



**ACJS Board Meeting Minutes Friday March 14, 2025  
Sheraton Downtown Hotel, Denver, Colorado at 2:00 p.m. Director's Row F.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 2:15 p.m. by President Stephanie Mizrahi.
- II. **ATTENDANCE:** All members were present except Cassandra Reyes (excused).
- III. **WELCOME:** President Mizrahi offered a welcome and congratulations to new board members (Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Camille Gibson – Secretary, Brie Diamond – Trustee-at-Large, Christine Tartaro- Region I Trustee, Marianne Hudson- Region V Trustee); this was followed by introductions.

Agenda approved.

- IV. **Guest:** Jacqueline Fernholz of Taylor and Francis was invited to inform the board about journal financials. She mentioned a recent 50% increase in royalties last year that included \$600,000 in subscriptions. We do subscriptions as opposed to licensing deals. We increased content last year and prices increased; non-subscription income includes licenses to access content in a package. The revenue has been stable. Institutions are looking for new deals. When journals move from one package to another, it affects income. A slight decrease is possible at some point. She spoke of read and publish agreements and how open access income can vary from year to year. Most profitable is JQ, then JCJE, then JEJ. She was asked about a journal having backlog issues. She was aware and mentioned strategies for addressing this and noted, that Taylor and Francis is alerted about such issues at a 2-year backlog point.
- V. **President's report:** President Mizrahi expressed that she was looking forward to working with all present and promised to do her best. She congratulated Past President Bitna Kim on a fantastic Denver conference.
  - a. **Action item: Strategic plan proposal:** Started the process in 2019 with Faith Lutze and Prabha Unnithan. They worked with a facilitator. The current ACJS mission statement is a product of this. She would like the board to re-start this to establish goals, describe ourselves, and our audience, to inform marketing and conference planning, and for organizational sustainability. The proposed steering committee to start the process consists of President Mizrahi, Faith Lutze, David Myers, a Trustee-at-large, and a student, with John Worrall and Letiscia Perrin as *ex officio* members.

Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic suggested including a practitioner.

At a cost of \$12,000 (travel and facilitator), the group would meet for a day and a half at UT-Dallas in July to work with a facilitator to draft goals plus long and short term objectives. The group would present its progress at the mid-year meeting.

Discussion of the idea followed: Why in person? Why not include the entire board? Who chooses the student? Timeline? Why not a virtual start? Is this the right time?

Overall response, a small group would get things started. The committee would choose the student member.

John Worrall, noted that the board already approved the budget for this.

Melissa Burek motion to approve with the amended 9 members steering committee. Seconded Erin Orrick. Motion passed 11 in favor; 0 opposed 3 abstained.

- b. Action item: President's Early Service Award proposal:** Concerned about getting award top heavy, so this award could be at the President's reception on Wednesday evening. Discussion with conclusion to include it with the other awards, so if adopted it would not seem lesser than others. Idea from Dick Bennet to encourage early service for new members whether students, faculty, etc. The suggestion is up to three awards per year as determined by a committee of 3 to 5 past presidents. Lorenzo Boyd has agreed to chair the first committee. Nominations could come from anyone. Purpose to encourage and reward engagement. Discussion of where the service would be national or regional? To what "relevant organizations"? Discussion of definition of "new member"?

President Mizrahi: new member = first six years of continuous membership, includes years as a student member. Suggestion to change this to first six years of regular membership. Suggestion to make it service at a national level, since the award is national.

Decision: send commends in a week to President Mizrahi, who will then revise the description.

- c. Dates for the mid-year meeting:** Discussion. Looking at September 20 or October 4. Letiscia will check with the hotel to see which works.

**VI) First Vice President's Report.** Davis Myers congratulated Bitna Kim on the conference. He stated that his deputy chairs are in place. Cathy Marcum and Rachel Powers are his conference co-chairs. Announcements for committee positions are on the website, and it went out via email. The new editors of JQ are transitioning in- Joshua Cochran and Daniel Mears.

**VII) Immediate Past President's Report:** Bitna Kim thanked everyone for their support. No action items.

**VIII) Second Vice President's Report.** Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic: Nothing to report (first board meeting).

**IX) Treasurer's Report:** Leah Daigle: Nothing new to report since Tuesday.

David Myers mentioned being told by members that the ACJS system requires back membership to renew. Some others present mentioned hearing similarly. Letiscia responded- not an ACJS policy, persons need to contact her to address any such message. Sanja: some may have not renewed as a result.

**X) Secretary's Report:** Camille Gibson. Nothing to report (first board meeting in this role).

**XI) Executive Director's Report:** John Worrall: nothing new.

**XII) Association Manager's Report:** Letiscia Perrin: 1,557 registered as of noon today, which is 30 more than last year.

Motion to approve the reports by Christine Tartaro, seconded by Melissa Burek. Motion passed; no opposition with each officer abstaining from that person's report.

### **XIII) OLD BUSINESS**

**TABLED:** Ad hoc Committee for Race and Justice Award. Still tabled.

**ARC Committee:** Two persons resigned. Service is a three-year term. Jeff Bryson is interested in serving, so is Karima Mourhart. Persons need to be reviewer trained., or within a year after joining be trained. Christine Tartaro emailed all those trained this year about the opportunity to serve.

**ACTION ITEM:** President Mizrahi will do an email vote on the nominees later.

**\$2,000 payment to CrimRxiv.** John Worrall noted that ACJS is a non-paying member of the CrimRxiv consortium. There is an ACJS page; the work of persons publishing in our journals can be found there. His university contributes to CrimRxiv. Scott Jacques of the consortium provides statistics on site traffic. There are 50,000 to 60,000 hits per month, which is more traffic than the ACJS website.

