

HES Executive Meeting – June 2022

Action Points

1) SHOE list

As reported by Bert, some information was lost during the recent migration conducted by York University. This concerns dates of messages prior to 2006. It was agreed the work of recovering this lost information could be somehow incorporated into the package of initiatives planned by the JHET team for the society's 50th anniversary celebrations. Pedro and Jimena will take the lead on this.

2) Secretary

Marianne mentioned her plans to transfer HES files to Duke. She was uncertain whether Neil Niman would be open to organizing and transferring the files in his possession.

3) Conference Organization

- a) Amy suggested we eliminate printed programs, as these are difficult to update with last minute changes. This was added to the agenda, but there was no time to pass a motion.
- b) We need to discuss our long-term policy for hybrid conferences. If we want to keep doing them, need to consider alternative software that can both facilitate management and improve user experience. But decision to make hybrid the new status quo is non-trivial. Some suggested this matter fell under the remit of the Conference Planning Committee, should the latter begin to fulfill its functions more robustly. Ross wished to pass a motion on this, but there was not enough time.
- c) ESJET-HES coordination also mentioned as a delicate subject requiring more attention. Suggestions we should take up again the project of joint conferences with other societies. Another possible topic for the Conference Planning Committee.

4) Digital Information Manager

Approved motion to re-appoint Valentina Erasmo for another two-year term. Meanwhile, we should consider the appropriate time frame for this position.

5) JHET

- a) Motion approved to allocate \$1,000 from JHET budget as compensation for the editorial assistant.
- b) The following motion was approved on revised memberships and discounts for people who opt out of JHET print copies: 'Due to increased printing and mailing costs, as of July 1, annual HES memberships will increase to \$100 per year. Members who wish to forgo a printed copy of JHET and have electronic access only will receive a \$30 discount, for a total annual cost of \$70'. Need to change language on the website to reflect this new policy.
- c) Even if this was not the subject of a specific motion, it was decided authors would no longer be entitled to receiving print copies either.

- d) Motion approved to extend the editor's term for another two years, so they can follow through on the initiatives planned for the 50th anniversary celebrations.
- 6) Budget and finances
- a) Motion approved to increase Amy Hardy's compensation by 6%.
 - b) We need to do a better job of advertising the Amazon Smile arrangement.
 - c) Lengthy discussion on the issue of keeping a balanced budget versus investing resources to make the society grow and flourish. Consensus seemed to be we need to tread cautiously when spending out of the endowment, but people naturally have different interpretations of what 'cautious' should mean. This will likely be a recurring theme moving forward.
 - d) After a series of straw votes, the following motion was passed: 'Approve the proposed budget eliminating the subsidy to the SSRN eJournal, reducing the conference subsidy to \$5,000 and cancelling the HES reception during the ASSA conference, for total estimated savings of around \$12,500'.
 - e) On the SSRN eJournal, discussions during the Business Meeting suggested we should think of other useful initiatives to replace this long-standing service to the community.
 - f) On conference subsidies, it was suggested we should communicate more clearly to conference organizers the expectation to break even. But this consideration should not prevent us from organizing conferences in unusual or otherwise costly locations. Also relates to the unclear division of labor between the Executive Committee, the Conference Planning Committee, and the Local Organizing Committees.
 - g) There was some discussion about possible joint ASSA receptions with other partner societies. Maria Pia will investigate this and submit a proposal by email.
 - h) A straw vote to reduce the New Initiatives Fund budget by \$10,000 was rejected.

7) Code of Conduct

The text of the Code of Conduct was revised during the meeting and approved by the Executive Committee. It was later discussed favorably during the Business Meeting. We now consider the Code as official policy, but still need to nominate an ombudsperson and a Respectful Behavior Committee to make it operational. Ross mentioned the Nominating Committee has accepted the task of looking for an ombudsperson.

8) New Initiatives and Early Career Scholars

- a) We have recently received recommendations from the committee on Early-Career Scholar grants. Recommendations from the New Initiatives committee are expected in early July. We will have a vote on both by email in July.
- b) The New Initiatives committee had earlier sent us suggestions for a revised application and funding schedule. We have not yet addressed this.
- c) We should also discuss strategies for improving the visibility of HES-funded projects.

9) Responsibilities of Past Presidents

There is an outstanding discussion on a possible constitutional amendment to the duties of past presidents to serve on the Nominating and Distinguished Fellow committees.