

ACJS 2023-2024 ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
Minutes

Friday, March 17 2:00pm EST

IN ATTENDANCE: Anthony Peguero (President), Bitna Kim (1st Vice-President), Stephanie Mizrahi (2nd Vice-President), Denise Paquette Boots (Immediate Past President), Leah Daigle (Treasurer), Aimée “May” Delaney (Secretary), Melissa Burek (Trustee-At-Large), Robert Bing (Trustee-At-Large), Jodi Lane (Trustee-At-Large), Michele P. Bratina (Region 1 Trustee), John Stogner (Region 2 Trustee), Ming-Li Hsieh (Region 3 Trustee), Brie Diamond (Region 4 Trustee), John Worrall (Executive Director), Letiscia Perrin (Association Manager)

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Burke (Region 5 Trustee)

- I. Welcome, Congratulations to New Board Members/Introductions
- President Peguero called the meeting to order at 2:08pm EST.
 - Peguero thanked past presidents, Boots and Pfeifer, for their support.
 - Peguero introduced new Board members:
2nd VP – Stephanie Mizrahi
Trustee-at-Large – Melissa Burek
Treasurer – Leah Daigle
Region Two Trustee- John Stogner
Region Three Trustee: Ming-Li Hsieh

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Diamond and seconded by Burek. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

A motion to accept all Executive Board reports was made by Burke and seconded by Bratina. The motion carried with Peguero, Kim, Mizrahi, and Boots abstaining.

- III. President’s Report (Peguero)
- Peguero expressed appreciation to everyone on the Board and thanked them for their support and sharing of information.
 - Peguero announced that the mid-year Executive Board meeting dates will be sent via email to all Board members soon, as there were multiple conflict with the initial proposed dates by the venue (e.g., Region 2 annual meeting). There was discussion about the potential to have the meeting mid-week (as opposed to the traditional Saturday meeting) and consensus was reached that this is possible with sufficient notice. There was discussion about what might work for Board members as well as hotel availability for dates in September.
- IV. 1st Vice President’s Report (Kim)
- Kim expressed appreciation for everyone’s support and guidance, in particular Boots, Peguero, and Perrin. Kim appreciates support from all the Board members.
 - Kim reminds everyone that the new incoming journal editors were voted on this week at the end-year meeting and the information is not public until the announcements can be made to all the applicants. Everyone needs to wait until

March 24, 2023 before offering congratulations or announcing this information. Kim will send an email to Board members to let them know when the notification has been made to all applicants about the selection of the new editors.

V. 2nd Vice President's Report (Mizrahi)

- Mizrahi expressed gratitude to all members of the Board for support. Mizrahi thanked Boots for guidance and support leading into her succession of presidency.
- She announced that the conference during her presidency is in Philadelphia. That year, 2026, will be the 25th anniversary of 9/11 so her conference theme will be the around community crises: terrorism, disaster management, climate, pandemic, etc., and how such crises raise the risk of crime as well as the impact on the criminal justice system domestically and internationally. She will be working with Unnithan and Reichel to ensure a truly international theme.
- Mizrahi provided an update on who she will be selecting as program co-chairs: Delaney, Gormley, and DMello.
- She also named some potential Committee Chairs: Author meet Critic, Lucas; Research Showcase, Craig; Local Events, Reyes; Awards, Williams; Assessment, Bratten; Student Affairs, Noble.

VI. Immediate Past President's Report (Boots)

- Boots reported positive feedback about the conference and venue from the members who spoke with her. The only issue presented to her involved the conference app, which ACJS staff already knew. There was discussion about the size of the wording on the name badges – the lettering was small and it was difficult for people with eyesight impediments to read the names, institutions, etc. Suggestions to ACJS staff to have the letters larger at next year's conference, as space allows. There was mention of people using previous year's name badge holders, and that the new badges ensured everyone paid registration fee (rather than circumvent this by re-using older name badges and following the publicly available conference program).
- Boots expressed gratitude for the smooth and efficient operations of the conference. She believes diversity was clearly shown and welcomed by the membership.
- Boots thanked all those involved in the conference.

VII. Treasurer's Report (Daigle)

- No report at this time. Worrall to share financial information.

VIII. Secretary's Report (May)

- No report at this time. Minutes will be presented at the mid-year meeting.

A motion to approve all Officer oral reports was made by Boots and seconded by Burek. The motion carried unanimously, with each Board member abstaining from approving their respective report(s).