In response to site copyright issues: John Worrall responded that Jacques has reported that they have never received a take down request. In that sense it is similar to Researchgate. CrimRxiv also supports the ACJS oral history project. This would be a one-time payment invoiced by Pubhub.

Motion to approve the payment by David Myers; seconded by Erin Orrick (motion passed: 12 in favor; no opposition; no abstentions).

**Action item:** Doctoral Summit Committee membership policy. John Worrall presented suggested language from the ad hoc committee (which included Jodi Lane, May Delaney, Dave Myers, John Worrall, and Michelle Bratina). The rationale for the policy: a need for continuity on the committee was discussed and the language was edited largely by Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic. Motion to accept the attached policy was made by Melissa Burek, seconded by Erin Orrick. Motion passed 9 in favor; no opposition; 2 abstentions.

### **XIV) NEW BUSINESS**

**a) John Worrall: Discussion of Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ) financial bankruptcy challenge.** John Worrall offered advice/suggestions to SWACJ President Harrison Watts on navigating their status which he inherited. Discussion of how the status unfolded. Erin Orrick (Region Trustee) and Camille Gibson (region member) offered added insights. Worrall suggested a one-time financial support of \$2000.

Board discussion: Questions of whether past issues are resolved; would similar support be made to other regions struggling? Suggestion to include conditions of SWACJ if funds are given.

Response: SWACJ's situation is unique - a dire crisis.

Motion by Brie Diamond, seconded by Bitna Kim to grant SWACJ the \$2,000 support with conditions 1) they negotiate a reduced room block for their conference or meet the room block; 2) hold the conference this year; and 3) remove Colorado as a part of the region on their materials, etc. Motion passed 10 in favor; 1 opposed; 1 abstention.

- b) Maritz Design Study \$75,000 consulting proposal.** Recall ASC paid \$50,000 before for a journals' proposal. The consultancy is about added revenue for ACJS in the future. The board discussed that this sounded like another strategic planning effort. Should there be two efforts? Will this be Maritz's first proposal for an academic group? Can the cost be negotiated?

Motion by Leah Daigle, seconded by Bitna Kim – that we wait until all persons review the documents, then have a Zoom meeting to discuss; no money is to be spent on planning efforts until a decision is made on the Maritz proposal. Motion passed – all in favor (12 votes).

Melissa Burek referencing Robert's Rules of Order made a motion to reconsider the strategic planning item in the President's report. Erin Orrick seconded the motion. Motion passed – all in favor (12 votes).

President Mizrahi urged board members to read soon for a Zoom meeting in early April. John Worrall will invite Cory from Merritt to this meeting.

- c) Board Liaisons 2025-2026.** Persons volunteered where membership was not dictated by policy.

Academic Review- Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic (by policy)

Affirmative Action- Cassandra Reyes

Assessment- Erin Orrick

Awards- Leah Daigle

Budget, Finance, and Audit- Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic (by policy)

Constitution and By-Laws- Brie Diamond

Doctoral Summit- John Stogner

Ethics- Bitna Kim (by policy)

Membership- Ming-Li Hsieh

National Criminal Justice Month- John Stogner

Nominations and Elections/Tellers- Bitna Kim (by policy)

Program - Marianne Hudson

Public Policy – David Myers

Student Affairs - Ming-Li Hsieh

Mentoring- Christine Tartaro

Employment Exchange- Melissa Burek

Continuation of 2025-20256 Ad hoc Committees

- 1) Sage Professional Development Workshop Committee- Erin Orrick
- 2) 2025 United Nations Congress Selection Committee - Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic
- 3) Awards Policy Committee Ad Hoc- Camille Gibson
- 4) Academic Leadership Development Summit (ALDS)- Leah Daigle

**REMINDERS:** President Mizrahi reminded board members to stop in at the Doctoral Summit Dinner if they can and the Research Showcase later.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Melissa Burek; seconded by Erin Orrick passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Camille Gibson, ACJS Secretary.

## APPENDIX I

### Doctoral Student Summit Committee

#### 1. Composition

a. The Committee shall be led by a Chair and Deputy Chair, with the initial appointment being the individuals currently holding these positions. Both positions shall serve three-year terms. At the conclusion of the Chair's term, the Deputy Chair may ascend to the Chair position. Thereafter, in every year immediately preceding this ascension the currently serving 2nd Vice President can appoint a new Deputy Chair to begin serving in the role of Deputy Chair at the conclusion of the following ACJS annual meeting or the currently serving 2nd Vice President can reappoint the current Chair and Deputy Chair to serve for another three-year term.

b. The appointment of committee members will be made by the 2nd Vice President in consultation with the Chair.

c. The size of the committee shall be determined by the 2nd Vice President and Chair, with consideration of the Committee's responsibilities, but shall typically consist of at least five (5) members. At least one of the members of this committee members shall be employed as faculty at a Ph.D.-granting program, department, or school. The term of the committee members is one year.

#### 2. Duties

a. The Committee shall create, coordinate, and facilitate comprehensive professional development training across multiple domains (e.g., technical skills, personal skills, etc.) relevant to academic and professional success.

b. The Committee shall market the Summit to doctoral programs, both domestically and internationally. To promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the academy, the Committee shall recruit students and presenters from a diverse array of doctoral programs and from diverse backgrounds.

c. The Committee shall provide multiple networking opportunities for Summit participants, as well as other doctoral students and ACJS members to develop academic communities that can help to increase professional and social support.

d. The Chair shall coordinate the collection and management of data from Summit participants to evaluate the Summit's effectiveness, and measure the ongoing engagement of Summit alumni within the Academy. Data collection and management must comply with applicable regulations for the protection of human subjects, including obtaining informed consent, ensuring data security, and protecting subject confidentiality.