

**2019 Business Meeting  
Western Association of Women Historians  
50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

The regular annual business meeting of the Western Association of Women Historians was held on Saturday, April 27th, 5:15-6:15 p.m. at the Skyline 3 Conference Room, Downtown Hilton Hotel, Portland, Oregon.

**Board Members Present:**

Jennifer Thigpen, President; Ula Taylor, President-Elect; Sarah Gold McBride, Executive Director; Lindsay Wilson, Secretary; Jennifer Robin Terry, Treasurer.

**PROCEEDINGS:**

**Call to Order**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Approval of 2018 Business Meeting Minutes**

**Review of 2018 minutes:**

20 people who registered didn't attend last year's meeting

**Executive Board Reports:**

**Jennifer Thigpen, President:**

The Executive Board approved the Peggy Renner Award for Teaching and Curricular Innovation with an emphasis on relating the past to the present.

We are still working on broadening the language of the Chaudhuri Award.

We will put a proposal to increase the lifetime membership fee to \$550 or \$600 on the agenda for next year's EB meeting.

We were mindful of costs for this conference; we spent a bit more money on dinner this year than usual in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We need to keep the association solvent for next year and succeeding years.

**From the Floor:**

We need to circulate a directory among members.

Sarah: We need to obtain consent, which she will request.

People will need to opt in, not opt out.

We voted Kate Flach treasurer by acclamation.

We need a *Networker* editor and designer.

Inn 2020, we will need a new **Digital Communications Coordinator** to replace Susan Kullmann.

We need new prize committee members.

We need new grad representatives, program co-chairs.

We need a president-elect.

We need to clarify the members of the Nominating Committee.

Ask the Program Committee to revise guidelines for length of paper presentations.

**Ula Taylor, President-Elect**

Ula has been shadowing Jenny for the last two years.

She gave a talk for WAWH at the PCB of the AHA luncheon,

We need to be mindful that nearly half our members are not tenured or on the tenure track.

If we raise membership fees, the total will not be that much.

Ula proposes that board members on tenure lines raise between \$500-\$1,000 each so that we are not so dependent on membership for funds.

**Sarah Gold McBride, Executive Director:**

Jennifer Thigpen: She did a lot!

Sarah maintained day-do-day operations, managed membership, managed conference registration, contributed to 2019 conference planning, managed WAWH awards, managed the WAWH newsletter, and helped secure site for 2020 meeting.

52% of WAWH members are tenure-line faculty.

Nupur Chaudhuri: Go back to the 28 life-time members to ask for more money.

Nupur will pass the hat tonight, as always, and we will solicit all members on Thursday, May 2.

**Rebecca Plant, Past President:**

Rebecca suggests fundraising by smaller amounts over the year.

**Lindsay Wilson, Secretary, and**

**From the Floor: Ideas for Enhancing Communications:**

Reformat the *Networker*

Ask members retiring to write about their careers.

Ask for a 1<sup>st</sup>-timer's report.

Publish panel reports and some papers, especially those that address teaching and careers beyond academia. Talk pedagogy; share syllabi.

Interview book authors prior to the *Networker*.

Should we solicit contributions to the *Networker*?

Ask members to join Facebook (219 are already members).

Create a mentorship environment on research and publishing, including all ranks.

Students said that they are interested in how to present a paper, how to teach a survey course, and how to develop their careers.

Use the *Networker* for students to put together panels. This will bring better cohesion of panels.

**Jennifer Robin Terry, Treasurer:**

We need to seek out more affordable conference venues. That might mean meeting at a different time of the year. We also need to start charging registration fees that offset our actual costs---no more subsidizing

We need to raise more funds through the Fund for the Future if one of our goals is to fund graduate student expenses.

To save expenses we decided not to list in the AHA directory or in other organizations' programs. (Except for the PCB as we have an agreement with them to list in kind—no \$\$ exchanged).

We did not need to pay the keynote speaker for the PCB conference this year because President-elect Ula Taylor waived the honorarium.

We have saved money by using Wufoo and PayPal instead of Eventbrite.

From the floor:

Ula Taylor: We should fund raise from universities.

Peggy Renner: We should deposit funds in more lucrative investments.

**The Fund for the Future:**

Our goal was to raise \$10,000; we received \$3,600.

These grants will fund travel by graduate students, pay for honoraria for conferences, and support outreach.

Should we keep going or raise money in another way?

Encourage people to give anything, not just \$50 per person.

**2019 Book Prizes:****Carol Gold Graduate Student Conference Paper Prize:**

Madeline S. DeDe-Panken

“Craving Knowledge, Carving Space: Gender and Mycological Work in Late 19<sup>th</sup>-Century America.”

**Founders' Dissertation Prize:**

Kimberly Killion, “The Chemist at the Table: Nutrition Science and the Politics of Food in the United States, 1885-1930.”

**Judith Lee Ridge Prize:**

Danielle Terrazas Williams, “‘My Conscience is Free and Clear’”: African-Descended Women, Status, and Slave Owning in Mid-Colonial Mexico,” *The Americas* 75, no. 3(July 2018): 525-554.

**Chaudhuri Prize:**

Sara Egge, *Woman Suffrage and Citizenship in the Midwest, 1870-1920* (University of Iowa Press, 2018).

**Kanner Prize:**

Miroslava Chavez-Garcia, *Migrant Longing: Letter Writing Across the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands*. University of North Carolina Press, 2018.

**Keller-Sierra Prize:**

Ana Raquel Minian, *Undocumented Lives: The Untold Story of Mexican Migration*. Cambridge, MA; London: Harvard University Press, 2018.

**Attendance at this meeting:** Nupur Chaudhuri, Kate Flach, Brenda Frink, Carol Gold, Sherry Katz, Susan Kullmann, Regina Lark, Barbara Molony, Robert Nelson, Rebecca Jo Plant, Peggy Renner, Kathleen Sheldon, Pamela Stewart, Carole Srole, Peg Strobel, Susan Wladaver-Morgan.