A motion to accept ACJS staff reports was made by Bing and seconded by Mizrahi. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

IX. Executive Director's Report (Worrall)

- Worrall reported Taylor and Francis (T&F) will discuss their proposal for ACJS journals contract at this meeting.
- Worrall advised there will be bills to be paid after the conference, so the accounts will be reconciled later. He also advised there is large bill for an ASL interpreter, as

a professor for a student requested this accommodation approximately 1 week before the conference, the cost to secure an ASL interpreter at the last minute is approximately \$400-\$450 per hour, and this amounts to many hours as the student had planned to attend many panels. A question about the issue with the ASL interpreter hired for a student, as mentioned at the ACJS General Business meeting. Worrall informed that just before the meeting, with little advance notice, a professor made a request for an ASL interpreter on behalf of a student. ACJS made this accommodation, but the cost was quite high due to the arrangements being last minute. Another issue was that the ASL interpreter services were not used within the requested/scheduled time with no notice or other communications from the student (i.e., the student was not present at the times the ASL interpreter was requested to be scheduled). There was discussion about how to prevent last minute arrangements in the future, as this accommodation is a requirement under the ADA, to ensure availability of interpreters and coordination of schedules. Worrall reported that the advice from the ASL interpreters was to put information on registration with a suggestion for advance notice. It was noted that a specific date for advance notification cannot be enforced. There was discussion about potential software that could purchase/ used to support interpretation services

X. Association Manager's Report (Perrin)

- Perrin reported the numbers for the onsite conference registrations as follows:
 - March 14: 74
 - March 15: 77
 - March 16: 39
 - March 17: to be reconciled later today

The total number of conference registrations this year, both online and onsite, was 1,618.

A motion to approve the ACJS Executive Director and Manager's report was made by Diamond and seconded by Burke. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

XI. New Business

- Peguero reported that he spoke with May, Chair of EEPC Committee, and there will be a revised report by the Committee to be presented at the ACJS Executive Board mid-year meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Peguero will communicate with May about sending the revised EEPC Committee report along with the Committee's mid-year report.

- Peguero advised that he met with the Directors of NIJ (LaVigne) and BJS (Piquero) to formally invite them to return as presenters for the 2024 ACJS annual meeting in Chicago. He informed all that, as government officials, these directors need a formal invitation each year in order to attend the conference. Note: This is considered one of the on-going practices of the current President, to officially invited these Directors to the conferences, moving forward if that president chooses to do so; this is not a policy item.
- Peguero led a discussion about having the American Society of Criminology (ASC) President invited to and present at the ACJS annual meeting. Boots advised that she invited the current ASC President. Boots advised that she also invited presidents from other professional organizations, the directors of NIJ and BJS, as well as other

leaders within organizations. There was general consensus in this discussion about extending this invitation (no vote, as this was an informal discussion only). Note: This is considered one of the on-going practices of the current President, to officially invite officials or other prominent guests to the conferences, moving forward if that president chooses to do so; this is not a policy item.

ACTION ITEM: Peguero will contact the current ASC president, as well as the European Society of Criminology president, to formally invite to 2024 ACJS annual meeting.

- Peguero informed that some ACJS members approached him to inquire about the possibility of merging ASC and ACJS. There was discussion regarding the reasons those members made these inquiries. There was general consensus in this discussion that the 2 organizations are not merging.
- Peguero announced he will continue with the Ad Hoc Committees from 2022-2023: Sage Professional Development Workshop Committee, United Nations Congress Committee, Mentoring Committee, and Social Media Committee.
- Peguero explained the Board Liaison role between Executive Board members and the standing committees. Peguero assigned Board Liaisons to Standing Committees, with the following assignments for 2023 – 2024:
 - Academic Review – Mizrahi (by policy)
 - Affirmative Action – Delaney
 - Assessment – Stogner
 - Awards – Lane
 - Budget, Finance, and Audit – Mizrahi (by policy)
 - Constitution and By-Laws – Diamond
 - Doctoral Summit - Lane
 - Ethics – Paquette Boots (by policy)
 - Membership – Bratina
 - National Criminal Justice Month - Burek
 - Nominations and Elections/Tellers – Paquette Boots (by policy)
 - Program – Daigle
 - Public Policy - Bing
 - Student Affairs – Hsieh
 - Employment Exchange – Burek
 - Sage Professional Development Workshop Ad Hoc Committee – Hsieh
 - 2023 United Nations Congress Ad Hoc Committee – Bratina
 - Mentoring Ad Hoc Committee – Bing
 - Social Media Ad Hoc Committee - Burke

There was discussion about the operations of the Employment Exchange and associated workshop. The workshops were full, with standing room only. Lee reported back the need for more volunteers in the future. There is a need for volunteers at the Employment Exchange to assist with the room, so all Executive Board members were asked to announce this opportunity for students. Students receive free conference in exchange for their volunteer work.

