

Council Minutes

January 30–February 1, 2009
Santa Monica, CA

Council Members Present:

Arnetha F. Ball (Division K), Nancy Beadie (Division F), Mark Berends (Division L), Linda L. Cook (Division D), David J. Flinders (Division B), Steve A. Henry (Division H), Joan L. Herman (Member-at-Large), Cynthia A. Hudley (Division E), Carol D. Lee (President-Elect), Richard E. Mayer (Division C), Lorraine M. McDonnell (President), John A. Oliver (Graduate Student Council), Patricia S. O'Sullivan (Division I), Lynne R. Schrum (SIG Executive Committee), William Tate (Past-President), William G. Tierney (Member-at-Large), Linda C. Tillman (Division A), Susan B. Twombly (Division J)

Council Members Absent:

Garrett Albert Duncan (Division G)

Staff Members Present:

Felice J. Levine, Phoebe H. Stevenson

Friday, January 30, 2009 (Meeting Day 1)

1. Welcome by President Lorraine McDonnell

President Lorraine McDonnell called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. She welcomed members of Council to the meeting.

2. Introduction

McDonnell provided an overview of the agenda for the meeting. The agenda was approved unanimously.

3. Report of the President

McDonnell reflected on her role as President thus far. She noted that there were a number of initiatives under way since she took office and expressed confidence that Council could bring many of them to fruition during her term. She indicated that

some of the initiatives were initiated by divisions, such as a workshop for undergraduate students at the Annual Meeting. She encouraged Council members to suggest creative ideas so that Council can be involved in creating as well as implementing new initiatives. She reported that a number of initiatives that originated from the July 2008 Council meeting are being implemented: Publications Committee review of *Educational Researcher*; expanding professional development opportunities beyond the Annual Meeting; and planning for a communications review for the Association.

For the 2009 Annual Meeting, McDonnell's goal is to create an intellectually coherent experience overall for attendees. Presidential sessions at the Annual Meeting will be classified in seven categories and clustered in their Meeting venues by category: Interdisciplinary Dialogues; Assessment and Accountability From Pre-K to the University; Research Spotlight on California; Explorations of Cognition; International Perspectives; Research-Based Innovations in STEM Education; and Education Research in a Changing Political World. She noted that some of the presenters at the Presidential sessions may not be familiar to AERA members; therefore, new ways of featuring and publicizing these sessions are being explored. She reported on the play *No Child*, which will be featured at the 2009 Annual Meeting. AERA officers and committee members will be invited to the performance, and 100 tickets will be reserved for students from low-income districts; 800 registrants will be able to attend the performance on a first-come-first-serve basis. McDonnell also reported that the Meeting will include working groups for 20 to 30 attendees each. Each working group will have an organizer to provide information at the beginning of the Meeting, and groups will attend sessions together and recongregate at the end of the Meeting for discussions. A summary was distributed, and McDonnell asked Council members to help disseminate the information.

McDonnell welcomed Lynne Schrum, the new Chair of the SIG Executive Committee, who will be joining Council through 2010.

McDonnell said that she would brief Council on the actions taken by the

Executive Board as the related agenda items came up throughout the Council meeting.

She briefed Council on the current situation of AERA's 17th Street property. AERA had explored the possibility of renting out the property in light of the costs involved in renovating and leasing the space. She indicated that the Executive Board concurred with the assessment that the Association should not pursue leasing the space at this time. She noted that the Executive Board will reassess the situation in June.

4. Report of President-Elect Carol Lee on the 2010 Annual Meeting Program

President-Elect Carol Lee presented the Council with a description of the theme for the 2010 Annual Meeting, "Understanding Complex Ecologies in a Changing World." She encouraged Council members to send feedback on the theme and description to her by e-mail. The Program Chair for the 2010 Annual Meeting is Ronald Rochon, Dean of the School of Education at Buffalo State College (SUNY).

5. Report of the Executive Director

Updates From the Central Office. AERA Executive Director Felice Levine thanked President McDonnell for her leadership and hard work. She also thanked members of Council as the Central Office has benefited from the ongoing support and collaboration. She indicated that the 2009 *Brown Lecture* is scheduled for October 22 and that the 2009 Coordinated Committee Meeting will be held on October 23–24.

AERA-NAEd Assessment of Education Research Doctorate Programs. Levine briefed Council on the NSF-funded project for the AERA-NAEd assessment of education research doctorate programs. The purpose of this project is to assess education research doctorate programs in graduate schools and colleges of education in the United States. This assessment is directed at examining research doctorate programs parallel to the National Research Council (NRC) assessment of research doctorate programs in the other arts and science fields. This project includes program-level information as well as

faculty and student surveys. The fieldwork will be undertaken primarily in 2009–2010.

Conference on Online Paper Repositories. Levine reported on the AERA Conference on Online Paper Repositories held in December 2008. The conference aimed to examine the purposes, opportunities, and challenges of establishing and maintaining online paper repositories, especially for scholarly societies in the social sciences engaged in or planning this form of knowledge dissemination. She indicated that the idea of having Annual Meeting papers placed in the repository on a voluntary basis was endorsed by the Joint Annual Meeting Policies and Procedures and Research Advisory Committee as well as by Council. The conference yielded additional information on the process, guidelines, and implementation.

2009 Decade of Behavior Lecture. Levine announced that AERA has been selected to receive a Decade of Behavior Distinguished Lecture Award for 2009. Each year, the Decade of Behavior competitively selects lectureships to be held at the annual meetings of professional scientific societies that have endorsed the initiative. In turn, the societies showcase research that stretches the boundaries of traditional disciplinary focus during their national/international conferences.

Levine announced that Michael Gazzaniga has been accepted as the speaker for the Decade of Behavior Lecture. Gazzaniga is the Director of the Sage Center for the Study of the Mind and Professor of Psychology at the University of California–Santa Barbara.

Undergraduate Student Education Research Training Workshop. Levine reported on the Undergraduate Student Education Research Training Workshop, which AERA will feature at the 2009 Annual Meeting in collaboration with Division D. This workshop is part of an effort to attract students earlier in the educational pipeline to learn about education research and the career possibilities in the field of education research. The workshop will take place on April 13–15, 2009, as part of the AERA Annual Meeting. There will be a maximum of 15 students involved. Levine thanked Linda Cook, Division D Vice President, for her efforts in supporting and collaborating on this important project.

