

American Economic Association
Committee on Economic Education

Minutes of meeting on Saturday, January 4, 2015
Sheraton, Boston

Members present: Sam Allgood (chair), William Bosshardt, Steven Cobb, Tisha Emerson, Gail Hoyt, Brigitte Madrian, Georg Schaur, William Walstad (ex officio)

Members absent: Douglas Bernheim, Derek Neal

After a buffet lunch the meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m.

1. Acknowledgement of Mike Watts
A moment was taken to acknowledge the passing of Mike Watts and to his numerous contributions to economic education.
2. Membership
Sam Allgood and Steve Cobb agreed to second terms. Doug Bernheim's term ended. The chair will find a replacement to begin immediately. Jennifer Imazeki has agreed to serve on the Committee and her term begins immediately after the 2015 meetings. It was agreed to add another member to the committee to assist with the extra work created by the conference in May.
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Annual Report
Minutes of the meeting of January 4, 2014 in Philadelphia and CEE annual report were both approved.
4. Annual Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (CTREE).
Sam Allgood provided an overview of the report from the 2014 Washington D.C. Conference, and outlined the plenary speakers for 2015 in Minneapolis (Kehoe, Laibson, Salemi). Bill Walstad concurred that the *JEE* will continue to co-sponsor the conference. The Minneapolis Fed will host a dinner and provide a speaker. The committee agreed with the recommendation to hold the 2016 conference in Atlanta. There was general agreement to increase the amount paid by exhibitors. An event will be held at the 2015 conference to honor Mike Watts.
5. Presentation to the AEA Executive Committee
The chair reported that a request to the AEA Executive Committee for \$10,000 in additional funding for CTREE was unanimously approved. The chair, with assistance from Bill Walstad, also requested the help of the EC in solving the current funding problems of the *Journal of Economic Education*. *JEE* is about to lose its primary source of funding from the Council for Economic Education and the current publisher has declined the opportunity to make up the shortfall. The AEA President acknowledged the importance of the issue and recommended that we work with Peter Rousseau to resolve the issue.
6. Measuring College Learning Project
The chair reported on the progress of the MCL project that is administered by the Social Science Research Council with funding by the Gates Foundation. A meeting was held last April with 15 economists and members of the SSRC to discuss existing test instruments and the competencies that should be included on a instrument for assessing students that major in economics. The chair is co-authoring a white paper (with Amanda Bayer of Swathmore) regarding these efforts. The group meets again in February.
7. We The Economy
The chair was contacted by Liana Schwarz of The Montlake Group and Kimberly Birbrower of Big Picture Instructional regarding the We The Economy film series (www.wetheeconomy.com). They are looking for assistance in spreading the word about the 20 films created regarding the economy.

The committee was concerned about giving the appearance of favoring some materials over others. The group agreed to recommend that they exhibit at CTREE.

8. Annual Report from the *Journal of Economic Education*
Bill Walstad made a brief report of the year for the *JEE*. The report is attached to the annual report of the CEE. Most of the discussion dealt with the financial shortfall outlined above.
9. Annual update from the Council for Economic Education
Nan Morrison was unable to attend but provided a synopsis of the Council's work over the past year.
10. Brief Reports on 2015 CEE paper sessions and special events at the Boston meetings.
 - a. "Curriculum and Assessment of Economic Principles" organized by Bill Bosshardt and presided over by Carlos Asarta had an attendance of 25-30. A good number of an 8am opening day session on a specialized topic.
 - b. "The Economics Major and Economics Education Research - The Past 20 Years, Panel Discussion", a panel discussion organized by Sam Allgood and moderated by Wendy Stock was attended by 50.
 - c. "The Undergraduate Origins of PhD Economists: Where Do They Come From and Advice to Programs," organized and presided over by Gail Hoyt was attended by about 40.
 - d. "Assessment of Economic and Financial Knowledge: An International Perspective" organized and presided over by Georg Schaur drew 30.
 - e. "Principles of (Behavioral) Economics" organized and presided over by Brigitte Madrian drew 125-150.
 - f. The annual poster session, organized and chaired by Steven Cobb, this year featured 22 posters. About 200 people looked at the posters but attendance may have been hampered by the narrow space allotted for the posters.
 - g. The "Friends of Economic Education" reception was held Saturday night and was attended by 40-50 people.
 - h. The Chair made a presentation at the AEA Breakfast for Department Chairs where he reported on the activities of the Committee over the past year.
11. Assignment for the 2016 AEA meetings (January 3-5, San Francisco)
Tisha Emerson is scheduled to organize the *AER Proceedings* session; Sam Allgood will help organize a session that Mike Watts was organizing before his death on humanities in economic education; Gail Hoyt will organize a session on service; Steven Cobb will organize the annual poster session on innovative teaching methods; Bill Bosshardt will organize a session on financial literacy using the PISA data; Georg Schaur will organize a session of papers with a tie-in with *JEE*. AEA CEE special events slated for San Francisco include the "Friends of Economic Education" reception (Allgood).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sam Allgood, Chair