

# **2016 ASCE Southeast Student Conference**

## **Business Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2016

### **I. Call to Order and Introduction**

Preston Jutte called to order the business meeting of the 2016 ASCE Southeast Student Conference at 6:45 PM on March 11, 2016 at The University of Alabama, Ferguson Center, Room 3104.

Meeting Chair – Preston Jutte

Meeting Secretary – Brittany Shake

Parliamentarian – James New

### **II. Roll Call**

Preston Jutte conducted a roll call. The following schools were present:

Auburn University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, FAMU-FSU, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Gulf Coast, Florida Institute of Technology, Florida International University, Georgia Southern University, Kennesaw State University, Lipscomb University, Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico, Tennessee State University, Tennessee Tech University, University of Alabama, University of Alabama – Huntsville, University of Central Florida, University of Florida, University of Miami, University of North Florida, University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez, University of South Alabama, University of South Florida, University of Tennessee – Chattanooga, University of Tennessee – Knoxville, Vanderbilt University

### **III. Establishment of Rules of Order**

Preston Jutte established a modified Robert's Rule of Order format for the meeting.

### **IV. Establishment of Quorum**

Quorum was established by Brittany Shake.

### **V. Approval of 2015 Conference Minutes**

The 2015 conference minutes were unavailable. There were no questions or comments regarding the minutes.

### **VI. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda and general rules of order were unanimously approved.

## **VII. Guest Speaker**

Tony Palmer, ASCE Committee of Student Members, Region 5, gave a short presentation about the big picture of ASCE and involvement in the organization after college.

## **VIII. Old Business**

### a) 2017 ASCE Southeast Student Conference Host Acceptance

- Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida is next in line to host the 2017 ASCE Southeast Student Conference.
  - William Jacobs, FAU: FAU accepts to host the 2017 conference. The date of the conference will be March 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The website is currently running and the conference theme will be “Civil Goes Green”.
  - Point of order, Andy Hall, UAH:
    - The conference has been historically held too early and therefore hindering the conference’s ability to produce the best product from this region.
    - Proposes to set a tentative earliest date in the by-laws that the conference can no longer be held before a certain date.
  - Motion to open discussion, Andy Hall, UAH:
    - Why did The University of Alabama choose the dates for this year’s conference?
      - Preston Jutte, UA: Weather considerations (outdoor conference, severe weather in Alabama late March – May)
      - Early spring break
    - Point of information, Matthew Webb, UTC:
      - The 2015 conference was held March 15<sup>th</sup> to match UTC’s spring break. The host school has a lot on their plate, and it is easier to plan if school is not in session.

- Point of information, Allison Dykes, UF:
  - Agree that time should be extended, but not sure that the by-laws need to be amended. It is unfair to the host school to have to commit to host after a certain date while also having to accommodate the host university policies.
- Rebuttal, Andy Hall, UAH:
  - Setting an earliest date that the conference can be held gives the host school more time to plan for difficulties such as parking.
- Point of information, Garit Poire, FSU:
  - Conference attendance for chapter goes decreases when conference is held during spring break. The goal is to send as many students to conference as possible. This year, only two schools in the conference had spring break during the last week of conference.
- Point of information, James New, UA:
  - UA is a large campus, and the facilities and parking would not have been available 2 or 3 weeks later to accommodate an additional 1000 people.
- Point of information, Preston Jutte, UA:
  - In the future, if chapters would like to change the Constitution to reflect this requirement, the proposed change(s) need to be submitted in writing before next year to be voted on during next year's business meeting. The Constitution cannot be changed at tonight's meeting.
- Point of information, Matthew Webb, UTC:
  - If the conference date is moved back, there is a shorter time to prepare between the regional and national competitions.
- Point of information, Faculty Advisor, Georgia Southern

- Only able to host during spring break
- Rules should be delivered at the same time each year. Currently, the Constitution states that rules must be delivered at least four months in advance of the conference.

b) Revisions and Ratifications of Constitution and By-Laws

- Preston Jutte, UA:
  - Last large revision to Constitution was in 2012. It would be beneficial to form a small group (representatives from 3-5 schools) to discuss revisions to the Constitution.
  - Motion to form a committee responsible for revising the Constitution outside of the annual business meetings at conference.
- Point of concern:
  - Rules for national conferences are not released early enough in advance of the conference. Can a request to have them released earlier be submitted to ASCE National?
  - Request for hand vote, Preston Jutte, UA:
    - A request to release rules earlier will need to be submitted in writing to Nationals on behalf of the SE Student Conference.
    - 13 schools voted yes, and 12 schools voted no. A total of 25 schools voted.
    - UAH will lead the effort to draft a letter to be approved by all of the Southeast Region conference universities. Any form of correspondence to ASCE National shall include both the majority and dissenting opinions.

**IX. New Business**

- a) Determine 2018 ASCE Southeast Student Conference Host
- Count the schools in line to host per the Constitution:
    - Florida Atlantic University (2017)

- Skipped over Puerto Rico last business meeting, due to not being able to co-host with FAU
  - Savannah State is next on the list, but they are not present at this meeting and will be skipped.
  - Georgia Southern tentatively accepts to host (2018)
- b) Discussion about 2019 ASCE Southeast Student Conference Host
- Continue through the list of the schools in line to host:
    - Embry Riddle needs more time to discuss the possibility.
    - University of North Florida declines.
    - Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico tentatively accepts
  - Motion for voice affirmation to tentatively accept PUPR's acceptance with the caveat of serious discussion and consideration to take place.
- c) Additional Business and Concerns
- Point of concern, Raphael Kampmann, FSU
    - The steel bridge judges were unprofessional. Some teams were treated with more respect than others. How does the process work to select judges?
    - Point of information, Preston Jutte, UA:
      - The host school can find different national judges.
  - Question, Katie Gipson, UTK:
    - How can guest universities compete as their own chapter?
    - Point of information, Tony Palmer, ASCE Committee on Student Members:
      - There is a procedure for schools to apply to be a conference school. Guest universities should discuss this with Tony if they have questions.

## **X. Announcements and Adjournment**

Preston Jutte adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Brittany Shake, The University of Alabama

Minutes to be approved at the business meeting during the 2017 ASCE Southeastern Student Conference.