

COMSHER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES (2017)

Minutes from 2016 business meeting approved.

Updates and announcements from AEJMC

- Membership stable, but submissions down this year—possibly due to location of conference (we come to Chicago relatively often).
- Next year: ComSHER Division's formal AEJMC assessment.

AWARDS

Eason Prize and Top Faculty (**Young/Hart**)

- Eason Prize winner: Chelsea Ratcliffe, University of Utah
- Top Faculty Paper winner: Jiyoung Lee and Hua Jiang, Syracuse University

Article of the Year (**Hart**)

- 10 submissions; 6 judges
 - 1st place: Lee Ahern, Colleen Connolly-Ahern, Jennifer Hoewe
 - 2nd place: John Besley, Anthony Dudo, Shupeiyuan

Top Poster Award (**Hart**)

- 15 judges; 1 poster session with 45 posters
 - Winner: Jason Holley, Katherine McComas, Matt Hare

REPORTS/UPDATES

Financial (**Dudo**)

- We are in good shape financially (no anomalies)—discuss how we can spend some of this on awards, etc.

Programming (**Hart**)

- Reallocated resources so we could have 5 oral research sessions.

Research (**Young**)

- Reviewers
 - 107 reviewers = 3 – 4 papers per reviewer
 - 70% female; 30% male reviewers
- Submissions
 - Total = 124
- Acceptances (percentages)
 - Overall: 52%
 - Student-only: 40%

Teaching (**Clarke**)

- 2 teaching panels

- One co-sponsored with PR (30 people)
- Another co-sponsored with PCIG (30 people)

PF&R (Yeo)

- 2 PF&R panels
 - Co-sponsored with International Communication (15 people)
 - Co-sponsored with PCIG (15 people)

Social/Field Trip (Dalrymple/Clarke)

- Adler Planetarium
 - 12 attendees
 - Total cost for this year's field trip = \$250
- ComSHER social after business meeting in the Rush Lounge in the hotel.
 - Total cost for this year's social = ~\$750-1,000

Communications Team (Fung/Anderson/VanDyke)

- Website serves as a database for archival data.
- Newsletter is emailed—individual links to posts on website.
 - Archived in document form on website.
- Google and Facebook groups—members can post to both.

Updates on behalf of Susanna Priest from *Science Communication* (Dudo)

- Journal is doing well and trends are positive.
- Acceptance rate in 2016 was 14%—had 191 submissions last year.
- 2017: 117 submissions in first 6 months.
- Impact factor (1.852) is on an upward trend.
- Still looking for another associate editor to help with journal.
 - Reach out to Susanna, if interested.

Future conference sites (Dudo)

- 2018: D.C.
- 2019: Toronto
- 2020: San Francisco
- 2021: ComSHER voted for Austin

NEW LEADERSHIP

Proposed new leadership slate (Dudo)

- Elected
 - Head: Sol Hart
 - Vice-Head: Avery Holton
 - Vice-Head Elect: Rachel Young
 - Research Chair: Kajsa Dalrymple

- Appointed
 - Teaching Chair: Sara Yeo
 - PF&R Chair: Tim Fung
 - Secretary: Chris Clarke
 - Newsletter Chair: Sojung Kim
 - Website Chair: Mo Jang
 - Social Media Chair: Leona Su, Roma Subramaniam
 - Membership Chair: Matt VanDyke, Tsung-Jen Shih
 - Grad Student Ambassadors/Liasons: Jacob Copple, Christopher Wirz, Sushma Kimble, Jiyoung Lee

NEW BUSINESS

Vote on proposal to drop graduate student fee.

- We get about 40 graduate student members a year—since we are fiscally stable, this will not affect our funds too much.
- Approved.

Vote on proposal to change the Eason Prize payment structure.

- Present: \$1,000 to top student paper; free registration to lead author.
- Proposed: \$500 for 1st place, \$300 to 2nd place, \$200 to 3rd place.
 - Approved.
- Vote on amendment to increase Eason Prize to \$1500.
 - Not approved.
- Proposal to add financial award (\$100) to Top Faculty Paper.
 - Did not vote—not many in favor.
- Proposal to stop having poster discussants.
 - Currently no discussant in oral sessions—allows 5 presentations.
 - Discussants could also serve as poster evaluators.
 - Officers will come up with a way to do this.
 - Approved.

Suggestions for D.C. field trip.

- If anyone knows someone who can give us a tour of a location in D.C., please email Chris Clarke.

Idea for teaching session.

- Teaching environmental reporting (Planet Forward at George Washington).

Presentations (Besley)

- Improve the quality of our presentations—narratives.
- We are still redoing our papers in oral form.
- More engaging presentations.
- This could be a PF&R panel next year.