



**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 25, 2006
ARIZONA ARTS, SCIENCES, AND TECHNOLOGY
ACADEMY FOUNDATION, INC. (A A S T A)**

The third regular meeting of the Board of Governors of AASTA was held at the University of Arizona on February 25, 2006. The following members were present: David Berliner, Michael Cusanovich, Lee Drickamer, Vincent Fulginiti, John Hildebrand, Robert Millis, Pierre Meystre, Lynn Nadel, and Zachary Smith,. The following members participated by telephone: Jane Maineschein. The following members were not present: J. Charles Backus, Betsey Bayless, Lyle Bootman, James Buizer, Vicki Chandler, Philip Christensen, Peter French Al McHenry, Nasser Peyghambarian, Joaquin Ruiz, Nancy Filipe Russo, Leslie Tolbert, Sander van der Leeuw and Neal Vanselow. Also present were Patrick Burkhart and Suzanne Reuss.

Chair John Hildebrand called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

John Hildebrand welcomed the Board to its third regular meeting and stated that the agenda would cover topics including the adoption of revised bylaws, updates on events and ideas to generate philanthropic support.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the December 10, 2005 meeting of the Board of Governors were approved as distributed with one modification.

Avian Influenza Conference

Vincent Fulginiti reported that the conference planning committee had met on four occasions since the December 10th meeting of the Board of Governors. The planning committee has nearly completed the conference program and has confirmed all but one speaker. The conference will occur over a 1 and ½ day period, with the second day devoted to an analysis of the conference outcomes. The conference will result in a formal report of the proceedings and shall include recommendations for improving the State of Arizona's pandemic preparedness planning.

The Arizona Consortium for Medicine, Society and Values has pledged \$15,000 to sponsor the conference.

The planning committee has elected to make the conference an invitation only event and not to charge a conference fee. Invited participants will include leaders in the field of public health, health care, public safety, elected public officials, health insurers and

others. All AASTA Fellows will be invited to the conference. The planning committee will also ensure that the press is invited to cover the event.

Astronomy, Space and Planetary Sciences Committee Report

Bob Millis reviewed the first meeting of the task force group assembled to undertake an economic impact study of astronomy, space and planetary sciences research in Arizona. This meeting was held on January 17th at the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory at the University of Arizona. Twenty representatives from the three state universities, astronomical observatories and federal laboratories in the state attended the discussion.

After presentations and discussion concerning the nature and scope of the study, all present voted affirmatively to proceed with the project.

Inaugural Lecture Event Report

Patrick Burkhart reported that Dr. Alan Lightman had been confirmed as the speaker for AASTA's Inaugural Lecture event that will be held at The Heard Museum on the evening of April 20, 2006.

Ratification of Election Results to Amend AASTA's Bylaws

Patrick Burkhart reported, on behalf of the nominating committee, that a sufficient number of ballots had been returned from AASTA's Fellows voting in the affirmative to amend the organization's bylaws as proposed on the ballot.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to certify the results of the special election to amend AASTA's Bylaws.

Election of New Board Member

Patrick Burkhart reported on behalf of the nominating committee, its recommendation that Dr. Dan Shilling be elected to serve on the Board of Governors by the full Board to fill the vacancy created by the recent passing of Ms. Lorraine Frank.

Mr. Burkhart presented a summary of Dr. Shilling's biographical sketch and noted that AASTA's Bylaws permitted the Board of Governors to act as the nominating committee has recommended. Dr. Shilling has been notified of the committee's nominating and has agreed to have his name placed before the Board of Governors for consideration.

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to elect Dr. Dan Shilling as a member of the Board of Governors effective immediately.

Election of New Board members and AASTA's Annual Meeting

Reporting on behalf of the nominating committee, Patrick Burkhart informed the Board of Governors of the committee's plan to hold elections for the vacancies anticipated on the Board during the summer of 2006 and to install the new Board during the annual meeting which is recommended to take place in September 2006.

President's Report

Patrick Burkhart reported on recent conversations regarding the planning of an education related research project wherein AASTA may partner with the University of Arizona College of Education to examine "status unknown" children who have left the K-12 system. These conversations are in the early stages of conceptualization.

Mr. Burkhart also reported on the results of several months' effort to raise philanthropic support for AASTA. Generating such support has been difficult which has necessitated the rethinking of the organization's strategic approach. Conversations have begun to seek a philanthropic champion who will serve in a volunteer leadership capacity for this purpose.

Mr. Burkhart further reported that 18 new Founding Fellows have joined AASTA since November 2005.

Treasurer's Report

The financial summary for the period 12-01-04 to 2-14-06 was presented. The summary revealed a positive cash balance and projected cash flow.

Discussion

The board entered into a lengthy discussion concerning the status of membership. It was pointed out that increasing the pool of Fellows and Members is a process in which all existing Fellows should be encouraged to participate.

AASTA Board Members also resolved to take the lead in organizing value-added regional networks of AASTA Fellows for the purpose of holding local events.

The visibility of AASTA was discussed. Recommendations were made to begin planning an AASTA speaker's bureau and to ensure that AASTA's major events were marketed to the media.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Suzanne Reuss
Patrick Burkhart