

**NAGPS Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday, September 26th, 2021**

7-9PM ET / 4-6PM PT / 6-8PM CST

Topic: BoD Meeting

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Attendance: [Note here](#)

[ProTrack](#)

Meeting called to order at 4:14PM PT; 6:14PM CT; 7:14PM ET

1. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Dir. Finance moved to approve, Dir. of Legislative Affairs seconded; approved by general consent.
2. Approval of [August Meeting Minutes](#)
 - a. Dir. Finance moved to approve, Dir. of Legislative Affairs seconded; approved by general consent.
3. Old Business
 - a. Position Recruitment & Vacancies
 - i. Dir. Outreach
 1. Resignation tendered around September 9th
 2. Various Executives partitioning duties & responsibilities
 - ii. Dir. External Affairs on a temporary leave of absence
 - iii. Dir. Potter: staying and doing what you can is better than leaving and doing nothing
 - iv. IPP Sommer: I mentioned this last meeting but now is the time to start looking for your replacements. I would definitely recommend using the upcoming events as a way to try and find folks to run.
 - v. Dir. Klein: kudos to everyone on jobs well done/efforts put forward

- vi. President Chodur: everyone is a human first and an NAGPS volunteer second; it has been an externally rough year, thanks to everyone for efforts & time put into NAGPS.
- b. Upcoming Events
 - i. Immigration Lawyer(s) Info Session, Thursday September 30th, 2021 7-9PM ET
 - 1. More than 300 registrations at the moment
 - 2. New schools we have not seen before are signed up, e.g. Dartmouth
 - 3. Present individual speakers: 1 immigration lawyer, 1 lawyer who is able to speak on the topic but is not necessarily an immigration specialist
 - 4. Zoom link is good to go
 - 5. Dir. Potter moderating
 - ii. Fall LAD, Saturday October 2nd
 - 1. Zoom links forthcoming into event program
 - 2. Dr. Potter speaking to someone at ACE to include
 - 3. Advertising, advertising, advertising
 - 4. Speakers good to go
 - 5. Document writing (on program topics)
 - 6. Ticket reachout for various schools
 - a. Dir. Miller offered to contact via email/other means to ensure they are aware of tickets
 - 7. Dir. Miller gave Dr. Potter access to Outreach email to go over any necessary information for this event.
 - iii. NatCon
 - 1. NAGPS Board is the host
 - 2. Call for Speakers to open soon
 - a. Hopeful promotion during LAD & immigration lawyer event
 - 3. Date set for November 20th & 21st
 - 4. This event serves as a good hatching ground for new national & regional executive leadership
 - 5. Dir. Klein announced creation of NatCon Committee, indicated following individuals are members:
 - a. Dir. Klein
 - b. Dr. Montenegro
 - c. President Chodur
 - d. Dir. Gurung
 - e. Dir. Wang
 - iv. October Member Forum
 - 1. End of October
 - 2. Checking in with members, asking questions, hearing answers of members/potential members

3. President Chodur: nice if we could incorporate an open house for people interested in leadership
 - a. Dir. Potter: once on calendar, we could use this as a recruitment tool/to inform on NAGPS structure

5 minute recess per Dir. Admin

****Resumed at 6:50PM****

4. Open Board Reports
 - a. President
 - i. Formal report forthcoming
 - ii. Met with NAB on Sunday Sept. 19th
 - iii. Presentation with Graduate Deans of the State of Texas with Matt Cooper upcoming; will talk about NAGPS and how schools can be supportive
 - iv. Meeting with UC Irvine & University of Maryland
 - v. Hoping to onboard UT Austin
 - b. Administration
 - i. Formal report forthcoming
 - ii. Onboarding new NE Regional Board members
 1. Website updates via Sarah, access to gmail accounts
 - iii. Eventbrite for Fall LAD done and NatCon forthcoming
 - iv. Comms and Admin meetings will resume next week
 - v. SPT in process; will send update by next week
 - c. Advocacy Chair
 - i.
 - d. Communications
 - i. Formal Board report forthcoming.
 - e. Employment Concerns
 - f. Finance
 - i. Slow growth of endowment fund (\$200 since creation)
 - ii. Legacy membership dues forthcoming from UNT; hoping to use these funds to create a vanguard
 - iii. Hoping to create a quasi-committee since multiple committee member positions (e.g. Dir. External Affairs) either absent or on leave.
 1. Concerns over quorum for primary committee
 - a. IPP Sommer brought up that quorum is determined by volume of filled seats, so this may not be an issue either way.
 2. Another concern is the need for emergency meetings--2 this year--and not wanting to put that strain on Finance & Fundraising Committee members a 3rd time.
 - a. Dir. Klein wanted to be clear--unwilling to call a 3rd emergency Fin & Fun Committee meeting this year.
 - iv. Questions/Concerns:
 1. Dir. Miller: is NatCon the only event left this year wherein we would need to vote on ticket prices?