A motion to approve the 2024 Executive Board Liaisons to Standing Committees was made by Boots and seconded by Diamond. The motion carried unanimously with each Board member abstaining from their own assignment vote.

ACTION ITEM: Peguero to discuss with Lee, Chair of the Employment Exchange Committee, potential employment-based workshops/panels at the annual meeting as part of charge for Employment Exchange Committee.

- As invited guests to the meeting, Jackie and Lindsey from T&F provided updates on the status of the journals and the outlook for ACJS journals. Worrall announced that T&F are the long-term journal publishers for ACJS journals and the contract will end on December 31, 2023. There is a new contract proposal that the Board will need to consider and eventually vote approval or not (potential start date of January 1, 2024). T&F explained the proposed contract would occur through the end of 2025. T&F expressed gratitude for the collegial working relationship with ACJS. T&F explained there has been an increased in royalties for ACJS while T&F maintained costs at same level and continued support of the ACJS doctoral summit. T&F explained that the company is paying a portion of the cost savings from changing to online publishing (versus paper journals) back to ACJS. T&F projects the cost spending will be approximately \$10,000 for travel and meetings between T&F and the ACJS Executive Director. However T&F projects a \$60,000 increase in revenues, which will vastly offset this cost. T&F announce that ACJS journal sales are healthy, and there is room to grow *Justice Quarterly* journal content over the next several years. T&F advised that if this was a desired outcome, then this request needs to be completed by the end of May 2023 but T&F will offer some flexibility. There was discussion about the changing nature of the journal market, with Open Access journals becoming more prevalent. T&F recommends ACJS Executive Board prepare for Open Access, but cannot predict the efficiency of such a transition other than ensuring support from T&F during any such transition as well as making ACJS journals an on-going asset. The goals of T&F would be to streamline the process of transiting to Open Access and create growth for the ACJS journals. T&F believes there will be increased royalties with Open Access journals. T&F acknowledges there will be some risk with any such transition, but believes the benefits of transitioning to Open Access outweigh those risks. There was discussion about the growing prevalence of Open Access publications. T&F spoke with one of the editors of *Justice Quarterly* this week about the potential impact of Open Access for *Justice Quarterly*. There was a question about content increase in this journal. T&F explained that increased content in journals leads to increased price of journal, which then increases ACJS royalties. There was a question about the impact on ranking of the journal should content be increased. T&F does not believe an increase in content will decrease the value of journal, nor increase the work of editors, given the large volume of submissions. The purpose for increasing content in *JQ* is to provide the opportunity for more of these submissions to be published.

ACTION ITEM: Peguero will send the T&F contract proposal to the new Executive Board members so that the can review the contract proposal and engage discussion prior to a future vote.

XII. Old Business

- There was discussion about having the opportunity for authors to pay to have exhibition hall area/space to promote their books, with oversight on what types of books are being exhibited at the annual meeting to ensure the books are in line with the mission and vision of ACJS. Boots explained the process for selecting the Author Meets Critical (AMC) panels at the 2023 annual meeting: there were a large

number of books submitted for these panels and there was a limited number of space to hold such panels. There was discussion about the intent for this suggestion: allow authors to purchase space in the exhibition hall to promote their books, with the authors incurring all transportation and set up costs, and this becomes a source of revenue for ACJS. There was concern raised about what books are being promoted and how the books are vetted to ensure the books are academic, criminal justice related books. There as a suggestion to have the Chair of the AMC promote this via correspondence with the authors whose books were not selected for AMC. There was discussion about the historic process for AMC submissions and associated issues, from panel submissions to presidential selections, and how there has been discretion on the process depending on who was serving as president. Boots shared that she appointed one person to search and select books based on the conference theme, then had those books presented to her for final selection. There was discussion about how AMC is currently a submission category and a suggestion that that this be changed to presidential selection only. There was a suggestion for an Ad Hoc Committee to be formed that will explore the possibility of author paid exhibition space for their books. There was a suggested costs of \$250 for ACJS member authors and \$500 for non-ACJS member authors. Concern was raised about authors purchasing space when publishers were already exhibiting the author's book at the annual meeting. Concern was raised about authors not present at their space with their book(s) and the possibility of books being taken without permission. There were suggestions for volunteers to provide oversight of the "book table" and power dynamics of volunteers dealing with conflict (particularly if it is student vs. professor), having a book display case, and advising authors that they display at their own.

ACTION ITEM: Peguero to work on forming an Ad Hoc Committee, potentially named Book Showcase Ad Hoc Committee, that will create a process to promote and showcase authors' academic criminal justice related books, after the committee screens books, which are not already promoted by publishers present at the ACJS annual meeting. Peguero will need to name a chair and committee members, and present this list of members to the Executive Board at the mid-year meeting (or sooner).

