The International Foreign Language Honor Society

Phi Sigma Iota

Member of the Association of College Honor Societies

Minutes of the Annual Executive Committee Meeting (Long Meeting) on September 13, 2025

Attendance

Present: Cody Hanson (president), Kristi Bond (president elect), Cynthia Klima (first vice president), Junko Agnew (second vice president), Cassio de Oliveira (secretary), and Pauline Lanzine (administrative director).
Mirna Trauger (scholarship committee), Hildegard Rossoll, and Laurel Hodges, as guests, were also in attendance starting at 11:03AM ET.

Call to Order

The meeting was held over Zoom. President Cody Hanson called it to order at 10:02AM ET.

Approval of Minutes

A motion (Bond/Agnew) to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2025 meeting passed unanimously.

Administrative Director's Report

Review and approve tax filing

Lanzine reports that working with the new tax filing service has been going well. Lanzine reports growth in the Society's assets from 2024 to 2025.

A motion (de Oliveira/Klima) to approve the Report of Organization Exempt from Income Tax (Form 990) for 2024 passed unanimously.

Profit and Loss Report, 2025

Profit and Loss (P&L) Report shows a net income of $8,424.04 for 2024–2025. Membership dues went up. Expenses went up too, including website rebuild and increased shipping expenses. Lanzine foresees an increase in shipping fees for initiation packages in order to account for the higher shipping costs.

Budget Report

Proposed 2025–2026 Budget is based on the actual 2024–2025 income and expenses. For 2024–2025, both income and expenses went up, yielding a net loss of $4,556.70. Projected profit for 2024–2025 is $810.

The executive committee discussed the compensation for the administrative director. The budgeted compensation has been approved as part of the Proposed 2025–2026 Budget.

A motion (de Oliveira/Bond) to approve the Proposed 2025–2026 Budget passed unanimously.

Small Chapter Discussion

Hanson conveys concerns among faculty advisors at small language programs regarding how to maintain student engagement with the chapter as well as chapter membership requirements stipulated in the Society Bylaws.

Scholarship Application Discussion

Trauger reports fewer scholarship applicants, but highlights the quality of this year's crop of applicants. Hanson thanked the scholarship committee for their work selecting applicants.

Hanson, on Trauger's advice, supports maintaining the scholarship budget stable for the next application cycle, and reviewing the budget afterward.

Reviewing Scholarship Awardees

The following awards were disbursed following the scholarship committee's recommendation and subsequent approval by the executive committee:

- Dr. Cleon Capsus Award – Katherine Garcia, Caldwell Univ. $2,800.00
- Dr. Santiago Vilas – Bailey Key, Northern Kentucky Univ. $2,800.00
- Dr. Anthony S. Corbiere – Milena Mata, South Alabama Univ. $2,800.00
- Dr. Henry Ward Church – Kaitlyn M. Aarons, Jacksonville Univ. $2,800.00
- Dorothy I. Mitsifer – Anna Stein, Mercer Univ. $2,800.00
- Dr. Marie-France Hilgar – Jenna Johnston, Gonzaga Univ, $2,800.00
- Phi Sigma Iota – Cheyenne Drake, Indiana State Univ. $2,500.00
- Phi Sigma Iota – Scott Lancaster, Univ. of California, Chico $2,400.00
- Phi Sigma Iota – Landon Hill, Univ. of North Alabama $2,000.00
- Phi Sigma Iota – Matthew Sprague, Salem Univ. $2,800.00

New Chapter Representative

Laurel Hodges, Faculty Advisor at the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, spoke about founding the chapter at her institution.

ACHS

The next annual conference will be in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, January 9–12, 2026. Hanson encourages committee members to attend if possible. Lanzine filed the required annual report to ACHS in August 2025.

Phi Sigma Iota Conference in 2027

Bylaws require that Phi Sigma Iota hold a conference or gathering of chapters on a triennial basis. The next conference should take place in 2027. Hanson encouraged the committee to start planning the event starting in 2026, including logistical details, such as whether to hold the event online or in person, programming, etc.

New Chapter Discussion

Lanzine asks whether the Society should be doing anything to help new chapters get set up, including any new chapter gifts. Hodges suggests using social media support to advertise the foundation of new chapters, including the circulation of institutional press releases. Hodges also suggests additional guidance from the Society in the process of creating a new chapter, such as a step-by-step guide.

The Forum

Hanson reports that there are a couple of student items ready to go in a new issue of *The Forum*. Hanson will write a president's welcome or address to go in the newsletter. The new issue will come out as an online newsletter. Hanson suggests an announcement of new chapters, as well as news items about regular chapter inductions and news from scholarship recipients. Klima suggests a "where are they now" section about former scholarship recipients. Lanzine suggests completing a draft in time for the November committee meeting.

Executive Committee Long Meeting Format

Hanson suggested that the committee consider holding the long meeting in person on an occasional basis, following suggestion from Trauger. Lanzine noted that September may be a hard time for faculty to travel for the meeting, but Hanson and Klima think this may not pose a challenge.

Organizational Needs of the Phi Sigma Iota Executive Committee

Lanzine reports that a ballot for election of the first vice president and secretary for 2026 will go out soon. Next year the Society will need to elect a president-elect and a second vice-president.

Hanson volunteered to take the third seat in the scholarship committee. The motion (Klima/Bond) to approve Hanson's nomination and election was approved unanimously, with Hanson abstaining.

Lanzine noted that paragraph 9 of Appendix D of the Board Policy Handbook needs to be updated in order to reflect the current accounting professional. The motion (Hanson/Klima) to amend the item was approved unanimously.

Other Business

The next meeting of the Executive Committee has been provisionally scheduled for Friday, November 7, 3:00–4:00PM ET.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:38PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassio de Oliveira