

June 23, 2023
5:45 PDT
Coast Coal Harbour Hotel, Vancouver, BC
HES Business Meeting

June 2023 Business Meeting Agenda

1. President's welcome and overview of the agenda (Maria Pia Paganeli)

2. Approval of minutes from 2022

Minutes approved after a small revision to the JHET editor's report.

3. Secretary's Report (Carlos Eduardo Suprinyak)

The Secretary highlighted that membership numbers have decreased significantly this year. The Executive Committee is trying to understand the reasons for this decline. Question from the floor on current plans for reverting this trend. The Secretary mentions better management of membership renewals and bundled memberships with other societies. We have also created an *ad hoc* Outreach Committee to inquire further into the matter. Members suggest we need a more aggressive membership campaign, actively pursuing potential members. Many potentially useful suggestions were contained in the report submitted by the constitutional reform committee some years ago. We should act on these ideas. The Society's documents should also be better archived and more easily accessible. We should reach out to ALAHPE, as many of their members do not participate in HES. The Vice President clarified a similar decline in membership numbers is being felt by other societies as well. Members suggest we must think of the annual conference as part of this problem. The conference needs to be more attractive and affordable, especially for younger people. We need to think about retired scholars too, who do not have the funds but have the experience and knowledge.

The Society is experimenting with a new model for the ASSA reception this year – a compromise solution between the costly on-site reception and no reception at all.

4. Treasurer's Report (John Berdell)

Question from the floor on the availability of past budgets and other financial information pertaining to the Society. The Treasurer agreed this should be made more easily accessible. Question on what determines the 4% draw rule on the endowment. Why not use a larger draw to implement useful programs? The Treasurer clarified this is the most common convention. But we have been overspending in the past few years; this is an indicative number.

5. Social Media Report

The President read the report on the behalf of the Digital Information Manager, who could not attend. Steadily growing numbers on all fronts.

6. JHET Editor's Report (Jimena Hurtado and Pedro Garcia Duarte)

Special issue celebrating the 50th anniversary of the History of Economics Society will be out soon. Fourth edition of the JHET writing workshop currently underway, now offering the opportunity of 30-minute individual meetings with Paul Dudenhefer. We have now renewed our contract with Cambridge University Press for three years, with an automatic renewal clause for 12 months. The journal will launch a new early-career scholars prize for articles published in JHET.

7. SHOE List Report

The President presented the report on behalf of the SHOE List moderator, who could not attend. The Vice President called attention to the large number of US subscribers, which points toward a potential interest in the field that should be tapped. We should ask the moderator for a list of these subscribers and contact them. Ultimately we want people coming to our conferences, but having members facilitates communication and outreach. Members suggest we should do something to celebrate the 30 years of the SHOE List, which are fast approaching. Question from the floor about whether subscriptions are individual or institutional.

8. Outgoing Vice President's Report (Maria Pia Paganelli)

Sessions for the next ASSA conference have already been selected. Question from the floor on whether it would be possible to co-sponsor a session on gender with the International Association for Feminist Economics. The President responded this could be discussed with Manuela Mosca, who is organizing another session on a related topic for the next ASSA conference.

9. Outgoing President's Report

The President read the report on behalf of Ross Emmett, who could not attend.

10. Introduction of HES Ombudsperson (Joe Persky)

The Ombudsperson presented himself and stated his satisfaction to see that HES wanted to make sure we all feel valued as members and participants. In our conferences, it is important to make sure members always feel comfortable to raise questions.

11. Update on Future Conferences (Maria Pia Paganelli)

Next year, HES will hold its first ever conference in Latin America. This will mark the celebrations of the Society's 50th anniversary. The conference will be held in Santiago, Chile,

hosted by Universidad del Desarrollo. It will be wintertime in Santiago. Hotel rates are quite affordable. There are also plenty of tourist attractions: wineries, ski slopes, Patagonia, the Atacama Desert, Easter Island.

12. New Business

Suggestion from the floor that HES should follow a policy similar to ESHET, determining that Executive Committee members are not eligible to receive the Society's awards. Other members counterargued this would be a disincentive for people to serve in the Executive Committee. Likewise, we should not be giving awards to the second-best contenders. The Vice President clarified this rule existed in ESHET because the Council itself decides the prizes, whereas HES has a different arrangement, in which prize committees are independent. This should be thought through carefully.

Brad Bateman spoke on behalf of the Respectful Behavior Committee, explaining they had raised a series of questions to the Executive Committee and took their concerns to the Diversity Caucus as well.