6. Annual Meeting Planning and Improvements

Recommendations From the Joint Annual Meeting Policies and Procedures and Research

Advisory Committee and Reports From Division C and G Vice Presidents on Use of a Peer-Review-Type Panel Process. McDonnell provided an update of the work of the Joint Committee. Division C Vice President Richard Mayer provided a report on Division C's experience with piloting the use of review panels. He indicated that program section chairs implemented the process in a slightly different way. A number of sections added ad hoc reviewers to the panels. Overall, everyone was pleased with the process. He indicated that starting with a pool of reviewers was helpful as it reduced the need to find reviewers. Mayer indicated that he was initially concerned with how this will work for a large division. Council discussed whether inclusiveness was an issue. Mayer reported that establishing the review panel in advance provided the opportunity to ensure inclusiveness in terms of methodology, stage of career, expertise, and other dimensions of diversity to which AERA is committed. He indicated that reviewers were invited to participate well in advance and that the response was positive. He noted that personal requests issued by the Division Vice President and program and section chairs worked well. Levine emphasized the benefits of advance planning, especially the ability to ensure inclusiveness and to plan for ways that reviewers are acknowledged.

Past President William Tate spoke as a former Program Chair. He said if AERA continues to use the existing process, the Association will not be able to substantially improve quality and that transforming how reviewers are selected and enhancing the review process are needed.

McDonnell indicated that a number of steps are being planned to disseminate new guidelines, such as publishing a revised call for papers for the 2010 Annual Meeting, featuring a town hall meeting at the 2009 Annual Meeting, and highlighting the changes in *Educational Researcher*.

A. Review panels. Levine indicated that ad hoc reviewers can be added to a review panel if necessary to ensure specific expertise. Council discussed concerns about needing to reach out to reviewers to serve on the review panel. Many members expressed their support if ad hoc reviewers can be added, and Council members discussed the critical need to build a culture encouraging members to serve individual units and the Association by agreeing to

serve as reviewers. Tate stressed the need to implement a set of standards so that participating reviewers will be able to provide quality reviews. Council members generally supported the recommended change as they believed that ultimately the reviews would be better as a result.

President-Elect Carol Lee indicated that it is important for AERA to collect data so that the Association can assess the effectiveness of the enhanced review process. In addition, she noted that it is very important for AERA to find ways to acknowledge reviewers, such as a special get-together at the Annual Meeting. She noted a special benefit of the use of review panels; that is, that each reviewer reads a larger number of papers and thus has a better sense of the scope of the submissions for a given unit than do reviewers working on only 1 or 2 papers. She believed that having a broader view of the submissions will enhance the quality of reviews and thus of the papers ultimately accepted. Lee recommended that a minimum of papers each reviewer is expected to review should be specified in advance.

Council discussed the importance of leaving room for innovation. Having an evaluation process in place will be key; thus it was suggested that each unit's program chair submit a one- to two-page review of the process each year. Council also discussed ways in which information about reviewers, such as CVs, should be made available to program chairs; ideally, the system will provide keyword search capacity to enable program chairs to locate reviewers.

Council discussed the length of paper submissions and of session proposals. Some thought 2,000-word paper submissions were too long and cumbersome for review panels. Others thought that, since units ultimately determine how many papers each panel member will read, they can calibrate the workload in making reviewer assignments.

Motion: To approve the recommendations on the use of review panels and to add the following additional specifications: Reviewers should be recruited in advance; the composition of the review panel should be purposefully designed to represent research expertise and diversity of perspectives; and review panels should be inclusive, periodically reconstituted, and include ad hoc reviewers as necessary. Approved, 15; Abstained, 3.

Levine indicated that unit program chairs will be contacted with information about the use of review panels and the implementation process.

B. Graduate students' participation in review panels. McDonnell indicated that the recommendation from the Joint Committee was that graduate students can be invited to review proposals as additional reviewers beyond the three reviewers. There will be training opportunities offered at the Annual Meeting and other kinds of training available online. Some Council members suggested that the requirement of having additional graduate student reviewers not be mandated across all units and that each unit be allowed to be purposeful in putting together a review panel in the way that best serves the unit.

Motion: To approve the recommendation from the Joint Committee with an amendment stating that, under exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the program chair, graduate student members may be added to review panels as one of the three reviewers and taken into consideration in the decision process. 16 approved; 2 opposed

C. Online paper repository. McDonnell reported on the Conference on Online Paper Repositories held in December 2008, which she attended. Levine emphasized that the voluntary participation by authors in the online repository was a criterion that the Joint Committee noted as an important first step. Over time, it is hoped that more authors will participate.

Motion: To approve the recommendations from the Joint Committee for an online paper repository and to strongly encourage authors to participate. Approved unanimously.

D. Session allocation. McDonnell noted that a reduction in the total number of paper/symposium sessions to 1,000 will reduce the number of concurrent sessions and that the redistribution of session formats will provide units more discretion to distribute papers for roundtables and poster sessions. She described the change as allowing papers to be redistributed to the most appropriate session types with the goal of building a more coherent program. Council discussed how session types may be perceived as having different levels of prestige and talked about the need for a culture change.

A number of Council members spoke in favor of the recommendation and urged

Council to give this a try. It was noted that such an innovation will give AERA an opportunity to find out whether the change will bring about higher quality presentations. It was agreed that ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness and success of such a change is important so that modifications can be made in the future if necessary.

Motion: To approve the recommendation on session allocation as presented. Approved, 11; Opposed, 4; Abstained, 2.

E. Change in submission deadline. Levine indicated that the Joint Committee urged Council to consider changing the submission deadline from August 1 to July 15. She indicated that an earlier submission deadline would enable the review panels to begin their work before the start of the academic year. The ability to conclude the review and decision process sooner will enable the Central Office to begin the scheduling process earlier. The goal is to make the online searchable program available at an earlier date so that attendees can start planning their attendance earlier. Given the current economic situation, which may persist into 2010, an earlier release of the online program would be a welcome enhancement for many.

