

AAR-WR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

19 October, 2012 via conference call

Souad Ali: Calls meeting to order at 10:04am. Present: Souad Ali, Susan Maloney, Sara Frykenberg (attending in her capacity as Annual Conference Manager), Philip Boo Riley, Franz Metcalf.

Souad Ali: Confirms that Dr. Amina Wadud has accepted the plenary speaker role, fitting us into her busy schedule. This is made possible by a contribution of \$3000 for Dr. Wadud's honorarium from the ASU Dean of Liberal Arts; his office will also cover her travel and hotel expenses. Ali also confirms another contribution is \$1500 for the reception catering from the Dean of Humanities.

Boo Riley: Points out our budget has \$500 honorarium for the plenary speaker and asks if we can save it this year?

Ali: Yes.

All agree that these confirmations are excellent.

Riley: Reports on news from chairs. Thirteen have responded. Two units have zero submissions. Highest number of submissions was for the Islamic Studies unit with twenty. It's not clear this gives us much information on prospective conference attendance.

Ali: Asks about the other respondents.

Riley: There's a range. Some units will request one session, some two. Riley is unsure of how this rates, historically. In any case, he'll be hearing from them soon, as they have a deadline to send in session requests by the 31st.

Franz Metcalf: Suggests that Riley and Sara Frykenberg make sure to get on the folks who don't respond by the 31st. so they can get ahead of that curve on organizing the rooms, assigning slots to units, and so on.

Ali: Adds another historical view: consistency of contact is important. Encourage the chairs and the chairs may encourage new presenters.

Susan Maloney: Suggests moving the Women's Caucus session to Sunday. At ASU there will be no problem with space.

Riley and Frykenberg agree to consider this.

Riley: We have other specific requests for the conference and surely will have more. Riley will compile that material and run it by the committee so we can benefit from past experience.

Ali: Points out that some scholars invited to present in Islamic Studies might rather be organized into a special session. Ali also mentions the long-term consideration of creating group within large units like Islamic Studies.

Riley: The organizing of units might be something for the board meeting in Chicago. Riley is planning to present thoughts on this.

Ali: Turns attention to the Operating Agreement.

Maloney: Expresses concern regarding the wording of the election of the REC.

Discussion ensues. New wording is proposed: "the REC is appointed by the Board of Directors of the Regional Group after nominations are received from the members-at-large."

Riley: Notes that all the other positions have consistent language: an election by the majority of the members present. Shall the REC position differ?
Then follows a discussion of election of officers, in particular the REC, but all positions.
There is agreement to change the wording as above for the REC position.

Ali: Regarding nominations for REC, we have one nomination and have until October 31 to receive further nominations. If we receive no further nominations, we go to the Board with our recommendation on the candidate.

Ali: Points out the Operating Agreement skips from section six to section nine.
Metcalf: After checking the original document from AAR National, Metcalf says this is an artifact from the original which skips seven and eight.
Riley: Points out the same thing happens within article three.
Metcalf: Agrees to change the numbering of and in these sections.

Regarding the Policies and Procedures document: Riley and Metcalf will prepare a revised document and distribute it for discussion at the November Board meeting.
Regarding the REC description: Maloney suggests the following revision: "serving as liaison between the AAR-WR and AAR National and serving on the regions committee."

Ali: Reviews the agenda for the November. Ali then welcomes Frykenberg.
There's agreement that the Committee would like Frykenberg to attend the meeting in November.

There follows an extended discussion of the AAR-WR website and its future. The Committee agrees that this topic needs further discussion.

Metcalf: Proposed that we have a conference call with two agenda items at least: 1) the policies and procedures document and 2) the website.
Riley adds 3) fees.
Ali will schedule this meeting, approximately one week before AAR national.

Frykenberg: Expresses her excitement to be working with AAR-WR. Asks about the onsite visit.
Ali: Expresses how that visit is really useful. Ali would like SF to come and compile notes on rooms, food, hotels, etc.
Metcalf: Mentions he did not make a site visit last year.
Riley: observes that we have a total of \$1,000 in our budget for conference manager's expenses.
Frykenberg: Adds that she really wants to do this and to begin working with Ali.

Ali: Closes meeting at 11:05.

Meeting minutes compiled by Franz Metcalf, October 26, 2012.