

NASIG Newsletter

Vol. 26, no. 2

May 2011

eISSN 1542-3417

Committee Reports

2010/2011 Nominations and Elections Committee Annual Report

Submitted by: Eleanor Cook

Members

Eleanor Cook, chair (East Carolina University)
Pam Cipkowski, vice chair (Loyola University, Chicago)
Ann Ercelawn, member (Vanderbilt University)
Meg Mering, member (University of Nebraska, Lincoln)
Jacquie Samples, member (Duke University)
Joyce Tenney, member (University of Maryland,
Baltimore County)
Paula Sullenger, member (Auburn University)
Melanie Faithful, member (IOP)
Kay Johnson, member (Radford University)
Rick Anderson, board liaison (University of Utah)

Continuing Activities

The following activities are being carried over from last year:

In 2010/2011, the committee did not pursue making any changes to the NASIG bylaws to modify the vetting and election process. This had been discussed the year before, but was set aside. If next year's board and committee think it is time to revisit this issue, it could be made a priority. The current vetting process is time-consuming, but one could argue that its thoroughness results in a better slate. The alternative petition process offers members a chance to be considered for office

without having to go through formal vetting (although petition candidates must be supported by a body of the membership in order to get placed on the ballot). The two methods complement one another.

In 2009/2010, the committee received permission from the board to develop a website listing terms of past officers. This was started but never completed. This goal will be carried over for next year.

Completed Activities

The Nominations & Elections Committee managed the process of the election in a timely and smooth manner this year. A call for nominations was distributed at the 2010 Annual Conference as part of the conference packet. The nomination form was also made available at the NASIG web site. An initial email blast was sent to the membership on July 20 with a link to the online form. The call for nominations was also posted in the "What's New" section of the web site and in the *NASIG Newsletter*. Nominations were taken for vice president/president-elect and three positions for member-at-large.

In early August it came to the committee's attention that a treasurer-elect also needed to be elected this cycle. The confusion about the treasurer's term of office was attributed to some confusing language in the N&E manual, which was corrected. An announcement about this additional office needing nominations was posted on August 20.

We used the “hybrid” system developed the year before for vetting candidates in 2010. Nominees who agreed to be considered submitted a resume or C.V. during the vetting process. Candidates who actually stood for election then submitted a standardized form for the ballot. We allowed balloted candidates to include an optional link to their full C.V. (when they themselves provided such a link). The committee may want to revisit this option and encourage candidates to do this as a matter of course.

The committee utilized Google Docs and set up a Google Group to manage documentation and to hold discussions. This worked quite well and we did not encounter any problems with this method.

After going through the vetting process, we asked a subcommittee (Melanie Faithful and Paula Sullenger) to review the member-at-large evaluation form to come up with a revised set of criteria. They delivered their report to us on February 25. The committee reviewed their recommendations and decided to adopt the revised form for the coming year. The incoming chair will make sure to follow up on this matter.

The final ballot:

Vice President/President-Elect

*Bob Boissy, Springer Science+Business Media, LLC
Steve Kelley, Wake Forest University

Treasurer

*Jennifer Arnold, Central Piedmont Community College
June Garner, Mississippi State University

Member-at-Large (3 to be elected)

Michael Arthur, University of Central Florida
*Patrick Carr, East Carolina University
*Stephen Clark, College of William and Mary
Deberah England, Wright State University
Kelli Getz, University of Houston
Lisa Kurt, University of Nevada, Reno
Sarah Sutton, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Cory Tucker, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
*Allyson Zellner, EBSCO Industries, Inc.

*Elected

The call for petition candidates went out January 27, but no petition ballots were received. This year’s election was conducted without any of last year’s technical problems.

Budget

Our initial budget was set at \$250. With online voting and online document sharing in place, the only costs incurred by the committee were the two conference calls held during the year, which cost a total of \$58.56. (A third conference call held in January 2011 falls into the next budget year.) The committee has been asked to explore the use of Skype in the future.

Statistical information

A total of 38 different individuals were nominated for office, of which 2 were non-members. Of those who were determined to be members in good standing, 21 individuals declined to be vetted further.

Of these, 4 were nominations for treasurer; 7 were nominations for vice president/president-elect; and 12 were nominations for member-at-large. Among this group, 2 people were nominated for more than one office. The most nominations for one office an individual who received 6 nominations for member-at-large; several others received 2-3 nominations.

After vetting the remaining nominees, we had a ballot that was composed of: 2 nominees for vice president/president-elect, 2 nominees for treasurer, and 11 nominees for member-at-large, of which 2 of these individuals were nominated for another office, but only accepted member-at-large consideration.

Thirty-seven percent (247) of the 675 members voted. All candidates were notified of the election results by early March, and the results were announced to the membership on March 9, 2011.

Recommendations to Board

- Officially decide whether or not to have open elections (carried over from last year) – would require the committee to ask for a bylaws change.

- Establish formal contingency plans to handle technical difficulties that may arise with the online voting process.
- Develop a list of past officers and their respective terms (carried over from last year).

In closing, the chair would like to thank the vice chair and committee members for all their time and hard work. Members spent time soliciting nominations, evaluating profile packets, and calling references. Special thanks to Board Liaison Rick Anderson, and ECC Chair Beth Ashmore for their assistance along the way. It was a remarkably smooth year!

Submitted on: May 1, 2011