

Annual Business Meeting (ABM) Minutes

November 1, 2020 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Zoom

Present: Lindsay Heron, Bryan Hale, Daniel Jones, David Shaffer, James Rush, Allison Bill, Lisa MacIntyre-Park, Lucinda Estrada, Michael Free, Mike Peacock, Reece Randall, Rhea Metituk, Stafford Lumsden, Wayne Finley, Phillip Schrank, Rob Dickey, Kimberly Roberts.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. There were 16 members in attendance.

Announcements

Clarification of voting members:

All Korea TESOL members, current as of November 1, 2020, are permitted to vote on ABM matters. By the time of voting, 17 members were present.

2. Agenda Adoption

Hearing no objections, the agenda is adopted by consensus.

3. Adoption of Minutes of the Previous two ABM's

That the Minutes of the 2018 ABM be adopted with edits allowed for spelling, grammar, etc.

Adopted with no objections.

That the minutes of the 2019 minutes be adopted with edits allowed for spelling, grammar, etc.

Revision: Allison Bill asked for her name to be added to the list of attendees. Hearing no other changes, the 2019 ABM minutes are approved as modified, adding Allison Bill as an attendee to that meeting.

Passed by consensus

4. Reports of Officers & Committees

A. Financial Report - Phillip Schrank

KOTESOL is doing ok financially. We're down in comparison to the end of 2017.

Expenditures this year have not contributed to that loss.

Expenditures this year were mainly for CDS and Publications.

The bulk of the foreign currency has been transferred into our main account.

With the help of an accountant, the taxes are up to date.

The record keeping, with Quickbooks, from the past couple of years had not been kept up to date. Shrank and Deborah Tarbet, Treasurer-Assistant, are working toward updating financial matters.

The treasurer is working with chapter treasurers to bring CDS up to date.

The last audit of finances was in the 2nd Quarter of 2018, the 3rd Quarter audit preparations are underway. The Treasurer is in communication with the Financial Committee Chair to work on details for the audits that need to be completed.

Rob Dickey asked for clarification on the 2018 audit and why it didn't cover the full year. Phil Schrank explained how the completed audits had been conducted.

B. Nominations & Elections Committee (Election Results) - Mike Peacock

290 ballot invitations sent; 115 ballots received

President	Bryan Hale	112 votes
1st Vice President	Rhea Metituk	103 votes
2nd Vice President	Lucinda Estrada	106 votes
Secretary	Lisa MacIntyre-Park	111 votes
Treasurer	Phillip G. Schrank	115 votes
International Conference Co Chair	Lindsay Herron	112 votes
Nominations & Elections committee Chair	David E. Shaffer	110 votes

C. President's Report - Lindsay Herron

Kotesol accomplishments since the previous ABM:

Team Building and Connections Day (TBCD)

Changes due to Covid-19:

- Face to Face events suspended indefinitely
- Virtual Meetings: conferences, workshops, National Council and Chapter
- Leaders meetings, this ABM
- KOTESOL 2020 IC postponed to spring, 2021

Publications

- Korea Tesol Journal
- The English Connection
- Kotesol Proceedings 2019

International Outreach

- Most conferences postponed or moved online after February
- KOTESOL members represented us at overseas conferences in person and online: ETA-ROC 2019, JALT 2019, ThaiTESOL/CamTESOL 2020, upcoming JALT2020 conference
- Overseas partnerships maintained
- New partnerships made: BELTA (Bangladesh), MELTA
- Ended partnership with IAFOR and ACTA since they've changed

Rob Dickey asked for the website to be updated with the new partnerships and Lindsay says it has been.

-Domestic Representatives: KATE Conference, KAMALL (upcoming)

Publicity initiatives

-YouTube channel, Linked In, Facebook, Twitter

Virtual Chapter workshops: about 15 coordinated (Zoom, Padlet) events so far

New this Year:

-First online Nat-Con was held this spring

490 participants registered on a conference website distinct from the Kotesol website, 1200 site visitors over the following week

-Slack app was coordinated with the conference: 186 participants worldwide

-Video recordings of some presentations to be released at the end of this year

-AsiaTEFL Conference partnership

Benefits: KOTESOL members register at AsiaTEFL member rate,

KOTESOL presenters given preferential weekend scheduling

-Rob Dickey asks how many Kotesol members went through the pre-registration process. Reply: we're not privy to registration details.

-A concern was raised regarding how many onsite participants AsiaTEFL will allow - considering Social Distancing restrictions. Reply: Only those based in Korea have the option to attend in person. There are an assigned number of seats available per room.

