

Caucus on LGBTQ Concerns  
Agenda of the 2020 Business Meeting  
NCA's 106th Annual Convention  
COVID-19 Virtual World  
11/10/2020

- I. Welcome and Call to Order (Amy Smith) at 2:09PM
- II. Approval of 2019 Minutes
  - a. Recounting the minutes from last year where new business about how we think about diversity and advocacy within the association. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, none of that was able to come to fruition.
  - b. With some spelling changes, minutes were approved.
- III. NCA 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Candidate Walid was introduced:
  - a. Discussed priorities if elected.
    - i. One important component was the focus on the 2014 inclusion in the discipline, where conversations were beginning on equity, inclusion, and justice.
    - ii. They spent some time discussing their research interests as a social scientist, particularly giving attention to the Interpersonal So White as a way to focus on pedagogy, journal, and new mentorship opportunities.
  - b. They also spent some time discussing their commitments
    - i. They will continue to look to the LGBTQ Caucus as an important commitment.
    - ii. An additional commitment was chairing the task force on community engagement, which was given to UNC Greensboro on Community of Resilience.
    - iii. They emphasized the importance of listening and creating spaces for other voices to be heard and talked about the importance of Distinguished Scholars of Color reinvigorating those spaces.
  - c. They will be hosting listening sessions and office hours to hear what concerns individuals have. For additional questions, or to reach out, please contact: [w-afifi@ucsb.edu](mailto:w-afifi@ucsb.edu). (Zoom link provided at the bottom of this document)
- IV. Committee Reports:
  - a. Past Chair (Andrea Davis)
    - i. Andrea was unable to attend the meeting.
  - b. Chair (Amy Smith)
    - i. Ceded time and will provide information throughout the meeting.
  - c. Vice-Chair (Dustin Goltz)
    - i. For this year's conference the caucus was given 12 slots, including the social hour and business meeting.
    - ii. There was a decrease in submissions with a total of *11 submissions*. There were 6 panels, 1 performance, 11 papers (with 10 accepted).
    - iii. A few sessions that might be of importance:

1. LGBTQ Project and Process (This is an asynchronous panel).
  2. Missing Ingredients
  3. Then and There: Queer History, Politics, and Play.
- iv. Finally, thank you to all of the reviewers. It is greatly appreciated.
- d. Vice-Chair Elect (Jessica Johnson) (Sent in report):
  - i. NCA 2021 Conference:
    1. *Theme: Renewal and Transformation*
      - a. This was specifically chosen due to the unrest in the country and rethinking what NCA as an organization can do to bring us together and create change.
    2. Modes of Conference: While hoping for face to face, all options are being discussed for 2021, due to Covid-19. This includes Asynchronous, Hybrid, and Face-to Face.
    3. If in person, the conference will be in Seattle, Washington at the Washington State Convention Center. The Hotel will be the Sheraton.
  - ii. Revised Call:
    1. Currently working to revise the call.
    2. We can accept work from 2020 that was cancelled due to the format, but an acceptance from 2020 NCA does not mean automatic acceptance into 2021 NCA.
    3. ***Question for members: Would you like to still indicate on the call if you submitted this to NCA 2020?***
    4. We may want people to indicate a co-sponsor.
  - iii. Slots for 2021
    1. We have 10 slots for 2021. The reception counts as a slot.
    2. Everyone has less slots because they projected less people in attendance.
    3. We can request more spots if needed
    4. If you have a co-sponsor for a spot then the slot comes from who it is submitted to, but the co-sponsor does not lose any slots and the panel is cross listed.
  - iv. Divisions and Caucus NCA Upgrade: Now members can include more divisions and causes for free when renewing their membership for NCA. Members can now choose five with no additional cost and add on for \$5.
  - v. Interest Group/Newcomer Session: Organizers are still deciding if they want to have an Interest Group fair like they have had in the past. This is a good way of sharing what the group is all about. However, some state that they do not see many people during these hours and there might be other ways to individually increase awareness of your caucus/division.
- e. Secretary (Christopher Vincent):
  - i. Nothing new to report. New minutes will be released in the coming weeks.

