8-07-22 BOARD MEETING

Chair of the Council of Divisions, Giovanna Follo, presented two items rescheduled from the 8/07/22 Board meeting. These two items were addressed in the 2022 Report of the Chairperson of the Council of Divisions.

Action Item #1: The Board empowered the Council of Division Chairs to form a task force that will provide more precise parameters for social media. The Chairperson of the Council of Divisions will create a task force consisting of three Division Chairs to develop

the document for review by the Board. The social media task force will consist of: Rafia Javaid Mallick (Chair-Elect, Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division), Michael O. Johnston (Chair, Sport, Leisure, and the Body Division), and Virginia Kuulei Berndt (Co-Chair, Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division).

Action Item #2: The Board empowered the Council of Division Chairs to begin the discussion of rebranding and division consolidation. This discussion will begin with Division Chairs giving questions so a grounded informational foundation can be created. Based on the information collected, the Division Chairs will create a structured questionnaire for their membership to understand the direction they would like to go. At this point, the Division Chairs will begin their deliberations. #3, which the Board amended below.

PART B – SUMMARY OF DIVISION ACTIVITIES, 2022-2023

Chair of the Council of Divisions Giovanna Follo presented the report's highlights. Much of the information focused on division membership and communications within divisions. The Council of Division Chairs has taken the initiative to reduce the number of sessions and, relatedly, to enhance the viability of each session offered. The Council requested information about downloads of division newsletters. The Council suggested strategies for increasing submissions to student paper awards.

ACTION: The Board approved the incorporation of questions concerning the reorganization of Divisions within the next Membership Survey.

ACTION: The Board approved the report from the Chair of the Council of the Divisions.

PART C – DIVISIONS BY MEMBERSHIP YEAR REPORT, JULY 2023

Giovanna Follo presented the highlights and details of the report.

ITEM #8 – REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (INCLUDING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION)

Committee Chair Giovanna Follo presented the report's highlights, including the slate of the nominees for the 2024 SSSP General Election.

ACTION: The Board approved the slate of nominees for the SSSP 2024 General Election.

ACTION: The Board approved the report of the Chair of the Nominations Committee.

ITEM #9 – APPOINT TWO MEMBERS TO SERVE FOR THE 2023-2025 TERM ON THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

ACTION: The Board approved two individuals who will serve a two-year term as Nomination Committee members.

- 1. Noreen Sugrue (2023-2025)**
- 2. Joshua Stout (2023-2025)**

ITEM #10 – NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY AND TREASURER

ACTION: The Board approved Glenn W. Muschert and Heather E. Dillaway as Society Secretary and Treasurer nominees, respectively.

ITEM #11 – APPOINT BOARD MEMBER TO SERVE FOR THE 2023-2025 TERM ON THE COMMITTEE ON MENTORSHIP

ACTION: The Board approved Barbara Katz Rothman to serve on the Committee on Mentorship for the 2023-2025 term.

ITEM #12 – REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES CHAIR

Committee Chair Loretta Bass presented the report's highlights, focusing on identifying candidates for various appointed positions in the Society. The process this past year went smoothly, with acknowledgment of those who played vital roles in the process.

ACTION: The Board approved the report of the Committee on Committees.

ITEM #13 – REPORT FROM THE AD HOC SSSP MEETING LOCATION AND FORMAT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Committee Chair Barbara Katz Rothman presented the report. The Committee recommended the enhancement of online presence to enhance rather than replace in-person meeting activities. The Committee recommended that the meeting location and format remain the same. Action should center on efforts to offer several online events shortly, which the EO will spearhead. The Board denied the Ad Hoc Committee's request to form a new ad hoc Committee to work on online events.

ACTION: The Board empowers the Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee to develop a long-term strategic plan to move forward with an online workshop presence for the SSSP.

ACTION: The Board dissolved the Ad Hoc Committee on Meeting Location and Format.

ACTION: The Board accepted the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Meeting Location and Format.

ITEM #14 – DISCUSS ANY BUSINESS MEETING REFERRALS OR MOTIONS

No referrals or motions came to the Board from the SSSP Business Meeting on Friday, August 18, 2023.

ITEM #15 – UPDATE/NEXT STEPS: RESOLUTIONS VOTING (INCLUDING DISPOSITION)

Vice President Anthony A. Peguero presented on behalf of Past Vice President Stephani Williams.

