

TATS Executive Board (EB) Meeting

4-15-09

Present: Joe Erdeljac (JE), Therese Sparn(TS), Scott Byrd(SB), Kevin Wolf(KW)
Call to order

JE offered overview of the recent task force that reviewed the bylaws and constitution, moderated by SB. Discussion was carried out via email with a deadline of 3-15-09 for task force members to have suggestions to SB, who was to compile and summarize and bring to the executive board. The EB would then take action/no action or action on some items. These items would be brought to the next business meeting for a vote. The main concerns of this task force were the perceived restrictions to running for TATS executive office. Task force members included:

Kelly Lumpkin
Bob Nevil
Doug May
Robb Duncanson
Chris Snoddy
Peggy Bratt
Jennifer Wilson
Mike Van Bruggen
Marisa Colston

JE noted that the constitution and bylaws were revised and updated approximately 5 years ago due to members wanting to place restrictions on eligibility for office and to clean up some language to make them more in line with our practice act. This action passed by a 2/3 majority in a mail-out with Kelly Lumpkin, secretary. JE noted that members of the task force asked him, "how they are to know what is in the bylaws?"

The following suggestions were brought forth by the task force. After the suggestion are comments by EB members:

- **Regional representation (East, Middle, West) on the executive board, thus adding three new board members.**

JE: Rewriting the constitution will be necessary in order to do this. This would increase TATS overhead. What function would this serve?

TS: This has been addressed with committee representation.

SB: I recommend committee chairs serve in this advisory role. Regional representation was brought up when I was SSATC chair and was addressed.

KW: I do not see a function for regional representation on the EB. If it is simply to increase involvement, there are other ways to promote involvement.

- **Addition of committees only if there is a need.**

JE: Two members wanted to start a CUATC and were asked to submit an agenda. We are still waiting for this.

TS, SB, KW: We agree that a group that involves students could be a possibility.

SB: VP is currently chair of awards and corporate giving. It was suggested that these be opened up to members.

JE: I recommend having VP oversee corporate giving, due to the impact on the TATS money. Awards was placed under the VP due to the lack of performance of the chair. Corporate giving is appropriate for VP because this person is also responsible for annual meeting negotiations.

KW, TS, SB: We are open to member chair over corporate giving.

All: Open to member chair over awards.

- **Selection of committee chairs should be an executive board decision and not just the president's.**

JE: Committee chairs are appointed by the president and approved by the EB, as stated in the by-laws

All: Agreed, and this is the current practice.

- **Creation of a new executive position in charge of the web site and info flow to members.**

JE: We pay a website manager to guarantee that our website is working. This should not be in the hands of members that may not have the ability or the time to manage this. At one time an individual was managing this and because of this we had to change our website name.

JE: Moving the web site from a member to a web design company actually improved our site.

KW: I am in favor of improvement of the web site but do not see the need for a TATS executive position specifically for this purpose.

All: Any member should recommend web site improvements to the secretary.

- **Allow on-line voting by computer, not just mailings.**

JE: This has been discouraged by Jay West, our former lobbyist, due to security. Although, SEATA now does it and has a larger budget. I guess it is possible that internet security on elections has changed. Is there a legal issue with this?

- **Putting term limits on the secretary and treasurer positions, but longer terms for treasure due to the nature of the position.**

All: What is the reason for this and what are the recommended limits?

- **Should chairs of committees have term limits?**

KW: Chairs are appointed to defined terms. They are then eligible to be re-appointed. I see no need to put a term limit on good service.

JE, TS, SB: Agreed.

- **Removing the four year committee chair requirement to be eligible to run for office.**

JE: The four year chair requirement was mirrored with SEATA policy. The challenges we now face are not the same as in past years.

SB: Non chairs are eligible to run for secretary and treasurer.

TS: It makes sense to learn the program before working to the top of the ladder to president.

KW: If someone wants to serve, they should not begin their service at the executive board level. It should begin at the committee level. One should lead something within TATS before he/she leads the entire organization. I am open to changing the number of years of service required to be eligible for election but not removing the requirement.

- **Consideration of service in other states not just holding a committee chair position to be eligible to run for office.**

JE: Being involved in another state does not mean you understand the organization or state issues of where you have moved into.

SB, TS, KW: Agreed

- **Consideration of committee service for requirement to run for office.**

JE: Committee members are eligible to run for office just not President or Vice President. In by-laws
All: Comments in question above regarding four year committee service.

General comments:

SB: In the 2009 business meeting, it was noted by Chris Snoddy that a very limited group of people are eligible for executive office. In fact, 20-30 people are eligible for executive office.

SB: Marisa Colston went thru the By-Laws individually and made suggested corrections. Some of the corrections are grammatical errors, some are areas of confusion, and some are clear mistakes.

2009 SEATA Meeting Notes:

JE: The president of MS was approached by a member concerning too many restrictions being present to run for SEATA executive office. Discussion followed. This discussion included that SEATA board had placed restrictions on eligibility due to lack, thereof. The SEATA membership later voted to approve the current restrictions. Therefore, the SEATA board decided to take no action on the request. JE passed on to the SEATA board that TATS approved the state dues increase in its business meeting, noting this must be unanimous among SEATA state organizations and not all state votes are in. A proposal was made to raise SEATA dues during this meeting. This vote will be brought to the TATS membership during the TATS annual meeting in 2010.

TS presented the contract proposal between TATS and Ashley Webster, public relations professional. All approved that the contract be executed.

JE noted that Sen. Roy Herron (D) is running for Governor of TN. Sen. Herron has been a supporter of athletic training and was a sponsor of the bill establishing the board of athletic trainers.

JE then brought forth a proposal he received that a STAR Physical Therapy / TATS REF scholarship be established. Initial funding would be provided by TATS member Regg Swanson and the support of TATS members would then be solicited. Mr. Swanson has stated that he would be agreeable to restricting this scholarship to a Tennessee recipient. All EB members agree that the EB should not commit the TATS name to this project on behalf of the membership at this time. All agreed that Mr. Swanson should be allowed to present this project to the members during the next annual meeting.

KW noted that a member has requested that we post a non-TATS business announcement on the TATS web site. He solicited comments. All EB members agreed that the TATS web site should be restricted to TATS business at this time.

KW noted that a member has proposed that TATS establish a Facebook group that could be used as an aid in communication among TATS members. JE stated that he feels like this might not be appropriate for a professional society. TS and SB stated that they like the idea. SB motioned that TS investigate the possibility of a TATS Facebook group. TS second. Motion carried, 3-0. TS to investigate this issue and will involve TATS PR and the secretary.

Meeting adjourned.

Post-EB Meeting Comments:

Summary of comments following the meeting: The EB will submit a motion during the 2010 Annual Business Meeting for discussion and possible vote. This motion will include consideration of the task force comments and suggestions. Any motion that requires changing of the constitution and bylaws will be submitted in such manner that meets these requirements.