- f. Publicity Chair (Kyle Golgazier)
  - i. Please give Kyle things to include in the monthly newsletter.
- g. Legislative Assembly & Diversity Council (Deryl Johnson):
  - i. There is a new caucus: Indigenous Persons Caucus
  - ii. Intercaucus Reception will still be held on Saturday night. There will be breakout rooms with various activities such as Kahoot
  - iii. Lots of work with diversity and inclusion that can't be discussed until after the legislative assembly. One thing they are working on is coding the distinguished scholar's controversy. This was halted because of COVID-19.
  - iv. The Diversity Council is recommending a name change to IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access).
  - v. They want to do more to highlight caucus work. There are only two caucuses that do not do annual collection of our scholars.
  - vi. They are also exploring things like NCA Letters that take a stance/voice. For example, in regard to things like employment and equity passed by the Supreme Court. There was emphasis on NCA taking an advocacy stance.
  - vii. They were also exploring problems with hidden disability and mental health because of COVID.
  - viii. Emphasis on protecting diverse scholars. Some of the most diverse faculty are getting hired last and are most at risk of losing work because of university budget concerns.
  - ix. As NCA creates their diversity and strategic plan, oral history is just as important. We should reinvest our commitment to share and collect our oral history.
  - x. This is our 41<sup>st</sup> year as an NCA Caucus.

V. Old Business:

- a. Ad-Hoc Committee on Caucus Archives
  - i. We will be continuing the work with the ad hoc committee to make sure they get where they need to go.
  - ii. Alice Vexsler noted there is nothing that would prevent the work from getting done now.
  - iii. Send physical materials to Erika Thomas.
  - iv. We will need to elect some officers and will do a vote on the ad hoc committee after we do an officer vote.

VI. New Business:

- a. Do we want to formally create a sub-group that creates annual publications?
  - i. We decided that we will put that to membership vote in the survey monkey
- b. We need to update the bylaws for the secretary term to be 3 years. Currently, there is no actual term limits to being secretary.

VII. 2020 Nominations/Elections:

- a. We will be doing this via email. We will need to elect the following:

- i. Vice-Chair Elect
- ii. For Diversity Council and LA Rep, Deryl Johnson (Kutztown University) was elected to a 3-year term in 2019.

VIII. Awards:

- a. The Randy Majors Award was given to Leland Spencer
  - i. While we received several highly qualified candidates, Leland Spencer was announced as the recipient.
- b. The Lambda Award was not presented this year.
  - i. We do encourage members to nominate and to also self-nominate. We should keep it as a viable award.
- c. The Top Student Paper was given to Chandler Classen for paper entitled: Queer Planetary Memory.

IX. Additional Discussions:

- a. There was a discussion as to whether for the Lambda Award we could forego the cash award to have more plaques to honor the founding members of the caucus and bring those members in to honor them.
  - i. Amy noted that there are some rules that might limit the ability to do that, but we can move funds around as we see fit.
  - ii. Leland noted that nothing would necessarily prevent submitting a nomination packet.
- b. Leland Spencer is Editor of Women & Language. They are accepting submissions on a rolling basis. <https://www.womenandlanguage.org/submissions>
- c. Reminder on the Social Hour Saturday 11/21/2020 from 3:30-4:45PM
- d. Preconference: Please let Alice Vexsler know if you are interested in submitting preconference next year.
- e. Potential Panel Idea on LGBTQ resource centers. How can NCA work with LGBTQ centers on campus and share with Communication Studies Departments on Campus. Next year might be a really good opportunity.
- f. Amy also noted a possibility for community collaboration with schools in the local region and inviting them into that discussion. Lambda Pi Eta and the student division might be helpful for getting them.

X. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:53PM