

NECSEM 2014  
Wheaton College  
Business Meeting Minutes  
April 5, 2014

I. Welcome (David Pruett)

Acknowledgement of conference organizers (esp. Wheaton's Provost, who covered almost all costs - \$1500); Dinner also included (precedent for future conferences?)

2. Presidential Annual Report (DP)

\* NECSEM – one of most productive, well-attended regional conferences (80 people at 2013 Bowdoin) – includes good undergraduate contingent (unusual) and simultaneous sessions (thanks to Brita).

\* We now have 2 simultaneous sessions (from 3)

\* NECSEM also stands out in its number of officers (student and faculty participation)

\* Good fiscal position, too

\* “Poke and prod” – your colleagues, students to attend, pay membership

3. Ideas on how to improve meeting: (DP)

1. Limit to 2 concurrent sessions (vs. 3) – better attendance over larger number of sessions

2. Focus on students (issues)

3. Increasing social media awareness

4. NECSEM listserv

\* Opportunity to sign up (sign in sheet)

\* Send posts to David Pruett

\* 185 current subscribers

4. New Business: (DP)

1. Reserving spot for Student Concerns Committee (standing session? – i.e., workshop? Panel?)

2. Student paper deadline moved closer to conference

3. Printed name badges – preparation for national conferences, etc.

4. Lise Waxer Prize now Lise Waxer NECSEM prize (minimize confusion w/SEM Popular Music Section)

5. Abstract submission implies conference participation (reinforce professionalism; pass this on to students)

5. Local arrangements welcome (Matthew Allen)

Announcement of informal dinner; Acknowledgment of Wheaton's Provost

6. Treasurer's Report (Peter Kvetko)

Annual Dues - cover paper prizes, enables students to attend national meeting

- \* Higher Use of Paypal (including members who did not attend)

2013- 17; 2014- 30

- \* Yet, lower attendance this year

- \* \$2738 – current balance

- \* Grow money – more for students research grants, conference travel fund

#### 7. Website editor's report (Antanas Meilus)

- \* We should have more material on web, allows institutional memory (past programs, etc.)

- \* New ideas? – making NECSEM website more dynamic, etc.

#### 8. Elections (PK)

- \* Treasurer – Peter's four year tenure over.

  - Damascus Kafumbe** (Middlebury College), nominated by PK and accepts position

- \* Website editor

  - \* **Antanas has agreed to continue**

  - \* No new nominations

- \* Vice President

  - \* Last year's anomaly (Brita made motion for nominating President automatically, while Mariè Abe voted in temporarily to VP)

  - \* PK moves to continue Marie in position of VP, after which MA would become President

  - \* Motion to vote to extend VP for 1 more year

Mariè Abe: Opens floor for regional diversity.

Sandy Graham: Not greatest idea to automatically nominate

MA: Explanation of VP responsibilities

(Preparing for NECSEM, yet mostly: Programming, decision-making process by email)

Amanda Scherbenske: Which officer positions open?

DP: Nominations for VP?; None; Mariè remains VP (with understanding that she will receive an automatic nominations for President in Spring 2015 when Pruett's term is over).

#### 9. NECSEM's conference – Boston University 2015

Kiri Miller: April 11<sup>th</sup> – tentative date for NECSEM 2015; aiming for 2 concurrent panels

DP: Nominations for institutions for NECSEM 2016?; DP nominates UMass Boston  
UMass – new building; Email David with other nominations; Vote via Listserv?

KM: Later starting time? (public transit)

DP: Show of hands – most would like it.

#### 10. New business ideas? (DP)

Andrew: Is national SEM webspace offered to chapters?

Antanas: Site migration not too complicated

DP: Monthly fees to Citizen's Bank?

Peter K: Need to look for another bank to hold NECSEM money (with a better deal)

\* Allocate funds for student travel, etc.?

Sandy Graham: Deposit money with SEM office?

DP: Guaranteed slot for Student Concerns Committee (i.e., have their own workshop, etc.)? (In addition to President's Roundtable)

Andrew: We need students' feedback on this.

Kiri Miller: 3 plenary events (business, presidents, students) – that would expand the day

Sandy Graham: Local meetings offer opportunity for students and faculty interact much more so than at National meeting.

DP: Yes, today's lunch, for example.

\* Ideas for President's Roundtable for next year?

Andrew : Will student funds be allocated to a permanent cause? Honorary allotment? Especially considering our funds more or less equal our spending.

DP: Costs lowered because we have presidential roundtables instead of keynotes

#### 11. Adjournment