Motion: To change the submission deadline to July 15. Approved, 17; Abstained, 1.

Manchester Hyatt. McDonnell and Levine briefed Council on the current situation and members' concerns about the Manchester Hyatt. They reported on ways in which McDonnell and the Central Office have responded to members' feedback. Levine indicated that the feedback included some from members who were displeased that AERA had taken a stand on behalf of members while others had different views.

Levine briefed Council on the effort to obtain more space at the San Diego Convention Center for sessions. She indicated that NCME sessions will be located at the Hard Rock Hotel and AERA sessions will be held at the Omni and Marriott, and minimally at the Manchester Hyatt. She reported that the room pick-up for the Hyatt was slightly slower than for the Marriott.

Annual Meeting Site Selection. McDonnell reported on the Executive Board's recommendation to have the Annual Meeting Policies and Procedures Committee and the Social Justice Action Committee review the guidelines on Annual Meeting site selection and provide feedback. Council

encouraged the Central Office to explore new cities that can accommodate the size of the AERA Annual Meeting.

7. Report on World Education Research Association

Levine briefed Council on the work of the World Education Research Association (WERA) to date. She indicated that the plan was to establish WERA in June with interim officers. The first representatives would hold a meeting in September in conjunction with the European Education Research Association. The question before Council was whether AERA wishes to be a founding member of WERA at this point; AERA has until April 2010 to make this decision.

Council discussed the benefits of participating in WERA, which include providing for AERA an opportunity to learn from others, as many developed countries are quite provincial in their thinking. Also, AERA's participation would help bring American scholars into a global community of scholars through participation in working groups. Levine indicated that AERA and other associations have a common commitment to sharing knowledge about education research and to elevating its visibility and value. WERA provides the foundation to create an infrastructure to nurture a global research community and to provide access to scholars around the world. Levine indicated that the secretariat will be located at where the to-be-elected Secretary General of WERA is located. The plan is to hold one WERA Council meeting each year, although there may be more frequent meetings of the Council in the initial years. Levine indicated that the international body of associations participating in the development of WERA determined that English will be the official language used for WERA, as English is the language most commonly used in communicating internationally about education research.

Motion: To approve joining WERA as a founding member, and to approve the Constitution and accept the financial plan. Approved unanimously.

Council discussed who will serve as the AERA representative to WERA. President McDonnell indicated that Levine had made a number of suggestions. Levine indicated that each association had latitude to determine how the representative would

be designated and the length of the terms. She also noted that the transition plan for WERA allowed for a transition year. She said that one possibility for the representative is for the AERA Past President to assume this responsibility—every other or every third Past President would serve in the position, depending on the desired length of term. Council discussed this possibility, and McDonnell indicated a willingness to serve for 1 year and that President-Elect Carol Lee could then serve a regular 2-year term. Levine indicated that every other president would be informed of the commitment.

Motion: To approve Lorraine McDonnell serving as AERA's representative to WERA for 1 year as a transition and to approve every other Past President serving a 2-year term. Approved unanimously.

Council discussed the annual dues for WERA. Levine recommended that, if the AERA representative is elected to serve on the WERA Executive Board, AERA should cover the cost so that funds from WERA can be used to fund attendees from developing countries. She indicated that WERA will be using the World Bank Classification of National Economies to determine dues for different associations.

Motion: To approve the financial commitment up to \$20,000 per year for up to 3 years to finance WERA. Approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 31, 2009 (Meeting Day 2)

McDonnell called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

8. Open Discussion From Division and SIG Perspectives

SIG Executive Committee Chair on Issues and Ideas. SIG Executive Committee Chair Lynne Schrum indicated that, although historically SIG formation was easy, now, with a fixed number of Annual Meeting sessions, the number of SIGs makes a difference. As a result, the SIG Executive Committee has used more stringent criteria to review and approve SIGs in recent years. McDonnell indicated that at some point the SIG Executive Committee may wish to put a ceiling on the total number of SIGs or to revisit what criteria AERA should use to evaluate the formation of SIGs.

Vice Presidents' Overview on Division Issues and Ideas. Patricia O'Sullivan provided an overview of division-related issues on behalf of division vice presidents. She indicated that division vice presidents would like to be involved in the process of setting dates for Council meetings. Vice presidents recommended the following topics for consideration: the use of a standard format for motions and having the motions projected on screens if possible; and the use of a standard format for memoranda in Council agenda materials. O'Sullivan indicated that Cynthia Hudley and Mark Berends will serve as the lead representatives for the Vice Presidents' orientation in the summer. In addition, vice presidents requested that individual vice presidents meet with Deputy Executive Director Phoebe Stevenson on budget planning and management. It was also suggested that incoming vice presidents be invited to attend the Coordinated Committee Meeting as observers to become familiar with the governance activities.

McDonnell indicated that there will be an orientation meeting for new Council members on Friday morning of the 2009 Annual Meeting. Levine noted that, during the June Council meeting, there will be an orientation for division vice presidents on Saturday afternoon as well as activities for other members of Council. On Sunday morning, there will be a full Council retreat.

9. Positioning AERA and Education Research in the Current Economy

Investment Report and Financial Picture. McDonnell reported that the Executive Board had a conference call meeting with AERA investment manager Gregg Auerbach as part of the Executive Board meeting. She reported that the Executive Board decided to reaffirm AERA's investment policy. She noted that there is a short-term programmatic account to help AERA expand or enhance activities. AERA has not drawn from the account since its establishment, enabling it to remain available. She noted that Auerbach will plan on using this year to rebalance the investment asset allocation so that more funds will be invested in the equity market at opportune times. Levine affirmed that AERA has not had to rely on its investment portfolio to

fund AERA's operations so far, and thus the current economic downturn has not necessitated drastic changes.

McDonnell noted that there are seven fund managers managing the equity portion of AERA's investment portfolio and that there is an overarching managing mechanism for oversight of the performance of these managers. She indicated that the Executive Board is comfortable with how the portfolios are being managed at this time.

