

# Minutes of 2019 AAVP Business Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, July 11, 2019

**Time:** 10:30–11:30 AM

**Place:** WAAVP 2019 Conference, Plenary Hall, Madison Ballroom (ABCD), Level 4,  
Monona Terrace Community and Conference Center, Madison, Wisconsin

Note: Actions or developments that have occurred subsequent to this meeting are noted in [ ] in the text below.

## **Quorum**

A quorum was present as there were 66 members in attendance. The membership at the time of the meeting was 298 members, with a quorum being 15% of 298 members, or 45 members.

## **President's Introductory Remarks**

John Gilleard opened the meeting and expressed his gratitude to the members for their support during his term as President and remarked that it had been a rewarding year. He asked whether there were any additions to the agenda, but there were none. No items requiring special attention had been put forward by the various AAVP Committees for discussion at the meeting, except for the announcement of the election results. Martin Nielsen was elected Vice President and Alice Lee and Andrew Moorhead were elected to the Nominating Committee.

## **Amendments to By-Laws and Constitution**

John Gilleard then asked for a motion to be proposed that the amendments to the By-Laws and Constitution be implemented. The membership had been notified of the proposed amendments at least 30 days prior to the meeting. Joe Camp proposed and Anne Zajac seconded the proposal that the changes to the By-Laws be made. Frank Hurtig proposed and Doug Carithers seconded the proposal that the changes to the Constitution be made.

- Proposed By-law changes  
The three proposed changes were:
  1. Abolish the Past Presidents Committee and reassign duties to the Outreach, Publications and Research Committee and to the Executive Committee.
  2. Dissolve the Newsletter/Editorial Board Committee and add the Editor and Assistant Editor as named positions on the Electronic Media Committee.
  3. Add authorization for the Executive Committee, working with the Secretary Treasurer and, when possible, an event planner, to identify sites/venues for the annual AAVP meeting.
- Proposed changes to Constitution  
The three proposed changes were:
  1. Change references to February Newsletter to Spring Newsletter.
  2. Change the requirement for a minimum of 30 days (from 60 days) for return of ballots for election of Officers.
  3. Change the requirement for the distribution of proposed changes to the Constitution (and By-Laws) in writing at least 30 days (from 60 days) prior to the next annual meeting at which the changes will be considered.
  4. Changes in responsibility for the publication of the Newsletter (to align with changes to the By-Laws).

The amendments to the By-Laws and the Constitution were put to a vote. Forty-nine members were in favor of the changes to the By-Laws with none opposed and fifty-nine members were in

favor of the changes to the Constitution with none opposed. The motions to amend the By-Laws and Constitution as proposed therefore carried. The full text of the By-Laws (linked [here](#)) and Constitution (linked [here](#)), as amended, have been posted on the AAVP website.

### **Secretary-Treasurer Report and Budget Discussion**

Adriano Vatta summarized the financial status of the organization. Since 2014, the total amount available to the organization in the association's bank accounts has declined from \$238,000 at the end of 2014 to \$170,000 at the end of 2018. Expenditure has increased while income has not matched the expenditure.

Adriano Vatta discussed the changes to the budget proposed by the Executive Committee for 2020, which included:

- Adjusting registration fee to meet out-of-pocket expenses for the annual meeting venue.
- Requesting a modest increase in corporate and other sponsors since donations have not changed in several years.
- Limiting Young Investigator Travel Grants to \$450 per student.
- Suspending Junior Faculty travel to Student Chapters.
- Limiting AAVP contributions to a membership refund for the CAPC-supported Educators' Symposium.
- Limiting costs associated with the Executive Secretary and other consultants.
- Soliciting suggestions on other ways to increase income.

Discussion followed. Ann Donoghue asked for clarification on the Junior Faculty travel, which John Gilleard explained was money intended to support Faculty or post docs who are starting off in their careers to travel to give a lecture or presentation on invitation by AAVP Student Chapters.

With regard to the Young Investigator Travel Grants, Anne Zajac suggested that the association be more discriminating regarding the grants so that not necessarily every applicant be awarded a grant. She asked what the return on investment was with regard to the student travel grants. Anne suggested that undergraduates should possibly not be considered for travel grants. She raised the question of support for post docs.

Susan Little followed up on what Anne Zajac had put forward by supporting a limit to the number of grants awarded each year. Forty-five awards could possibly be given out as opposed to the 60 awards made for the 2018 meeting. She suggested that there be a more stringent quality review of the abstracts than is currently applied, or perhaps a competition to decide on the most deserving awardees. The quality review would include ensuring that students were presenting work for which the study(-ies) had been completed and data were available; a series of reports would make for a stronger presentation than a single report. This could be handled by the Awards Committee or a sub-committee of the Awards Committee.

When asked by Adriano Vatta whether the Awards Committee could handle the evaluation of the student abstracts, Lindsay Starkey, Chair of the Awards Committee, suggested that there might be vetting by the individual institutions prior to submission to the Awards Committee for consideration.

### **Members New Business**

Dwight Bowman made a presentation in response to the decision by the Executive Committee not to support the Educators' Symposium financially, except for re-imburement of the attending members' annual dues for those members in good standing. Dwight Bowman's main point is

that the AAVP has, as part of its Mission Statement, to support the Educators Symposium and it has supported the Educators' Symposium since its inception by providing travel grants and other financial support for the meeting. The reduction in support was, in his view, not discussed with the Education Committee or the organizers of the 2019 meeting. Dwight Bowman implored the membership to voice their opinion on the matter and to send their feedback to the AAVP Executive Committee.

Dan Snyder asked how many educators usually attend the meeting. Antoinette Marsh stated that representative from 27 schools had attended the meeting she had organized in Ohio in 2017.

Araceli Lucio-Forster and Gary Conboy voiced their enthusiasm for the Educators' Symposium and Araceli Lucio-Forster stated that she would not have been able to attend past Symposia without travel support from the AAVP.

John Gilleard also asked that any members provide their feedback to the Executive Committee regarding the funding for the Educators' Symposium.

#### **Close of Meeting**

John Gilleard thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting by handing over the Presidency to Mason Reichard.

Slide presentations (linked [here](#)) given at the meeting by the AAVP leadership have been posted on the AAVP website. Included in the AAVP leadership slides are slides regarding the 2020 meeting which were not displayed at the meeting but are included here for information.

Submitted by Adriano Vatta, Secretary-Treasurer, AAVP