

SWE Section Meeting 12/3 Minutes

Attendees: Penny Parang, Laura Clymer, Katie Mills, Angela Nickels, Ashley Alletag, Shelley Stracener, Monica James

Core Updates - Angela

Next person elected as speaker will have two year term. Clean up things were done. The board of directors requested that they can pick a special director prior to the first board meeting; that passed. Changes to member grade, affiliate grade, senior grade that take effect Jan 1. For senior you need 10 years of experience instead of six. For SWE members who are already senior members, the new requirement will not apply. Changing the membership requirements to try and align with other organizations and for some awards to make it more consistent.

Fellows member level experience requirement is increased to 10 years – used to be six year continuous service, now it is significant service (you can have gaps) but for a longer time.

Associate and affiliate members have been combined – can't run for certain offices, but they can vote. The offices that associates can't run for are usually national and regional positions; have to double-check on that.

The position of deputy director of regions is now a non-voting member of the core association.

Core is going away next year; there will be a SWE senate (up to 34 members max). Two professional members, 1 college member, 0-2 special reps. The special reps might be someone with a unique skill; they are nominated by someone in the senate and then the whole senate votes to accept them. This goes into effect next year.

Sectional rep will focus on regional duties and sectional duties. The senator then works on the national issues; helps to divide the duties.

The board is going to ask the senate to meet more frequently, twice a year in person and a monthly conference call. One of the meetings will be at the national conference, and the other will be in Feb (not decided yet). It will likely occur around the time of the strategic planning meeting.

The board has agreed to a certain amount of funding to help the senators get to the meeting. There is \$500 per person travel stipend to help the elected senators to get to second meeting. An alternate can not use the stipend for travel.

Motions: The following motions passed –

- Reduced membership dues for technical societies. ACE, IEEE, etc.
- Develop a membership program for college to professional members (covers all of college and first year professional): any year you are in college, you can pay one flat fee through your graduate studies and first professional. Means that the professional sections will lose membership dues.
- Tier dues for international members – tiered dues for all international dues according to their UN classification.

K-12 educator dues: sent back to committee.

At the region meeting, the gov lt. gov had a proposal to handle conference overages:

- Small sections would lose money hosting the region conference for many years.
- The conference has been profitable since UT hosted, and has been getting more sponsorships/profits.
- Currently, 10% of the profits go towards the next conference (seed money) and none to the region.
- Now that the conference is making money, the region wants part of the profits.
- Proposed a tiered structure for the profits; then region will lend the money to the sections who need it to host the conference.
- There is another proposal to do a flat 25%.
- There was a discussion of what to do with profits, but not with losses. If there is a really bad conference it could mean the end of a small section.
- If the region does get 25% of the profits, then the region needs to cover any losses. Can also cap the amount of money that should be set aside for losses so that once the fund is built up, the additional funds can be used by the region. The money is put into a reserve fund.
- The Houston section is in favor of this proposal given that they have a good monetary base.
- Need to make sure that sections have an incentive to have a good conference. Final proposal was to have the region cover 25% of losses and the rest to be covered by the section. If the section doesn't have enough funds to cover the loss, then the section can appeal to the region council to have the region cover more of the loss. And to have 25% of the profits go to the region; 5% of that profit needs to go into the reserve account which is capped at 10,000. Regional reserve account funds can be used for seed money if needed by a hosting section.

Elections - Penny

Laura has said she is interested in Secretary, and there are four members interested in section rep. Want to send an email to interested people and ask them to send back their biographies. Want Angela to send a short blurb on what is expected since there is a lot of section work this term. Will send out ballot later this week.

Lots of events coming up with different companies/organization to come and attend diversity days - Applied Materials, Austin Children's Museum, HR Professional group

Website - Shelley

Website has been updated with new tip of the month and other links. Want to update the bylaws that is posted on the site - does anyone have a copy of it? The bylaws will change in Jan when other changes go into effect. Have to do list - post pictures, UT updates. Do a link to the Webinars? Add them to the calendar. Have officer bios - will send out a template.

Budget - Monica

Holiday dinner menu will be seafood, chicken finger foods and then lots of desserts. Mimosas, try to have one included. Prices for dinner have already been sent out, so can't up the price. Want to bring more people in, have different gift cards as prizes. Will sell left-over SWE gear on the national site.