

**Phi Sigma Iota International Foreign Language Honor Society**  
**Meeting of the Executive Committee**  
**January 23, 2009**  
**Ambassador/Courtyard by Marriott, Erie, PA 16509**

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 p.m.

The agenda for the day's meeting was approved. (4-0)

The minutes from the meeting at Courtyard Marriott, Coraopolis, PA, on September 14, 2008 were approved. (4-0)

The minutes from the teleconference on November 21, 2008, were approved. (4-0)

Reports on the budget and dues were accepted. (4-0)

Randall Donaldson reported on the results of the annual survey of chapters. In all, thirty-four chapters replied. The overwhelming majority asked that the Board give priority in future planning to communication with chapters through a newsletter and the *Forum*. An awards program also placed high on the list of priorities; the national convention received only modest support.

Susan Rosenstreich reported on the progress being made in the area of publications. Plans for an electronic version of the newsletter are complete, and a schedule for the resurrection of the *Forum* is in place.

Carla Lucente presented a concept for reinstating the national convention, but there was considerable debate among the members of the Board as to the practicality or feasibility of the venture. There was some discussion of the possible frequency of conventions. The suggestion emerged that the Board might want to consider regional meetings or even less formal events as a logical first step to a possible national convention some years down the road.

No nominations were received for a Nominating Committee. The Board will continue to serve as the Nominating Committee until a committee can be elected.

The reactivation of dormant chapters continues. The Board considered three applications for new chapter charters. Two were approved; the third was denied because there was not sufficient evidence of institutional support for nurturing an atmosphere in which the prospective chapter could effectively further the mission of the Society. The Board cited the lack of recent purchases of materials in the relevant language areas for the library as well as the overall paucity of items in a language other than English in the library collection as examples of concerns which motivated its decision.

The question of support for and propagation of international chapters was discussed briefly and deferred to a future action plan.

The Board discussed the current scholarship and awards program, examining the potential range and variety of awards. There was some discussion of refining the guidelines for awards to include specific categories, such as support for 1.) language-

related study abroad; 2.) language study in the United States; and 3.) projects which employ a non-English language in community service. There was also discussion of the possibility of honoring certain projects such as number three above or the best article in a Society publication annually with a book prize and small cash award.

Action Planning was deferred until after the official meeting because President Lucente had another engagement and could not stay for the additional time required. Among the issues to be included in future action planning is chapter education, including the need to encourage annual reports from chapter advisors.

There were no announcements.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.