

**Interpersonal Interest Group
Business Meeting
April 27, 2012
Somerset
Cambridge, MA**

Present: Aimee Miller-Ott, Meredith Marko Harrigan, Katherine Thweatt, Linda Sampson, Kay Long, Danette Ifert Johnson, Mary Toale, Jessalyn Vallade, Lori Vela, Brandi Frisby, Megan Dowd, Tamra Portalla

I. Call to Order: Aimee Miller-Ott called the meeting to order at 8:05am.

II. Approval of the agenda

- A. Mary Toale moved to accept, pending the addition of an executive committee report (it was clarified that it existed on the agenda).
- B. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

III. Approval of the 2011 meeting minutes

- A. Linda Sampson moved to accept but noted that the heading of the minutes should read “Business Meeting Minutes” not “Business Meeting Agenda” and that the meeting date, Friday April 15, should be indicated.
- B. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

IV. Acknowledgements:

- A. The group recognized our new member, Tamra Portella, for being present at the meeting.
- B. Aimee Miller-Ott recognized the top papers and announced that the top paper panel will take place Saturday afternoon at 3:30 pm.

“Information-Management Behaviors as a Result of Deception in Close Relationships: An Application of the Revised Theory of Motivated Information Management” (*Top Paper)

Lori Vela, West Virginia University

Jenny Thoma, West Virginia University

Megan Dillow, West Virginia University

Michelle Saint Aubin, West Virginia University

Henry Fletcher, West Virginia University

“Humor in High Stress Relationships: Understanding Communication in Police Officers’ Romantic Relationships”

Sean M. Horan, DePaul University

Jaime Bochantin, DePaul University

Melanie Booth-Butterfield, West Virginia University

“Toward an Understanding of the Relationships among Deceptive Affection, Deceptive Beliefs, and Relational Qualities”

Hailey Gillen, West Virginia University (Debut)

Sean M. Horan, DePaul University

- C. Aimee Miller-Ott acknowledged Meredith Marko Harrigan for stepping in as secretary for this meeting since elected secretary was unable to attend the conference.

- D. Aimee Miller-Ott acknowledged paper readers, chairs, and respondents and asked them to stand to be recognized.

V. Aimee Miller-Ott reported on “Old Business”

- A. Paper submissions: Low submission rate, 20 and 16 were accepted. Panels have only 3 papers on each.
- B. Panel submissions: 3 were submitted and all were accepted.
- C. Aimee Miller-Ott questioned if low turnout was across the board or if this was just a low year for us as an interest group.
- D. Aimee Miller-Ott noted that she attempted an innovative approach by soliciting submissions for “research in progress” and reported that it didn’t yield a positive response. Although she pictured multiple people submitting works in progress, including where they plan to go with projects, she only received two submissions and neither was highly rated. She questioned whether she made her expectations clear.
- E. Danette Ifert Johnson gave “kudos” to Aimee for trying, noting it was an innovative strategy.
- F. Mary Toale suggested joint panels with instructional communication.
- G. Brandi Frisby suggested that future review rubrics contain a “research in progress” option in addition to the typical “accept” and “reject” for papers not in completed form.
- H. Linda Sampson supported that idea.
- I. Aimee Miller-Ott encouraged Katherine Thweatt to consider that for next year.