- There was discussion about adding student representation on the following standing committees: National Criminal Justice Month, Membership, and Student Affairs. This discussion included changing the language for committees before changing the language in the Constitution and By-Laws. The discussion also included the preference for students to be primarily doctoral students as opposed to any student. There was a suggestion to bundle this item with other potential constitutional changes that were discussed previously at the 2022-2023 end year meeting, as any change in student membership would require a change to the Constitution and By-laws, so the Executive Board may review such proposed language changes before voting to accept the language change. Then, the approved language change would be presented to the membership for a vote. It was noted that policy changes cannot occur until, and if, there are changes to the Constitution and By-laws as the policy language comes directly from the Constitution and By-laws.

ACTION ITEM: discussion tabled until mid-year meeting.

- There was a discussion how to move forward with the directory project, including uses of the directory and "occasional surveys on state of the discipline" among the membership (including funding). This discussion included the history of the

contract with the University of Cincinnati to create this directory and the recommendations from the University of Cincinnati group (as presented at the 2022-2023 end-year meeting). Worrall attended the presentation and spoke with the University of Cincinnati group after the presentation. He received more information, including that the University of Cincinnati group will provide no further work on this project without being paid. To clarify the discussion from the 2022-2023 end-year meeting: the contract with the University of Cincinnati group clearly states ACJS owns the data and the University of Cincinnati group cannot use the data without explicit permission from the ACJS Executive Board. This includes publishing in journals. Moving forward with this project, Worrall presents the following proposal:

1. The ACJS Executive Board authorize up to \$15,000 to generate white paper summarizing the results of the project for membership, which will be posted on the website. (As a side note not part of this proposal, Worrall advised this amount seems a compromise because the University of Cincinnati group proposed \$20,000).
2. The ACJS Executive Board authorize up to \$25,000 to generate an interactive “dashboard” to be available on the ACJS website, so the ACJS membership can have access to use the database (with approval on a case by case basis).
3. The ACJS Executive Board will make the database available to the membership for free for research purposes.
4. The ACJS Executive Board will make the database available to entities and organizations at a cost of \$2,000 for commercial purposes.

There was discussion of funding #1 as a show of gratitude for the work completed by the University of Cincinnati group and continuing the collegial relationship. There was discussion about the feasibility of #2. There was discussion of making charges for #4 higher, such as \$2500. There as concern about the purchase of the database without Executive Board approval when the use of the data may potential not match the vision and mission of ACJS. There was a suggestion to have the Executive Board vet proposals from entities and organizations before a commercial purchase. There was suggestion to form an AD HOC committee to review this.

A motion to approve the following proposal

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4. The ACJS Executive Board will make the database available to entities and organizations at a cost of \$2,500 for commercial purposes.

was made by Boots and seconded by Diamond. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

ACTION ITEM: Worrall will inform the University of Cincinnati group of the above approved proposal from the Executive Board.

- There was a discussion of having the ACJS home office purchase awards for all ACJS Award Committees to ensure the plaques are physically available at the Awards Ceremony. This would be a change to the following policies: Affirmative Action (because this Committee's awards were added to the ACJS awards ceremony last year, as opposed to the Committee's annual meeting) and the National Criminal Justice Month. A proposal was made to centralize the process for purchasing and obtaining all ACJS awards (including standing committees), including modifying policy language for these awards.

A motion to approve the purchase and obtainment of all ACJS awards (including standing committees) by ACJS staff only, and the accompanying policy language modification, for these awards was made by Bratina and seconded by Daigle. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

ACTION ITEM: Worrall will update the ACJS policy manual on the ACJS awards, including all ACJS Committees, to reflect the approved policy language change: ACJS staff will purchase and obtain all ACJS awards, including standing committees, and any specific language changes for both the Affirmative Action Committee and National Criminal Justice Month Committee awards.

- There was a brief discussion of new Ethics sub-section, Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy subcommittee. Peguero advised that this information will likely be included in the revised EPPC Committee report, as noted in the New Business section above.

ACTION ITEM: This discussion will be tabled until receipt of the EPPC Committee's revised annual report, with possibility of further discussion at the mid-year meeting (pending what information is included in the report and whether or not the issue is addressed before the mid-year meeting).

- There was no discussion of the attached revised *JQ* report.

A motion to approve the *JQ* revised report was made by Boots and seconded by Burek. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

- There was discussion of the newly invited Co-Chair for 2024 Annual Meeting program committee: Iwama.

A motion to approve Iwama as a 2023-2024 as a co-chair was made by Delaney and seconded by Bing. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

XIII. Adjourn

- A motion to adjourn was made by Boots and seconded by Bratina. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm EST.