



**AAAR Annual Business Meeting**  
**Friday, October 22, 2021**  
**Zoom (via registration)**

**I. Call to Order & Welcome**

Sergey Nizkorodov called the meeting to order @ 12:31 PT; 17 people (22 by end of meeting) in attendance online. Quorum was not obtained; business meeting portion concluded; meeting continued as an informational meeting.

**II. President's Remarks**

Sergey Nizkorodov presented the highlights of 2020-2021 (see slides for details):

- The Association is as strong as ever.
- New media initiatives: interactive version of the Particulars newsletter has been launched; active social media during annual conference; podcasts.
- No proposals yet for IAC 2030. Future conference dates, locations are set; largely based on cancellations due to COVID-19.
- Bylaws updated; passed but votes were not unanimous.
- Fundraising for Susanne Hering award was completed and award was issued for the first time.
- Overview of roles (including changes) to Virtual, Inc. staff.
  
- Recognized new AAAR fellows, student chapters, and organizational members.
  
- Updates on membership and demographics (including age range, gender, working group affiliation, and employment sector): membership numbers are down slightly but this is expected based on ongoing pandemic.

**III. Secretary's Report**

Kelley Barsanti led review of 2020 minutes and vote to approve. Motion for approval made by Leah Williams and seconded by Akua Asa-Awuku; minutes approved unanimously. However, as a quorum was not obtained; the approval of the 2020 minutes will need to be tabled until next business meeting or by email.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Amy Sullivan presented report on AAAR budget (see slides for details):

- Total assets up from last year, but noted cashflow was atypical due to later registration.

- Budget is in 3 parts: administration, conference, strategic projects; most items are fixed. At annual winter board meeting we approved two budgets based on an in-person budget and virtual conference. Details were presented on how we arrived at the virtual budget and where we stand. Presented income vs expenses, noted increase in royalties from T&F, pointed out differences between in-person and virtual meeting budgets. Noted that we had no losses associated with moving venue and hotel contracts. We expect lower registration with virtual meetings; registration above what was budgeted, tutorials as well.
- Funded four strategic projects over the last year: registration waiver, video and fine particle art competitions, social media ambassadors, increased advertising and marketing campaign by Virtual, Inc. (includes podcasts).
- New/additional line items: funds from T&F to be used at discretion of AS&T editor-in-chief (most recently used for video vignettes); student chapter funds to host activities; converting newsletter from PDF to web based.
- Financial outlook: positive (have ~2x above minimum funds); endowment funds: Susanne Hering fund raising was very successful; pointed out the donations portal on the web.
- New initiative from endowment committee supported by Friedlander memorial fund; journal club and lecture hosted by student chapters, recorded and archived on AAAR YouTube channel

#### **V. AS&T Update**

Jonathan Reid gave an update on AS&T (see slides for details):

- IF has increased quite a bit; acceptance rate similar to previous year, with almost a record number of submissions; average time to final decision similar to previous year, pages published increased, but total number of papers similar.
- Initiatives: growing and sustaining reach, using: AS&T e-blast, themed collections, monthly lectures; most read and most cited featured on website (website still being improved), new collection of special issues; more active on Twitter, promoted International Women's Day; sustainable mailing initiatives, change in editorial board, new e-copyright system, additions to outstanding publication award committee; determined outstanding reviewers; increase in downloads.

#### **VI. 2021 Conference Report**

Chris Hogan gave conference update; registration up slightly from last year; noted while number of platinum sponsors decreased the cost for this level was higher.

Questions about attendance in tutorials and plenaries.

#### **VII. 2020-2021 Election Results**

Andrea Ferro gave an update on the election results. She acknowledged the willingness of members to serve and the quality of the candidates. She thanked all nominees.

Ex. Com. and BOD: VP elect-Faye McNeill, Treasurer- Jim Smith; Directors- Roya Bahreini, Alex Huffman, and Andrew Ault

WG chairs: Deborah Gross, Manishkumar Shrivastava, Arthur Chan, Jana Kesavan, Joel Corbin, Jiacheng Yang, Cesunica Ivey, Martin Irwin, Albert Presto, Steven Rogak

**VIII. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members and Officers**

Sergey Nizkorodov thanked outgoing members: BOD-Arantza Eiguren, Jesse Kroll, Lea Hildebrandt Ruiz; Secretary-Kelley Barsanti, and President-Sergey Nizkorodov.

**IX. Passing of the Gavel**

Sergey Nizkorodov passed the virtual gavel to Akua Asa-Awuku. Akua Asa-Awuku thanked Sergey Nizkorodov for his leadership.

**X. Adjournment**

Andrea Ferro motioned to adjourn the informational meeting, Leah Williams seconded. Akua Asa-Awuku adjourned meeting @1:30 pm PT.