-Partnership with Bridge TEFL

-Benefits: 30% discount on their website, Co-branded credentials, Blended options with KOTESOL trainers

-The link for this is on the membership page behind a paywall - members only. The Asia TEFL link is also behind the membership paywall.

-SNS Management Team under the 1VP.

Administers and moderates KOTESOL social networking accounts

1VP Bryan responds to how the SNS management team is doing.

-Korea TESOL Ethical Standards for Research & Publications was developed and uploaded to KOTESOL website

-National Council Statement Against Racial Injustice was put out earlier this year and adopted as an official KOTESOL position in September

-Kotesol Voices online publication

-SCOPUS indexing application in progress for Korea Tesol Journal

-Online Kotesol Membership Lounge via Discord server

-AMA Mondays via Zoom, then published on our YouTube Channel.

Mike Peacock noted the IC will also use Discord.

-New Membership ads were developed to show benefits of KOTESOL membership

5. Unfinished Business

(none identified)

6. New Business

First proposed amendment to the Bylaws:

This proposal adds a phrase to Article IV, Section 3 of the Bylaws of KOTESOL. The proposed added text is presented in blue below.

Article IV. The Council.

Section 3. Any members seeking nomination for an elected position on the Council must have been a member in good standing for at least the 12 full months immediately prior to the time of seeking nomination; except that all candidates for election to President must have been a KOTESOL member for the previous two years, **must have served on the Council for at least 12 full months prior to the time of seeking nomination**, and must be a current member of TESOL at the time of nomination and throughout the term as president.

Discussion:

Rob Dickey appreciates the sentiment and generally agrees, but disagrees with the term. He feels it's too long because of the start date of the average term. He worries it sends a message of exclusivity about our organization. He thinks 9 months would be sufficient. Phillip Schrank suggests the issue Rob brought up is simply a matter of wording. The reason the amendment is being brought forth is for continuity for the organization. He offers that the wording could suggest 'to the time of assuming office' rather than 'the time of nomination.' David Shaffer points out that Section 3 says that a requirement of seeking nomination is to be in good standing for at least 12 months. Therefore, he asks why reception to the proposed amendment is being seen as a problem since it would simply follow current KOTESOL practice for any council member. Rob Dickey reasons that many members actually take positions within chapters without anyone noticing when they took out their membership, but the position of president is different. Stafford Lumsden adds that Seoul Chapter's election processes follow such regulations. Bryan Hale points out that '12 full months' doesn't necessarily mean immediately prior. Dave Shaffer clarifies that 'immediately prior' is not the intended wording for this amendment. Allison Bill agrees that it would make more sense if didn't say 'immediately prior.'

Lindsay Herron reviews Robert's Rules to show how they state that amendments to amendments could take place during a meeting.

Rob Dickey feels we don't have the right to rewrite a written proposal to an amendment during a meeting.

Amendment Submitted by:

David E. Shaffer

Endorsed by:

Dr. Yeum Kyungsook, Phillip Schrank, Bryan Hale, Dr. Mikyoung Lee, Rhea Metituk

Yes: 14

No: 1

Abstain:2

The amendment passes.

Second proposed amendment to the Bylaws:

This proposal will **MOVE** current sections 7 and 8 in KOTESOL Bylaws Article IV. The Council to subsections c and d in a renamed Section 7, and

ADD new subsections a and b in the renumbered and renamed Section 7.

The proposed amended text is presented in blue, below.

Section 7. **Council Actions.**

Subsection a. Meetings. The Council shall convene three or more times per year to conduct business. Such a meeting shall be scheduled not less than two weeks in advance except in circumstances as described in other subsections below. A Meeting Announcement shall be presented to the general membership not less than 10 days in advance, and shall include date, time, location, and a provisional agenda. **Subsection b. Official Statements.** No KOTESOL Council member, or group of Council members, shall undertake to speak on behalf of KOTESOL membership or the KOTESOL Council without a decision properly approved by the Council – individuals may identify themselves by their office and speak with the authority therefrom only.

Subsection c. [Section 7] Urgent Matters. Electronic Motions may be entertained, discussed, and voted upon by the National Council. Electronic motions require (a) an email submitted to the President and Secretary stating the definitive motion and the need for urgency; (b) the name, email address, and telephone number of the maker of the motion and a second; and (c) acceptance by two of three among the President, First VicePresident, and Second Vice-President of the urgency of the motion. At least one week prior to the announced voting date, the motion under discussion must be posted online for review by KOTESOL members. The posting must include the voting date and discussion/vote media. Motions proposed electronically must receive approval from a majority of National Council members eligible to vote in order to pass. All votes shall be entered into the minutes of the subsequent National Council meeting as the first item(s) under “Old Business.”