Aligning Ambition and Resources. Levine reported on activities and initiatives planned for 2009 in light of AERA's mission and purpose. She summarized how AERA works to advance education research and to build capacity for the field for this and future generations and how AERA is planning on doing so within our current means without drawing from the investment portfolio. She indicated that AERA's financial support for the launch of WERA is expected to wind down by mid-2010.

Levine indicated that, given the current economic situation, the proposed 2009 budget plan does not involve drawing on the short-term reserve account at present but, rather, continuing to monitor the financial crisis closely and remaining creative in the financing of innovation. She described how AERA can be ambitious programmatically and how, if we continue to do so, it is wise not to draw currently on the investment portfolio. She noted that her memorandum shows how activities are planned for each programmatic area. She highlighted that the Foundation for Child Development (FCD) was potentially interested in funding a summer institute for emerging FCD and AERA scholars on connecting early childhood education research to public policy, as well as an initiative to examine the state of knowledge on the relationship between observational measures of teacher behavior and student outcomes. McDonnell noted that there are a number of activities that are externally funded, which speaks well of AERA. It shows that external agencies and organizations have confidence in what AERA does.

Enhancing AERA and Education Research Communication. Levine indicated that communications play an important role for AERA in its efforts to effectively educate and communicate the importance and value of education research and the central role of AERA as the national association

for advancing it. She emphasized that communication is about conveying information in ways that are appreciated and understood as well as about substance. She also noted that communication includes effectively connecting with members in addition to diverse other audiences.

A. Plan for communications review and assessment. Levine indicated that the Communications and Outreach Committee also shared AERA's aspiration and suggested that a comprehensive review be done so that we can plan for further transformation and enhancements. She noted that she had met with Larry McQuillan, from AIR, who reinforced the value of doing such a review. Levine indicated that she will be contacting a number of prospective consultants or firms that can work with AERA to perform a comprehensive review. Council discussed this initiative and its support for this effort and how it could enhance AERA and education research.

B. *Research Points* and aligning its evaluation. Levine indicated that *Research Points* will also be evaluated along with the more general communications review. She noted that she and inaugural editor Lauren Resnick thought that such a review of *RP* was timely given the original intent to do so and the value of looking back and ahead and exploring different approaches to *RP* as she concluded her term as editor. Levine indicated that she will be working on this task with a 3-person advisory group invited by McDonnell.

Levine indicated that the plan was to complete both the communications and the *RP* review in time for the June meeting of Council. She said that she hoped that the review process would commence in March/April so that the Communications and Outreach Committee can have an initial discussion in April at the Annual Meeting. A full report will be presented to Council in June.

Council discussed whether the involvement of external consultants will touch on the work of the Government Relations Committee. Council also explored whether the review process will include communication with the public as well as internal communication with AERA members. Levine indicated that the primary focus is external, although it will also encompass how AERA communicates with members. McDonnell indicated that there is a plan to redesign the AERA website that will benefit members.

C. *Educational Researcher*—Changes to advance mission. Levine reported that the Publications Committee is undertaking a review of *Educational Researcher*, which also is central to how AERA disseminates knowledge and communicates to the education research community and beyond. Council discussed how a membership organization communicates internally and externally. Some Council members noted that most members do not read *ER* and do not visit the website. There was the observation that it is important for the communications review to find out how to penetrate AERA members' "market space of time." Council reflected on whether AERA should solicit input from members on their interest in and use of diverse modes of communication such as Facebook and what members would like to see AERA develop as available tools. Some members of Council noted that it is important for AERA to review and explore the use of communications at the unit level (divisions, SIGs).

Division Budget Allocation and Division Planning. Levine indicated that the division budget formula approved by Council in July 2008 was used for the proposed division budget. She provided an overview of the carry-forward amount from 2007 to 2008 and from 2008 to 2009. She noted that, based on her conversation with division vice presidents and Stevenson's work with vice presidents on budget planning, the allocated resources seemed to be sufficient at this time. She indicated that some small divisions may have used up all carry-forward amounts and could face the need to cut back on mentoring activities for students. These divisions should contact her and Stevenson.

Planning for Development Effort. McDonnell stated that, with many AERA members approaching retirement age and the Association's centennial approaching in 2016, this is an opportune time to plan for a development effort. Although the economic times may not be good for thinking about fund-raising, it is time to start a deliberate planning process. McDonnell suggested the appointment of a task force to assess AERA's long-term needs and development opportunities. For example, with the IES fellowship coming to an end, fund-raising to support fellows would be an important aspiration for AERA. She also indicated that it is important to identify

what other associations have done and the kind of internal resources needed to support such an effort. Council discussed whether AERA members can make donations right now. Levine indicated that members may definitely do so. She noted, for example, that members have been donating royalties to the Association and have made very limited donations as part of Annual Meeting registration in support of a local charity in the Annual Meeting host city.

Council discussed the timing of the effort. McDonnell indicated that the planning phase will take 5 years or so. Council discussed different models for launching the effort, including the hiring of a development consultant and development staff. How AERA crafts the plan depends on many factors, and Council will need to weigh the costs and benefits of each. There was some discussion of whether to wait to initiate examining a development effort given the state of the economy. Ultimately, Council members urged starting this exploration soon rather than being hesitant.

10. Special Budget Requests

Proposal for AERA Initiative to Support Research Conferences. McDonnell presented the proposal for an initiative to support conference proposals. She thanked Executive Director Levine for her work in developing the framework and call. She indicated that, if approved, this initiative would have a budget of \$100,000 per year for 3 years to support research conferences. She indicated that proposals for research conferences will be reviewed by the Research Advisory Committee with participation by a member of the Social Justice Action Committee. She noted that the call would be released in the spring, with a summer deadline and review by the Research Advisory Committee in the fall. She indicated that there would not be any budgetary implication for FY2009. She emphasized that these conferences would yield books and other products of publishable quality for AERA's consideration. She noted that AERA would encourage cost sharing if possible, but it is not required as these research workshops are a good way to keep the field moving forward at a time when academic institutions may be challenged financially.

McDonnell indicated that the Executive Board was in support of the proposal and recommended it for Council's approval. Council discussed the importance that fair

process be ensured and that the reviews be undertaken by an impartial group. The role played by the Research Advisory Committee would provide credibility and transparency.

