

Minutes for the Business Meeting 2006 AAG Meeting in Chicago Ethnic Geography Specialty Group

Chair: Thomas D. Boswell (University of Miami (Tboswell@Miami.edu))

Vice Chair: Wei Li (Arizona State University)

Secretary/Treasurer: Emily Skop (University of Texas at Austin)

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Terry Ann Jones, student representative (Fairfield University)

Webmaster: Ezra Zeitler (EzraZeitler@rocketmail.com) (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)

Business Meeting occurred on Friday, March 10th, at 7:30pm. There were approximately 20 members in attendance, including the chair, vice chair, and secretary/treasurer. The meeting lasted about one hour.

Wei Li became chair of the specialty group at end of the night.

1. EGSG had 18 sponsored sessions for the 2006 AAG meetings. This compares with 15 in 2005 and 12 in 2004.

Sessions were organized along a variety of topics, and included Joe Darden's award as a distinguished scholar. Excellent attendance, need larger rooms next year. Also, if members have a paper with no home, feel free to send to the chair and then some sessions will be put together. We did this for this year and it seems to work pretty well – and increases number of sessions we co-sponsor.

2. EGSG's website is: <http://www.unl.edu/ag/geography/ethnic/>.

Thanks to Ezra Zeitler (University of Nebraska at Lincoln) for serving as our webmaster. The website continues to serve a useful function, and provides a venue for posting new and exciting news.

3. EGSG's Distinguished Scholar Award Winner 2006

Congratulations to Joe Darden (Michigan State University) for receiving the Ethnic Geography Distinguished Scholar award for 2006. His major contributions to the field of geography were made in segregation studies, ethnicity and race, and social geography. He also has worked tirelessly to help create greater ethnic and racial diversity within the AAG and EGSG. He is the current Chair of

the AAG's Ethnic and Racial Diversity Task Force.

4. EGSG membership

The specialty group has 218 members (167 are regular members and 51 are student members). This is up from 181 members last year (130 regular and 51 students). In four years, the specialty group has increased from 93 to 218 members.

5. EGSG Treasurer's report

The balance in EGSG's bank account was \$1,189.28 on January 31, 2006. Our balance last year was \$1,990.38. Because we decided as a specialty group to give out three awards for student papers and two awards for best dissertation proposal, plus \$500 towards the upcoming Race, Ethnicity, and Place conference in San Marcos, Texas, our balance is currently lower than this, but will soon be replenished with dues collected during the year.

6. EGSG Listserve

Members not been receiving e-mail messages from Tom Boswell or who are not on the Listserv for EGSG, or who have changed e-mail addresses recently should please contact the AAG at www.AAG.org. The AAG is now maintaining EGSG's e-mail list. Members should be sure to let them know that they want e-mail addresses added to the listserv and mailing lists for EGSG.

7. EGSG New Members

New members of EGSG who attended the business meeting were introduced, including Michael Poulsen and Jim Forrest.

8. EGSG Minutes

Emily Skop submitted minutes from the 2005 Philadelphia business meeting of EGSG and they were approved by members and will be added to the EGSG website.

9. EGSG Newsletter

Revised newsletter will be sent out via email. One newsletter this year – Professor Boswell hopes that when he steps down as chair at University of Miami, he will be able to do more.

10. EGSG Dissertation Proposal Award

Carlos Teixeira [on behalf of Heather Smith, Chair of dissertation proposal judging committee] reported on the Best Dissertation Proposal award. 4 excellent proposals were received by the committee. 2 winners were announced:

2nd Place: Sin Yih Teo, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia
(\$100 check received at business meeting, also taken to AAG luncheon by Tom Boswell)

1st Place: Widyarini Sumartojo [**Rini Sumartojo**], Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University (\$250 check received by mail)

11. EGSG Student Paper Competition

Stavros Constantinou reported that no awards were given this year – unfortunately no submissions, so members were encouraged to get students to submit so that we can give out awards!

12. EGSG Distinguished Scholar Award Nomination 2007

Carlos Teixeira reported that this is a very difficult process. Not only have the number of members increased, but we are receiving more and more nominations, and many deserving nominees, across the states and across borders. Thus it is more and more difficult to make decisions about the next distinguished scholar. One concern brought up by members is how we are going to define distinguished scholars – do they need to have service, need to be at the meetings, participation, or wide-open. This will be discussed at next year's meeting.

Outstanding, great scholars included in the list and it took the committee one hour thirty minutes to arrive to consensus. Finally decided on Kay J. Anderson, teaching in Australia, PhD 1987 3 books, lots of articles, cv available online. She is excited about the award and will be honored to present a paper at the 2007 San Francisco meetings.

13. EGSG paper sessions, field trips, and a dinner for the 2007 AAG meetings in San Francisco.

Multiculturalism in San Francisco/California. Mexico Immigration. Undocumented Mexican Immigration. Wei Li suggested to Kavita Pandit who agreed to organize a plenary panel on immigration in the Pacific Rim and invite prominent academics to serve as panelists. Berkeley ethnic studies, Chicano studies, and demography, Sonoma State, pull in lots of people. San Francisco State – Nancy Wilkinson.

Ira Sheskin (U Miami) suggests contacting local departments to help coordinate sessions on that city related to the ethnic geography of the city.

Reach outside academia to do an expert panel on immigration policy.

From San Diego to San Francisco: 15 years of Ethnic Geography Specialty Group
Also ask Brian Godfrey for a possible fieldtrip. Emily and Wei for Silicon Valley. Jennifer Helzer for Turlock

14. EGSG Leadership 2006-2007

Wei Li (ASU) is new chair

Emily Skop (UT-Austin) is new vice chair

Jim Smith (UM-Baltimore) is new secretary/treasurer

Ezra Zeitler (University of Nebraska at Lincoln) is new student rep.

15. Other Business?

John Frazier discussed the 2006 REP Conference! Topics included getting student attendance and generating national attention. Many invited speakers in the room, along with others. Speaking about diversity issues. Very little advertising already have 50 student attendees! And they come free – no registration fee, and free meals. Also an affordable conference.

Lawrence Estaville has raised a great deal of money and done a phenomenal job. Lawrence praised John Frazier and others at Binghamton. Excellent conferences past two times, much support from Doug Richardson, Howard University, and AAG. Binghamton donated \$25,000. Stand alone conference. \$50 until June 30th. Also inter-disciplinary, artwork, education, health researchers.
www.rep-conference.binghamton.edu

Satisfying two year term is over by Tom Boswell. Quantitative and qualitative indicators all suggest that this was an excellent term. Nominate for service award Tom Boswell and Ira Sheskin.

Nancy from the census – get American community survey 2005 polling info from household. Ancestry data on the short form in 2010. Analysis of group quarters data – universities not helping.