VI. New Business

- A. Aimee Miller-Ott turned over the floor to incoming Chair, Kathryn Thweatt at 8:14am.
- B. Katherine Thweatt asked us to thank Aimee Miller-Ott for all her work.
- C. Katherine Thweatt provided information about the 2013 conference.
 1. Hotel (Omni William Penn) will be \$165 a night, \$20 each additional person, 14% tax
 2. The theme is “Confluence” and speaks to the merging of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers. Similarly, we will have a confluence of ideas.
 3. Deadline for submission is October 15th, 2012 and December 19th, 2012 for the Undergraduate Scholars Conference.
- D. Katherine Thweatt asked for nominations for 2014 Interest Group Chair.
 1. Megan Dowd, Assistant Professor at Hamilton College, self nominated.
 2. Her nomination seconded and unanimously accepted.
- E. Katherine Thweatt asked for nominations for 2013 (Pittsburgh) and 2014 (Providence) Interest Group Secretary.
 1. Mary Toale nominated Tamra Portalla, Ph.D. student at Ohio University.
 2. Her nomination seconded and unanimously accepted.
- F. Katherine Thweatt nominated to submit Mary Toale’s name to the Nominating Committee to plan the 2015 conference in Philadelphia. As our representative, Aimee Miller-Ott will submit her name.
- G. Nominations were sought for the ECA College/University Representative to the NCA Legislative Council.
 1. Kay Long explained that the representative must go to NCA 2013, 2014, 2015. They meet Wednesday before NCA starts and on Saturday. It is a large commitment of time and travel. Goal is to add the regional perspective. Southern, Western, and Central also have representation. Mary Toale suggested Katherine Thweatt’s name be put forward.

2. There was some confusion whether we actually need a 4 year representative. We agreed to investigate the question and, in the event, we do put Katherine's name forward.
 3. Nominations were sought for the Nominating Committee. Danette Ifert Johnson explained there is one representative from ECA to participate in the Nominating Committee for NCA. She noted that most interaction is online. The ECA representative should be an advocate for ECA. It is a 1 year commitment and not incredibly onerous. Kay Long added that their main task is to solicit nominees before their meeting. Maria Brann is this year's representative. We agreed to put Aimee Miller-Ott's name forward.
- H. Nancy Willets came by to say hello and to acknowledge and thank the planners. Nancy gave Aimee Miller-Ott a gift and thanked her for her service.
- I. Nominations were sought for the Executive Council representative. Linda Sampson, the current representative, explained that the Executive Committee will meet at the end of ECA 2013, NCA 2013, at the beginning and end of ECA 2014, NCA 2014, and at the beginning of ECA 2015. Danette Ifert Johnson put forward Meredith Marko Harrigan's name. Her motion was supported by acclamation.

VII. Executive Council report from Linda Sampson.

- A. Noted we had room block issues this year. Although we tried to increase the number of rooms in the block, we weren't successful.
- B. Informed us that the Basic Course Conference is on Wednesday, at beginning of the 2013 conference.
- C. Announced that next year's conference hotel (Omni William Penn) will be \$165 night.
- D. Reported that the Interpersonal Interest Group remains the largest with 163 members.
- E. Explained that the Executive Council typically has representation from only 2/3 of the interest groups at one time. Linda noted that the council has voted to change that so that all interest groups will be represented at the same time. She explained that the change will be put to the membership for a vote. Linda encouraged us to look for the ballot.
- F. Reported that ECA has wonderful financial health.
- G. Noted that ECA's overall membership is down by 37 members potentially due to the cost of the conference.
- H. Announced that the Undergraduate Scholars Conference is in its 2nd year. The Executive Council voted to make it a permanent part of conference and to continue with the same name.
- I. Informed us that Matt Smith has been working on Code of Professional Ethics and that the Executive Committee voted to accept it.
- J. Noted that the Executive Committee voted to reappoint Ron Arnett for another 3 years as Executive Director.
- K. Announced that ECA's electronic ballots will be out in October and will consist of a number of positions and bylaws changes. She noted that turnout is usually very low and encouraged votes since every vote counts. She reported that we usually get approximately 200 votes out of approximately 700.

VIII. Other announcements

- A. Katherine Thweatt announced that NCA has a Director of Public Affairs, Arlyn Riskind. She encouraged everyone to go to their website to see what she is doing and to follow her on Twitter and Facebook in order to get the word out about our Discipline.

Katherine adjourned the meeting at 8:37 am.

~Minutes recorded by Meredith Marko Harrigan