Motion: To accept the research conference concept. Approved unanimously.

Minority Fellowship Program Support. McDonnell reported that AERA has a restricted fund used to support three minority fellowships each year. Fellows receive an annual stipend of \$12,000 and an additional \$1,000 for travel support to the Annual Meeting. Council had approved the use of additional funds for up to five fellowships in the past several years. The recommendation was supported by the Executive Board.

Motion: To approve for 3 years an allocation of up to two additional Minority Dissertation Fellowships per year (beyond the three allocated in the program) at the current amount of the stipend. Approved unanimously.

Council discussed whether the additional expenses should come from the restricted fund as opposed to the operating budget. Levine noted that in previous years Council had authorized additional funding from the restricted account. She indicated that the current request follows the same strategy.

International Relations Committee Request. McDonnell briefed Council on a special request from the International Relations Committee. She indicated that the Executive Board had reviewed the proposal and that the recommendation was to hold the number of awards at 12 but increase the award from \$500 to \$750. Council discussed the possibility of raising the award amount to \$1,000, as well as advertising the availability of the travel awards as part of the Call for Papers to make interested authors aware of the opportunity. In addition, Council recommended that information about the opportunity be sent to member countries participating in the formation of WERA to entice scholars from those communities to engage with AERA. Council also recommended that information of interest to international scholars be posted on the AERA website and that special information about opportunities at AERA and the Annual Meeting be disseminated to developing countries. Council discussed the need to help international scholars with their papers and proposals

and the possibility of expanding professional development opportunities online.

Motion: To approve the request from the International Relations Committee to confer 12 awards at \$1,000 each. Unanimously approved.

Joan Herman, Council Member-at-Large and Council liaison to the International Relations Committee, indicated that the committee had considered introducing a sliding-scale award structure to award more funds for recipients from developing countries.

Friendly Amendment: To amend the motion to allow the International Relations Committee to amend the award amount on a sliding scale upward or downward based on the scale used by the World Bank Classification of National Economies. Approved unanimously.

Graduate Student Council. Graduate Student Council (GSC) Chair John Oliver noted that the GSC had hosted a modest social after the GSC business meeting in past years. He indicated that the introduction of online elections for GSC officers had lowered the interest of graduate students in attending the social. He hoped that the proposed budget request to support a reception could provide a more visible environment for acknowledging the work of officers and enabling graduate students to share knowledge, to network with AERA leadership, and to introduce AERA initiatives. He saw the challenge as maintaining the interest and profile in the midst of other competing activities.

McDonnell indicated that the Executive Board was supportive of the request, with the understanding that the GSC would not turn to divisions for additional support.

Motion: To approve the request from the Graduate Student Council to hold a reception at \$5,000 with the understanding that GSC will not solicit divisions for additional funding. Approved unanimously.

11. Budgets and AERA Financial Picture

FY2008 Budget Report and FY2009 Proposed Budget. Levine provided an overview of the FY2008 budget. The positive turnout for the Annual Meeting, a strong membership year, and publications have yielded a positive year for the Association with a positive net income of \$754,420, excluding the unrealized loss from investment of \$2,997,389. The unrealized loss represented

the change in market value of AERA's investment portfolios as of December 31, 2008. If the unrealized loss from investment were included in the budget, the projection would be for a deficit budget of \$2,242,969.

For FY2009, Levine indicated that San Diego tends to be a lower draw for the Annual Meeting. With the economic downturn, the proposed FY2009 budget is based on registration income of 12,500 attendees at the 2009 Annual Meeting. In addition, the proposed FY2009 budget also reflects a projected decrease of 3% in membership dues income.

Council discussed how AERA was able to support operations in recent years without the need to use funds from the investment portfolio. While the approved FY2008 budget (\$7,580,578) was essentially a balanced budget, the year-end projection is a positive one net of unrealized loss in investment. Levine indicated that the proposed deficit budget of approximately 5% is within a reasonable range for a budget of this size. Council asked how AERA can move to a place where a balanced budget can be proposed.

Motion: To approve the FY2009 budget as presented. Approved unanimously.

Council noted that the budget report for FY2009, to be provided in June, will contain additional information about the impact of the fragile economy. Levine indicated that, at that time there, will be much more information about the financial health of the Association, as Annual Meeting-related income and expenses will be known. Council can then determine if any mid-course changes for the budget are needed.

12. Report and Recommendations From Committees and Task Forces

Report From Task Force on Standards for Reporting on Humanities-Oriented Research in AERA Publications. McDonnell provided an overview of the background leading to the development of the Standards for Reporting on Humanities-Oriented Research in AERA Publications to complement the Standards for Reporting on Empirical Social Science Research in AERA Publications. She indicated that the Executive Board had extensive discussion on the recommended Standards and voted on a recommendation with amendment relating to the reference to European tradition (6 approved and 2 abstained).

Council discussed that it is important for the Publications Committee to undertake an examination of how these standards are being used. Council members were in consensus about the need to take a stance for high-quality research as stated in both sets of standards. While Council members were supportive of the focus on history and philosophy, there was concern expressed by some members about the implication that work of other forms that offered opinions or personal reflections could be considered high-quality research. Some Council members indicated that the task of developing a common set of standards is difficult, as there are significant differences among fields. In addition, some Council members observed that it is difficult to outline research methods for humanities research.

Council discussed the tradition of linguistics and the difficulty in linking literacy and linguistics. The initial goal was to develop standards for traditions most commonly used in education research, and this set of standards introduces additional fields. Council members thought that having some standards for scholarship grounded in the humanities could be informative and worthwhile. Council noted that there are parts of the report which may need modifications. Council members were hesitant about Section III and thought it was not as well argued or helpful as the rest of the Standards.

A straw vote was taken for a motion to approve the proposed Standards with one modification to amend language relating to European tradition (approved, 7; opposed, 9).

Council discussed placing Section III in an Appendix so that it would not be an explicit part of the Standards, while others thought that the illustrations were problematic and should be removed. Yet other members thought that additional vetting by experts could potentially improve the examples.

