

American Economic Association  
Committee on Economic Education

Minutes of meeting on Saturday, January 4, 2014  
Marriott, Philadelphia

Members present: Sam Allgood (chair), William Bosshardt, Steven Cobb, Tisha Emerson, Gail Hoyt, Derek Neal, Nancy Rose, William Walstad (ex officio)

Members absent: Douglas Bernheim, Brigitte Madrian, Georg Schaur

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

1. Membership

Gail Hoyt agreed to a second term. Nancy Rose initially hoped to have a second term, but she will be unable to continue on the committee. She has agreed to assist in finding a replacement. Derek Neal and William Bosshardt attended the first meeting of their terms. It was agreed to add another member to the committee to assist with the extra work created by the conference in May.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Annual Report

Minutes of the meeting of January 4, 2013 in San Diego and CEE annual report were both approved.

3. 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. Several new members have been added to the journal's advisory board. Sam Allgood is stepping down as an associate editor and Georg Schaur and Gail Hoyt are joining the editorial team.

4. Annual update from the Council for Economic Education

Nan Morrison provided an update on the Council's activities over the past year. She asked for help in assessing the impact of the economic challenge administered by the Council.

5. Annual Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (CTREE).

Sam Allgood provided an overview of the report from the 2013 Chicago Conference, and outlined the plenary speakers for 2014 in Washington D.C. (Blinder, Elzinga, Rouse). Bill Walstad concurred that the *JEE* will continue to co-sponsor the conference. The committee agreed with the recommendation to hold the 2015 conference in Minneapolis, MN. The committee discussed the issue of sharing the email list from the conference with outside groups and it was decided to give registrants the option to opt-in during registration.

6. CEE Support of "chalk and talk" (Allgood for Schaur)

The committee agreed to support the next round of the chalk and talk survey.

7. Contact from the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) (Allgood)

Sam Allgood explained that the SSRC, funded by a grant from the Gates Foundation, is creating an exam for evaluating knowledge gain in economics for those that major in colleges. Allgood was asked to suggest 10-12 economists to work as content specialists on the project. The committee voiced serious reservations with the project. Some were concerned with how such an exam would be used and others were uncertain regarding the feasibility of having a group of economists reach a consensus on what should be on the exam given divergent opinions in the profession on a number of fronts. After much debate, it was decided to provide names but to pass along the concerns of the committee to the SSRC.

8. Updates on NSF consortium project on Teaching with Data (Emerson) `

Tisha Emerson had no new information to report as the advisory board has been inactive this year.

8. Brief Reports on 2013 CEE paper sessions and special events at the Philadelphia meetings

- a. “Economics Education in the Digital Age: The Implications of Online Technologies and MOOCs” organized and presided over by Nancy Rose had an attendance of 150-180.
  - b. “Experiments and the Economics Classroom”, a panel discussion organized and moderated by Tisha Emerson was attended by 40. Unfortunately, the weather kept Ted Bergstrom from attending.
  - c. “Research in Economic Education,” organized and presided over by Gail Hoyt was attended by about 40.
  - d. “Assessment of Economic and Financial Knowledge: An International Perspective” organized by William Bosshardt (FAU) and presided over by Carlos Asarta was able to draw 25-30 even though it was an 8am session on a specialized topic.
  - e. The annual poster session, organized and chaired by Steven Cobb (North Texas), this year featured 25 posters. Two presenters were unable to make it due to weather. About 150 people looked at the posters and this seems to be a good number given that the poster location was set away from most of the conference traffic.
  - f. The “Friends of Economic Education” reception was held Friday night and was attended by 60-70 people.
  - g. The Committee hosted a Reception for Directors of Undergraduate Studies on Saturday night. This was a change from the breakfast that was held in the past. Unfortunately, there was an error and the room was not ready at the time of the reception and it was not prepared until 6:30. As a result, it was difficult to assess how successful the event would be. It was agreed to try this event one more year. It was also agreed to obtain an email list of department chairs to try and increase the number of Directors that receive the invitation to the event. The Committee also discussed holding a similar function at CTREE.
  - 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.
9. Assignment for the 2015 AEA meetings (January 3-5, Philadelphia)  
 Brigitte Madrian is scheduled to organize the *AER Proceedings* session; Sam Allgood is organizing a panel session based on a draft of the *JEL* article written by Allgood, Siegfried, and Walstad; Gail Hoyt will organize a session on teaching pedagogy; Steven Cobb will organize the annual poster session on innovative teaching methods; Bill Bosshardt will organize a session on pre-college economics or NAEP; Georg Schaur will organize a session of papers with a tie-in with *JEE*. AEA CEE special events slated for Boston include the “Friends of Economic Education” reception (Sam Allgood) and a function for department directors of undergraduate programs (Allgood).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Sam Allgood, Chair