- a. Dir. Klein: that is correct
 - b. Dir. Miller: Follow-up question, could we discuss/decide on ticket prices for NatCon tonight to get that taken care of?
 - c. Dir. Klein: we could, but would also need to have an event budget ready/incorporated
 - 2. Admin. Asst. Welfer: agree with IPP Sommer, if there is an issue in attendance to Fin & Fun, then having another committee may not solve that issue.
 - a. Follow-up statement: Another Parliamentarian option would be to have committees meet jointly with Fin & Fun.
 - b. IPP Sommer: an option, at the discretion of the President, is to invite the Fin&Fun Committee to ExComm.
 - c. President Chodur: can definitely highlight this issue in the transition to 2022 Board; some of this is due to misunderstandings of processes
 - 3. Admin. Asst. Welfer: structural form is important, if the major decision left from a money standpoint is NatCon online, there are not many expenses to contend with beyond \$50 Zoom upgrade
- g. Legislative Affairs, Dir. Potter
 - i. LAD has been primary focus
 - 1. Document prep
 - 2. Speaker recruitment
- h. Social Justice Concerns
 - i. Formal report forthcoming
- i. Midwest
 - i. Faustina mensah has step down as chair of Midwest. Brett Fredericksen will continue to serve as the interim until a replacement can be found.
 - ii. Midwest had they regional board meeting for the month.
 - 1. Compiled some regional level COVID responses from schools
 - 2. Putting together regular newsletter
- j. Northeast
 - i. Mentorship Survey
 - 1. Using this information to create a mentorship guide for students to use
 - 2. The survey/form will help obtain subjective storylike information to incorporate that speaks to graduate student experiences
 - 3. Hopeful that using this national survey will help increase & improve anonymity and student input
 - 4. Questions to the Board: is there any approval needed to send this information out to members? Also, does anyone have input on the project idea?
 - a. President Chodur: sending this out on a large scale will help with increasing anonymity and feedback from students; great idea.

- i. As for sending out, will need to vet/review content, but shouldn't require a formal vote for approval.
 - b. IPP Sommer: Suggested sending to Dir. Wang for approval/feedback before sending to the entire membership.
 - c. Dir. Miller: we could put this on the website homepage carousel; regarding content, may want to incorporate demographic information/questions & give space for problem/solution story breakdowns.
 - k. Southcentral
 - i. Need to communicate to new potential members to ensure they understand the specifics of joining at this point in the membership year.
 - ii. Received an email from Texas A&M about their membership payment
 - 1. Dir. Klein: have spoken to Texas A&M at least twice about this, they appear to understand the membership point at this part of the year
 - 2. Dir. Gurung: there was some sort of issue with A&M's membership payment via PayPal, but that issue has since been resolved.
 - iii. Reemphasized that membership late in the year will only hold through the end of December and payment is still expected in the upcoming January for the upcoming year.
 - iv. Admin. Asst. Welfer Question: have we hit the membership revenue goals for this member year?
 - 1. Dir. Klein: No
 - 2. Admin. Asst. Welfer Follow-Up Statement: the Board has the discretion to offer promo deals on a case-by-case basis--e.g. Offer 14-month membership for next year vs. a 12-month membership.
 - l. New Business
 - i. None at this time.
- 5. Adjourn
 - a. **Meeting adjourned at 5:54PM PT / 7:54PM CT / 8:54PM ET**