Council took another straw vote to approve the proposed Standards with Section III and the reference to European tradition amended (approved, 12; opposed, 2; abstained, 3)

Council discussed the strength of having some illustrations and the possibility of approving the Standards and turning the document over to experts in the various

disciplines to refine or develop educative illustrations.

Motion Stated: To accept Sections I, II, and IV with references to European tradition amended; and to send Section III—illustrations—to experts in the field for refinement or further development of illustrative cases.

Some members of Council were concerned about turning the illustrations over to a new group of scholars. McDonnell noted that Council can identify a group of experts to work on the illustrations and apply the standards to them. The standards and the illustrative document can both be posted on the website.

Motion Restated and Seconded: To accept the AERA Standards for Reporting on Humanities-Oriented Research in AERA Publications to be constituted by Sections I, II, and IV of the proposed draft humanities-oriented standards, with the caveat that the language be modified to be less Western-centric. In addition, that the relevant SIGs and divisions in history, philosophy, linguistics, literary studies, and arts education be asked to develop examples of how these new humanities-oriented standards would be applied to their areas of specialization, taking into consideration the illustrations provided in the proposed draft standards of Section III. Approved unanimously.

McDonnell indicated that she, Levine, and Gerald Sroufe, staff liaison to the task force, will communicate to the task force the decision and recommendation by Council. Council formally expressed its appreciation to the members of the task force for their fine work.

Fellows Committee Report and Recommendation. Levine indicated that the report from the Fellows Committee provided an overview of the program, the fellows selection process, and what the committee had done to date. She indicated that the committee worked hard and well in the finest tradition of how review panels work. She noted that there were recommendations for two sets of fellows:

A. For National Academy of Education (NAEd) foreign associate members not included in the initial set of AERA fellows.

Motion: To extend the invitation of grandparented Fellow to the 9 of 17 NAEd foreign associate members who were members of AERA. Approved, 15; Abstained, 2.

B. For Sociological Research Association (SRA) members not included in the initial round of grandparented AERA fellows.

Council members asked how Council would know that education research was broadly represented by the fellows from the Sociological Research Association. Levine indicated that only AERA members who were members of SRA would be invited, which was the same standard used in other grandparenting processes established by AERA Council.

Motion: To invite AERA members who were members of the Sociological Research Association through the end of 2006 to become AERA Fellows. Approved, 13; Abstained, 2.

Council considered the recommendations of the Fellows Committee for fellowship selection from the first cohort of nominees. Levine noted that sharing of names with Council was discussed by the Fellows Committee. The committee decided that the names would be disclosed to Council because Council needed to provide approval.

Motion: To accept the recommendation of the Fellows Committee to approve 45 AERA members as AERA Fellows. Approved, 13; Abstained, 2.

Council discussed the process of grandparenting that it had established in 2007 and whether the composition of the Fellows Program in terms of field and expertise would be shaped by the base of grandparented fellows. Levine indicated that the committee was attentive to that issue in its work. Council emphasized that grandparenting can affect the pool of nominees. Council will discuss the fellow selection process and related diversity issues in June.

Books Editorial Board Report and Recommendations. Levine briefed Council on recent opportunities that led the Books Editorial Board to consider publishing proposed books that are not research handbooks in mission and scope. The books are original research books but not handbooks.

Motion: To modify the Books Publication Policy to read: “The Books Editorial Board can accept proposals (including proposals that may be developed to the point of having chapters) for publication if they are within the publishing plan and resources previously approved by Council or if the research volumes do not require financial investment by the Association. If the Board wishes to pursue a books project

or proposal that would involve an encumbrance for the Association outside of an agreed-upon plan, Council has responsibility for reviewing a recommendation from the Books Editorial Board from the vantage point of the business plan and resource request (that is, not to undertake an additional substantive review as to whether to publish a volume)." Approved unanimously.

McDonnell raised a concern about the accessibility of the handbooks in terms of price. She recommended that AERA explore academic presses to find alternatives that could contain the list price.

13. Clarification of Previous Council Actions

Levine reported on a need for Council to clarify or affirm prior motions that are unclear and take action to discontinue policies and guidelines that are outdated or no longer relevant, as part of the Central Office's ongoing effort to codify Council actions. McDonnell had identified a number of items that required clarification.

American Educational Research Foundation. The American Educational Research Foundation (AERF) was formed in 1981. According to the Articles of Incorporation, the purposes for which AERF is organized are exclusively educational, scientific, and charitable. The work of the foundation will be conducted on a nonprofit basis. AERF is to apply its income and any or all of its principal toward "the promotion, understanding, encouragement, scholarship, dissemination and conduct of research in education, thereby increasing the contribution of education to human welfare."

Since AERF has not undertaken any activities since its formation, Council discussed whether there is any benefit in having a foundation to give some members a venue to serve and to gift. Levine noted that, since AERA is a 501(c)(3) organization, such a blue-ribbon group can be constructed within AERA without need for a foundation to implement development efforts, and the group can report to Council. Levine indicated that many scholarly associations that do not have a foundation have been successful in their development efforts.

Motion: To dissolve the American Educational Research Foundation. Approved unanimously.

Policy to Hold the Open Business Meeting on the First Day of the Annual Meeting After

the Council Meeting. Levine reported on a Council action taken in 2000 to hold the Open Business Meeting at 4:05 p.m. on the first day of the Annual Meeting, following a successful pilot undertaken at the 2000 Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The practice continued in 2001 and 2002, but the schedule has shifted since 2003. For the past 5 years, the Open Business Meeting has been held on the last day of the Annual Meeting so that standing committee chairs can share the work of the committees after their respective meetings. Also, holding the Open Business Meeting on the morning of the last day of the Annual Meeting places it closer to the official transition from President-Elect to President at the close of the Annual Meeting. Although the last day or a day close to the end of the Annual Meeting may be preferable, there can be conditions that require an alteration in time and day. Levine recommended that Council not stipulate when the Business Meeting must occur.

Motion: To rescind the 2000 policy requiring that the AERA Open Business Meeting take place on the first day of the Annual Meeting and to stipulate no required day and time. Approved unanimously.

