American Academy of Religion, Western Region

Sunday, March 19, 2017

1:01pm

University of the West

Minutes

PRESENT: In total, 35 members of AARWR and AAR were present for this meeting.  
  
PRESIDING: Jonathan Lee

1. CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS
   1. The President began the meeting at 1:01pm.
   2. The Vice-President counted 35 participants present, and welcomed all executive committee members and AAR members to the business meeting. The Vice-President provided an overview of the meeting, discussing four agenda items: thank you’s, update to policy files, accepting candidates for open board positions, and elections for executive committee positions.
2. Thank You’s
   1. Dr. Hester Oberman was thanked for her service as Past President.
3. Update to Policy Files
   1. The committee discussed timeline clarification for the VP. The recommendations aimed to reduce confusion among board members and conference planning committee. In addition, there was a recommendation to change language around joint panels.
4. Candidates for Open Board Positions
   1. The committee discussed a proposition that would allow the acceptance of late applications for open board positions. A need for transparency in the election process was discussed.
   2. Souad motioned to allow interested candidates to be allowed to be considered for open board positions. Jeongyun seconded this motion. 28 voted “yes”, 4 voted “no”, and 3 abstained. The motion passed by majority rule.
5. Regional Coordinator Change
   1. The committee discussed a permanent leave of absence by the current Regional Coordinator. Charles has accepted a tenure-track position and will no longer be able to fulfill his responsibilities as Regional Coordinator.
   2. The Vice President offered two recommendations: to vote immediately on a new Regional Coordinator or allow the board to appoint a new interim-Regional Coordinator. Souad motioned to vote now. The motion was seconded by Jonathan. 23 voted “yes”, 10 voted “no”, and 2 abstained. The motion was passed by majority rule. See “elections.”

**Election Results:**The following positions are voted on by the general membership at the annual business meeting: the Presidential Line, Diversity Advocate, Queer Advocate, and the Southern California Representative.

* + 1. The membership voted unanimously by acclamation and elected Jason Sexton for the Presidential Line.
    2. The membership voted unanimously by acclamation and elected Brian Clearwater for the Regional Coordinator position.
    3. The membership voted unanimously by acclamation and elected Sakena Young-Scaggs for the Diversity Advocate position.
    4. The membership voted unanimously by acclamation and elected Anjeanette LeBoeuf for the Queer Advocate position.
    5. The membership voted unanimously and elected Joseph Paxton for the Southern California Student Representative position.

1. ADJOURNMENT
   1. The meeting adjourned at 1:43pm.
2. NEXT MEETING
   1. The date for the next meeting has been tentatively scheduled for mid-April 2017.

Minutes completed by: Joseph Kim Paxton, Conference Manager.