Subsection d. [Section 8] Online Meetings. The National Council may, at the request of the President, convene a meeting via videoconferencing.

Videoconference meetings must be announced to the general membership in advance with instructions provided for how a member may participate in the videoconference

At 3:18pm, before the discussion of this proposed amendment takes place, Lindsay Herron asks 1VP Bryan Hale to take over as administrator. She recognizes that the meeting host needs to be impartial, but she'd like to contribute to this discussion. Bryan Hale takes the reins with no objections.

Discussion:

Rob Dickey introduced the amendment.

Stafford Lumsden voiced his concerns that Section 7 may not be the right place to put such an amendment. Rob Dickey addressed the matter.

Lindsay Herron gave her views on the amendment, suggesting that such guidelines, if approved, would be better suited to the Policies and Procedures manual, not the National Bylaws. She gave reasons for why such an amendment would cause stress for leaders, unnecessary work, and waste National Council time. She suggests the next National Council consider whether they'd like to add such ideas to the Policies and Procedures manual. Dave Shaffer showed support for Lindsay's reasoning and agreed that it would restrict KOTESOL from carrying out business. Phil Schrank states this amendment would be difficult for our members who represent us at international conferences.

Rob Dickey responds to concerns, saying he'd like to at least see the sentiment behind this proposal working its way into KOTESOL practices. He backs up the reasoning behind his proposed amendment by citing other organizations which seem to follow such practices. Stafford Lumsden comments with his concerns, suggesting chapter leaders need the ability to speak openly when the community is asking their opinions on matters.

Amendment Submitted by:

Robert J. Dickey

Endorsed by:

Tory Thorkelson, David D.I. Kim, Michael Free, Grace Wang, James Kimball

Yes: 1

No: 13

Abstain: 3

The amendment fails.

Lindsay requests that the incoming president Bryan Hale consider adding this, or a variation on it, to the Policies and Procedures Manual for approval by the incoming National Council.

3:40pm - 5 min recess ~ back by 3:45

7. Awards

Many people have contributed to KOTESOL. Lindsay would like to present an award to the following people in recognition of their service:

Daniel Bailey, Lisa Bellamy, Allison Bill, Greg Brooks English, Crystal Cho Jones, Tyler Clark, Rob Dickey, Lucinda Estrada, Wayne Finley, Travis Frank, Michael Free, Stuart Grey, Bryan Hale, Virginia Hanslien, James Kimball, Danny Jones, Mikki Lee, Maria Lisak, Kara MacDonald, Lisa MacIntyre-Park, Sunil Mahtani, Rhea Metituk, Heidi Nam, Mike Peacock, John Phillips, Reece Randall, Victor Reecer, Kimberly Roberts, James Rush, Phillip Schrank, David Shaffer, Deb Tarbot, Tory Thorkelson, Kara Wagner, Andrew White, and Jocelyn Wright.

As President, Lindsay thanks all for the hard work that's been done this year - despite all the ways we've been stymied these days.

Special recognition is offered to Lucinda Estrada by way of the “Stepping Up” award: an award given to someone who is newly very active at the National Level in KOTESOL.

Award for Meritorious Service:

Robert Dickey, Kara MacDonald, Phillip Schrank, Deborah Tarbet, Andrew White

Awards for Outstanding Service:

Wayne Finley, Bryan Hale, Sunil Mahtani, Rhea Metituk

President’s Award, for service beyond the outstanding level:

David Shaffer, John Phillips

In gratitude for all his hard work and recognition of all he has done and continues to do for the organization, John Phillips is given a special award: lifetime membership. Lindsay thanks all for their dedication, service, and interest in KOTESOL. She has enjoyed being president and serving with the KOTESOL ‘family’ on National Council.

8. Announcements

There will be a short National Council meeting following the ABM to:

work out TBCD date by the new incoming officers

decide on a Budget meeting before the end of the year

The International Conference Committee call for proposals will be coming up soon.

Bryan says thanks to Lindsay for all she’s done over this year as president.

Adjournment:

Hearing no objections, motion to adjourn the meeting passes by consensus.

Meeting adjourned: 3:54 pm