Council Reimbursement and Per Diem for Council Meeting at the Annual Meeting. Levine reported that Council voted, in 1986, to reimburse Council members for a one-night hotel stay and a per diem if attendance at the Council meeting on the first day of the Annual Meeting necessitated early travel and an additional night's lodging. For many years, however, the Council meeting has been held after the start of the Annual Meeting, from 1:00 to 3:45 p.m. on the first day. Council members have not been reimbursed for one night's lodging because the Council meeting now occurs after the official opening of the Annual Meeting. The 1986 statement of reimbursement policy could be read as conflicting with other policy that precludes reimbursement for travel related to AERA service if that service occurs during the official time span of the Annual Meeting. Committee members who attend meetings prior to the official start time of the Annual Meeting are reimbursed for their lodging and any meals. Levine recommended modifying the 1986 policy.

Motion: To change the 1986 policy on reimbursement of Council members for lodging and meals associated with

Council meetings so that Council members are only eligible for reimbursement if a meeting is scheduled to take place before or after the Annual Meeting. Approved unanimously.

AERA Historian and Archives. Levine provided some background on this issue and on her useful discussions in September with Council member Nancy Beadie. Beadie indicated that she served on a History Task Force under James Banks's presidency. The task force looked at the location of the archives as well as at the process, and recommendations were made as to how things should be deposited in the future. Beadie indicated that, beyond the holding at the Hoover Institution, the University of Washington archive of AERA materials is quite extensive, including papers from the early years and tapes for the oral history of AERA presidents.

Motion: To affirm the Association's commitment to advance an organization archive and to ask the Central Office to develop a plan within a year to move forward, drawing upon the appropriate expertise in the Association and the archiving community. Approved unanimously.

Relating Research to Practice Award Recipient to Give a Lecture. McDonnell provided a background review of previous Council action on the Relating Research to Practice Award. She noted that the award has not received an adequate number of nominations in recent years and that award committees are often unable to generate adequate nominations to make awards on a regular basis. Council discussed the benefits of elevating the status of the award with the lecture or of reviewing the relevance of the award.

Motion: To specify that the AERA Relating Research to Practice Award recipient deliver a lecture at the AERA Annual Meeting. Approved, 5; Opposed, 10; Abstained, 3.

McDonnell suggested and Council concurred that the Executive Board will undertake a comprehensive review of the Relating Research to Practice Award and report back to Council with recommendations.

Use of Secret Ballot. McDonnell reported on a motion passed by Council in 1997 to allow the use of a secret ballot at the discretion of the AERA President. Council minutes showed that only one motion was voted on using a secret ballot in 1998.

Each year, Council elects three representatives to the Executive Board by secret ballot. Otherwise, there is no indication that a secret ballot has been called for or used at the President's discretion, although this provision still stands.

McDonnell indicated that AERA currently reports votes on an aggregate basis and the level of accountability is there. Levine noted that Council may wish to retain this provision as is and ensure that the President is fully informed of this prerogative if he or she wishes to use such discretion. The logic of a secret ballot in the case of Executive Board election finds its origins in other electoral processes in AERA and other democratic regimes where ballots may be privately cast. Council decided to not to take any action to alter the provision for the use of secret ballots at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 1, 2009 (Meeting Day 3)

Absent: William F. Tate

McDonnell called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

14. Governance Issues

Review and Approval of SIG Handbook. Schrum reported on the SIG Executive Committee and the Central Office's joint effort to revise the SIG Handbook. The purpose of the revision is to provide up-to-date policy and operational guidelines to SIGs. The revision also aims to streamline the Handbook and to enhance its ease of use. The SIG Executive Committee met in person in May 2008 and again in October 2008 to complete the work. The proposed SIG Handbook was brought to fruition following numerous e-mail exchanges and with the help of Deputy Executive Director Phoebe Stevenson.

In light of newly approved changes relating to the Annual Meeting, a few amendments were made to the proposed SIG Handbook.

Motion: To approve the SIG Handbook as amended. Approved unanimously.

Review and Approval of Proposed SIG Bylaws. Council received the proposed bylaws of the Chaos and Complexity Theories SIG and the Technology as an Agent of Change in Teaching and Learning SIG. These bylaws were drafted by leadership of the two SIGs, posted online for

membership feedback, and submitted to the SIG Executive Committee and AERA Central Office for feedback.

Schrum informed the Council that the SIG Executive Committee has a process in place whereby each set of proposed bylaws is reviewed by two SIG Executive Committee members.

Motion: To approve the Technology as an Agent of Change in Teaching and Learning SIG Bylaws. Approved unanimously.

Motion: To approve the Chaos and Complexity Theories SIG Bylaws. Approved unanimously.

Review and Approval of Division I Proposed Bylaws. Council member and Division I Vice President Patricia O'Sullivan briefed Council on the process of drafting the Division I Bylaws. She indicated that the bylaws were drafted using samples from other divisions. The leadership of Division I then solicited comments from Division I members for 30 days, and Stevenson also reviewed the bylaws and provided feedback.

Motion: To approve Division I Bylaws. Approved unanimously.

15. Education Research Advocacy and Policy Issues

Executive Director's Annual Report on Mission-Oriented Policy and Position Taking and Plans. Levine indicated that the Annual Report on Mission-Oriented Policy and Position Taking is a draft as the Government Relations Committee did not meet in October and thus the report has not been reviewed by the committee. A final report will be made available to Council in April. She indicated that the report contains information on what has been done in 2008 and what is planned for 2009.

The report contains information on work done by AERA to advance research funding and elevate the profile of education research. Levine said that AERA has broadened its agenda by recognizing the importance of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) but also appreciating that it is not the only major funding agency engaged in the support of education research. She pointed to the importance of the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, among other entities. She noted that IES is currently operating on continuing resolution and that the budget therefore is currently quite limited.

Levine indicated that AERA has already started working with the transition team for the new Presidential Administration on IES issues. She also commented briefly on topics covered in more detail in the report with respect to security screening and contract research, researcher access to information and alignment with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and actions being taken to disseminate on Capitol Hill and to government agencies the definition of scientifically based research developed by AERA. She noted that planning is also under way in collaboration with the Education Deans Alliance (the former Spencer deans) to hold a Hill briefing on the payoff of investments in large-scale, sustained research.

