

HES Executive Meeting – June 2023

Action Points

1) Secretary

- a) Discussion about declining membership numbers led to several suggestions for reversing this trend, both by retaining current members (automatic renewals, reminders about expiring memberships) and attracting new members (personal messages, bundled memberships, increased discounts). The (so far inactive) Outreach Committee will pick up these suggestions.
- b) In response to the failed attempt to organize co-sponsored sessions with STOREP this year, members suggested such initiatives should not be done through open calls for proposals – they need a ‘champion’, someone in charge of leading the way.

2) Outgoing President

Both Ombudsperson and Respectful Behavior Committee now fully in place.

3) JHET

- a) The Executive Committee approved two suggestions from the JHET Editors: 1) to resist pressures from Cambridge University Press to change the journal’s article template; 2) to reinstate a lunch with board members during the annual conference.
- b) The Committee also approved the creation of a new prize for the best paper published by an early-career scholar in JHET. The editors will spell out the details and submit them for review and approval of the Executive.

4) Code of Conduct

Letter received from the Respectful Behavior Committee was discussed in the presence of Ombudsperson Joe Persky. Executive Committee agreed it would be reasonable to extend (or even abolish) the time limit on formal complaints and to be clearer about the standards of confidentiality to be maintained at each stage. The Secretary will ask the Respectful Behavior Committee to evaluate whether the AEA Code of Conduct could be an appropriate model for HES in these respects.

5) Treasurer

- a) A 3% raise for Amy Hardy was approved.
- b) The Treasurer will contact Todd Mann and Spencer Banzhaf to inquire about the pros and cons of changing our audit and review cycle. Preferred solution in the Executive is to have one review halfway through the Treasurer’s term and a full audit every time there is a change in the Treasurer’s office. A vote by email will follow.

6) Early-Career Scholars

- a) Recommendations received from the Early-Career Scholars Committee approved.

7) New Initiatives

- a) Recommendation received from New Initiatives Committee approved. Contrary to the committee's suggestion, the proposal will be rejected without an explicit encouragement for resubmission.
- b) The New Initiatives Fund will be thoroughly revised and renamed 'Promotion and Growth Fund'. The purpose of the revised program is to support initiatives that promise to bring tangible returns to the Society, especially in the form of increased membership and participation in our conferences. The total budget allocated for the program will remain at \$35,000 but we will reserve \$5,000 from this budget to cover unexpected expenses and cost fluctuations. The new program will have a rolling call for proposals rather than two yearly deadlines.

8) HOPE Partnership

The Executive Committee approved the partnership proposal received from *History of Political Economy*, which will give HES members discount subscriptions to the journal.

9) JHET Search Committee

The Executive Committee appointed Keith Tribe, D. Wade Hands, and Rebeca Gomez Betancourt to the Search Committee responsible for prospecting and nominating a new editorial team for JHET.

10) Distinguished Fellows Committee

To realign the Distinguished Fellows Committee with constitutional provisions, the Executive Committee approved a schedule of replacements to guarantee no member will serve for more than six years. Mauro Boianovsky will rotate out in 2023, Evelyn Forget in 2025, and Marcel Boumans in 2027. Replacements will be invited from the list of past presidents who have not yet served an entire six-year term, from most to least recent.

11) File Storage and Management System

The Executive Committee reacted favorably to the suggestion of a professional file storage and management system, to improve the flow of information and transparency among the Society's different offices. The Secretary will work with Amy Hardy on a concrete proposal to be voted electronically.

12) Digital Information Management

- a) A suggestion to establish a renewable 5-year term for the office of Digital Information Manager will be discussed and voted in our next meeting.
- b) The non-moderated HES Facebook page will be discontinued.