SIEC-ISBE Board Meeting

Monday, August 2, 2021

In attendance: Tamra Connor (USA), Evelyn Meyer (Austria), Sok Pal Cho (Joe) (Korea), Gerry Begeman (USA), Monica Tengling (Sweden), Les Preisner (Poland), Maree Liston (Australia), Lila Waldman (USA), Petra Bragadottir (Iceland), Emanuel Mizzi (Malta), Dana Gray (USA), Sabine Gillitzer (Germany), Johannes Lindner (Austria), Bettina Fuhrmann (Austria), Roietta Fulgham (USA)

The meeting was called to order by Evelyn at 11:32 a.m. CDT. She welcomed everyone. The agenda was shared and approved. Executive Committee members and chapter presidents were introduced. Minutes from the July 27, November 24, and February 18 meetings were approved.

Lila shared the auditors’ report and membership information. Written Chapter reports were submitted by Korea, Austria, Germany, and USA. Verbal reports were shared by some of the chapter presidents. The US Chapter has separated from NBEA. A virtual seminar provided by the US Chapter was attended by Emanuel and one of his students in Malta. Sabine reported that the Germany chapter typically provides face-to-face seminars, which were stopped because of Covid. She suggested that SIEC share its Zoom license. Petra reported that Iceland has temporarily stopped meetings because of Covid. Johannes reported that Austria annual conference was changed to online and that seminars were offered. The Austria chapter will host the 2022 conference in Vienna.

Emanuel reported that there is a lot of interest for SIEC-ISBE in Malta; members want to network internationally. He stated the need to market the benefits of joining our organization. Evelyn suggested that events in Malta could be promoted to the entire organization. Les reported that people in Poland are reluctant to travel. The Poland chapter has been active for 20 years, but is experiencing difficulty in encouraging new membership. Two international members from Ukraine would like to be associated with the Poland chapter. Membership development was discussed.

Joe summarized the report of the Korea chapter. He complimented the organization on this conference, the newsletter, and the Journal and thanked SIEC-ISBE for support. Political issues between North and South Korea need to be resolved before a conference can be sponsored by the Korea chapter.

Gerry reported that we have 15-20 individual members in the international chapter, with one collective membership this year. A president is needed for the international chapter.

The 2022 conference will be held on site in Vienna. The topic will be The Economy of a Future with Covid. Dates will be October 18-23. A venue is needed for the 2023 conference; if one is not found, a virtual or a hybrid option will be considered. The US Chapter will host a conference in 2024. Discussion followed on whether part of the Vienna conference could be offered virtually. Dana suggested a survey of the membership to determine their preferences and offered to do this. It was suggested that more seminars be made available to members.

Tamra gave brief information about the 2024 conference plans. This conference will be in Illinois. Lower registration fees should be possible.

Gerry reported on the activities of the PDC over the past year. Maree reported on the newsletter; upcoming deadlines are Sept. 15, Jan. 15, and May 15. Tamra reported that the number of submissions to the Journal has increased—26 so far this year. A second issue is expected to be published this year. With fewer submissions accepted for publication, acceptance rates are lower. The Journal will be migrated to the Illinois State University repository; link was shared. Legitimacy and prestige of our Journal will be enhanced because of this move. The Journal is indexed through ERIC.

Lila briefly summarized the changes that have occurred with the website over the past year. These changes cost almost $3000. Evelyn pointed out that this is cost was necessary and reasonable.

Lila shared the tentative 2021-2022 budget. This budget will be approved and next year’s dues will be determined by the Assembly of Delegates.

Gerry asked that the chapter presidents make their membership aware of the Global Exchange Program. The Marketplace session will take place tomorrow. The topic is Lessons Learned—Teaching during Covid.

Evelyn pointed out that this is the 120th anniversary of our organization. A celebration will take place at the 2022 conference.

Reminders: Chapter dues are needed by March 31, 2022, next newsletter deadline is September 15, submissions for the Journal are accepted on an ongoing basis. The German-speaking Vice President position will need appointment next year. The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m. CDT