Levine reported on the Science Resource Studies at the National Science Foundation, which sought AERA input on the Survey of Earned Doctorates. AERA also provided input on the Graduate Student Survey (GSS), which does not yet include education or education research as a field. She observed that these are the kinds of opportunities that present themselves as AERA develops positive relationships with IES, NSF, and the National Institutes of Health.

Levine noted that AERA is also a visible participant in the annual exhibition of the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) on Capitol Hill. AERA has featured NSF-funded work on education research for the past 4 years as part of the CNSF effort. It is a prominent exhibit on Capitol Hill, attended by members of Congress and their staffs as well as a broad group of research leaders. She noted that William Tate's exhibit brought attention to the important contribution of geographic information systems (GIS) in understanding the distribution of education resources. Levine indicated that AERA would also be participating in the CNSF exhibit planned for March of this year.

IES Reauthorization Workshops. Levine noted that she wanted especially to talk about the AERA initiative related to IES reauthorization that was part of the program plan approved initially by Council for 2008 but was delayed until this year when it became clear that the election cycle would eclipse any reauthorization in 2008. She noted that this effort was key to AERA's mission and purpose to promote and advance sound research. She indicated that Council input was encouraged and

welcomed as Director of Government Relations Sroufe took the lead in the development of this activity. She noted that a series of workshops on the reauthorization of IES was anticipated under the coordination of a steering committee that was in the process of being formed and would hold its first meeting in March. She noted that Kenji Hakuta had agreed to chair the steering committee. She emphasized that Council's ideas and recommendations were sought.

President-Elect Lee indicated that she would like to get involved in the IES reauthorization effort because many of the activities will take place under her presidency. She stated that AERA's input in reauthorization would be of interest to members. She emphasized the fact that, because AERA is not an advocacy organization, it needs to navigate the process carefully, and suggested that it would be worthwhile for the Government Relations Committee to have benefit of Council's views. McDonnell concurred and stressed that Council input is very important. Levine noted that AERA does engage in advocacy in the domain of its mission—that is, in relation to sound policies with respect to education research.

Levine suggested having an open meeting at the Annual Meeting to facilitate open discussion and input. Council also discussed other ways to involve AERA members who have been active in the work and other structured strategies to solicit input. Council discussed ways to facilitate the representation of diverse perspectives in the workshops as well as in the member composition of the steering committee. In response to a suggestion from Council member Berends, Levine indicated that the steering committee will meet in March and can specify an overall philosophy and framework to guide AERA's involvement, including plans for the workshops. She noted that Council will be briefed in April. Levine also stated that information can be published in *Educational Researcher* to highlight this work. Council discussed the importance of ensuring that IES values studies of different scales and methodologies. Council raised the issue of the composition of the steering committee. Levine indicated that the committee was currently being formed and asked Council members to submit names of education researchers for possible inclusion.

16. Review of AERA Publications

Journal Subscriptions Report. Council received a report detailing members' journal subscription patterns. *AERJ* remains the most popular journal of choice; *RER* is the second choice.

Publications Report. Council received a report on AERA publications. Two journals, *AERJ-SIA* and *RER*, experienced transitions to new editorships, and a search is underway for an *EEPA* editor or editors. Levine reported on the Publications Committee's efforts at looking more broadly at the AERA journals program, at areas where transformations or enhancements could importantly serve the field of education research, and at AERA's role in the dissemination of research through journal publications. She indicated that the *ER* subcommittee will be bringing a report and recommendations to the full Publications Committee for improvements consonant with *ER*'s overarching mission and purpose. The *AERJ* subcommittee has determined the need to do a sample survey of member subscribers, and that survey is close to being ready. The Annual Review Subcommittee will be investigating whether AERA should pursue an *Annual Review*-type publication and whether it should supplement or replace *RRE*.

Council discussed ways to make *ER* a go-to journal so that researchers can access information without the need to drill down. In addition, *ER* should provide a broad range of article types and substance that members will find informative. Council discussed the possible reconstitution of the structure of *ER* so that the publication can be enhanced without changing its mission.

17. Review of AERA Membership Report

Council received a report of membership trends which shows that the number of AERA members has remained relatively stable over the past 12 months. In December 2007 the membership count was 24,532, as compared with 24,668 in December 2008. Levine highlighted the fact that there is a shift in members between membership categories. Recent membership reports have noted the significant drop in both Affiliate and International Affiliate member categories. The combined total for those groups in December 2006 was 2,881, as compared with 2,168 in December 2007 and 1,568 in December 2008.

18. Additional Information Items and Discussion

Council members raised the question of how the AERA fellows reflect the diversity of the AERA membership. Council discussed how it can implement a proactive and objective strategy to review the fellow selection process, as some Council members viewed the grandparenting strategy as being skewed with a problematic cutoff date of 2006.

Levine indicated that the grandparenting process of selection was reviewed and approved by Council. The cutoff date of 2006 was established by Council so that the 2007 Council would not be in conflict in establishing the program. Council discussed possible approaches to ensure that fellows represent the diversity of the Association membership. Council requested that the Central Office generate a list of fellows with information on fellows' gender, race, and division membership for the April Council meeting. In addition, information on which fellows were admitted to the AERA Fellows Program through the grandparenting process is to be provided.

19. Update on Education Research Program

Research Workshop on GLBT Issues in Education. Council reviewed an update on the planning of a research workshop on GLBT issues in education which seeks to map out what is known from the vantage of education research. Council member Flinders noted the importance of the workshop exploring how and what GLBT students learn and how curriculum studies can enable the advancement of such knowledge. Council agreed that the research workshop provides an important opportunity for education researchers to examine what we know, identify important arenas for future inquiry, and address how this research can inform policy. Levine indicated that there will be a published product from the workshop and a research brief.

Indigenous Education in the 21st Century: A Research Symposium. President McDonnell indicated that Council has approved this initiative and delegated to the Executive Board the responsibility of approving a final budget. She reported that the Executive Board had done so.

20. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.