



The International Foreign Language Honor Society

## Phi Sigma Iota

Member of the Association of College Honor Societies

[www.phisigmaiota.org](http://www.phisigmaiota.org)

### Minutes for Executive Committee Meeting February 4, 2021

- Balmori convened meeting (4:35)
- Approval of minutes:
  - Balmori moved to approve minutes from last meeting, with budget numbers removed
  - Allen seconded, motion passed with 6 yeas and one abstention (Rossoll because she did not attend last meeting)
- Administrative Director's Report (Macken; 4:39)
  - election results: 15 ballots received
    - Larson approved and rest of committee re-elected
    - lifetime membership passed with 10/15 votes
    - executive committee certified results
  - a few chapters will be initiating new members, but most are postponing because of the pandemic
  - budget needs to be approved, but Macken suggested waiting next meeting although fiscal year starts April 1
    - that way we can adjust projected expenses, including scholarship award funds, based on new membership income
    - Wolfe asked when the scholarship deadline is and whether postponing budget approval would impact students seeking to study abroad
    - Macken expressed doubt about whether students would be able to study abroad, after which there was a general discussion about the probability of study abroad programs running this summer
    - Macken asked whether we should postpone scholarships for the year
    - Larson and Balmori suggested that students might use funds to do a language program in the US (if they run)
    - Macken reported that a student who won a scholarship to go to China submitted an alternate proposal to use 2/3 of the funds to study at a local community college, and her proposal was approved. So the scholarship committee could consider funding proposals for national language programs as opposed to study abroad
    - Hetrick suggested that we continue to award scholarships for 2022 and Macken agreed
    - Balmori suggested that the scholarship committee could be more flexible in what kinds of proposals are awarded

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- Wolfe advised that this is all contingent on the proposed budget, and advocated that the scholarship committee consider reducing the amount awarded this year
- ACHS (5:00)
  - conference Feb 10-13: contact Macken if you would like to attend
  - would we like to sign their statement against systemic racism?
    - Balmori will start an email thread to reach a decision
- organizing a conference (5:08)
  - Balmori proposed one for 2022, since it is in our bylaws to have a conference every 2 years and that is the society's centennial
  - we could hire a company to coordinate/facilitate a virtual conference for us
  - Larson questioned whether we'd all have zoom fatigue, and whether we can afford it
  - Macken informed us that participants must pay a fee to participate, which will fund part of the conference (ideally we will break even on the cost)
  - Wolfe pointed out that we need to poll the chapters because they will be the participants
  - Larson suggested charging \$25-\$35 to student participants, who may be able to get school funds to pay it
  - Larson suggested the theme of the conference could be to celebrate the Forum, who has published in it, etc.
- Extending membership to "studies minors": exception clause (5:23)
  - Balmori shared the exception clause
  - Macken explained the ratification process: must be sent to chapters for a vote
- Revised Scholarship Criteria (5:32): still a work in progress
  - Macken is particularly asking for advice on graduate school wording
  - Balmori will share proposed wording before the next meeting
- Scheduling next meeting (5:38)
  - Thurs Apr 29, 4:30 EST (3:30 CST)
- Meeting adjourned (5:40)