ITEM #16 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM 2023

PART A. ACTION NEEDS TO BE TAKEN

Item 1. Board Discussion and Selection of the 2024-2027 Editor of *Social Problems* (carried forward from 7/24/23 Board agenda #5 item)
EO Elroi J. Windsor noted that ambiguities in the agreement with the new *Social Problems* Editors are resolved.

ACTION: The Board approved the 2024-2027 editors of *Social Problems*: Drs. Andrew Fullerton, Michael Long, Rachel Schmitz, and Kelley Sittner, Oklahoma State University.

Item 2. Report from the Erwin O. Smigel Award Committee Chair– (carried forward from 7/24/23 Board agenda #12 item)

Glenn W. Muschert revived the Board conversation related to Committee Chair Ranita Ray's presentation of the Erwin O. Smigel Award Committee Report. The concern involved whether a retired applicant is eligible for the award. The Board discussed the spirit of the award, which is to benefit under-resourced applicants, and that the criteria stipulate that proof of need is a necessary factor. After discussion, the Board responded that the award is based on need and that retirement alone is insufficient justification for financial need. While retired applicants are eligible to apply, as with all applicants, they must demonstrate financial need.

Item 3. Follow up on Action Item Op-Ed Project Workshops for 2024 (carried forward from 7/19/22 Board Meeting #14 Part A.)

EO Elroi J. Windsor reminded the Board of the earlier discussion. After analyzing the uptake and utilization of workshops, Past President Noreen M. Sugrue suggested offering one Op-Ed writing workshop in the fall and one media outreach workshop in the spring.

ACTION: The Board approved offering one Op-Ed writing workshop in fall 2023 and one media outreach workshop in spring 2024. Moving forward SSSP may offer Op-Ed writing workshops in-house.

PART B. NEEDS TO BE DISCUSSED.

Item 1. Follow-up on Action Item Operating Reserve Policy (carried forward from 7/19/22 Board Meeting #13 Part B. 2.).

Past President Shirley A. Jackson reminded the Board of the conversation regarding the Society's policy for operating reserve fund.

ACTION: The Board approved the Past President's Report on the Operating Reserve Policy.

Item 2. Report from the Anti-Harassment Committee Chair (carried forward from the 7/24/23 Board Meeting #8).

EO Elroi J. Windsor spoke on behalf of Committee Chair Tracy L. Peressini.

ACTION: The Board approved the Report of the Anti-Harassment Committee Chair.

Item 3. Follow-up on Discussion Media Presence for Press to Contact Our Members (carried forward from 7/17/23 Board Meeting #13 Part A.)

EO Elroi J. Windsor and Barbara Katz Rothman commented on the need for publicity for the SSSP and its members.

Item 4. SSSP's Prospective Partnerships: How to Invest in Applied Contexts (carried forward from 4/17/23 Board Meeting #9 Sub-Item A).

Given a lack of available time, this item carries forward to the next Board meeting, date TBD.

Item 5. Discuss the Future of the SSSP (from 7/17/23 Board Meeting #6 Part B).

Given a lack of available time, this item carries forward to the next Board meeting, date TBD.

ITEM #17. NEW BUSINESS

Part A. Tri-Sponsored Virtual Social Hour

EO Elroi J. Windsor reported on the success of the co-sponsored virtual events held among the ABS, SSSP, and SWS.

ACTION: The Board approved the continuation of the Sponsored Virtual Social Hour to take place in July 2024. EO Elroi J. Windsor will coordinate with the ABS and SWS EOs.

Part B. Revisiting Virtual Meetings

The Board discussed the issue of virtual Board meetings, including the challenges and opportunities presented by virtual formats. Ultimately, some virtual meetings will continue to be necessary, but there is a preference for in-person Board meetings in Montréal, virtual meetings as needed, and no summer virtual meetings.

Part C. Request from the Institutional Ethnography Division for a Workshop in Montréal.

ACTION: The Board approved the Institutional Ethnography Division Workshop in Montréal.

ITEM #18 – ADJOURNMENT OF THE 2023-2024 BOARD

There being no additional time, President Mary Bernstein adjourned the meeting at 12:04 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Glenn W. Muschert, SSSP Secretary.