

June 23, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting IL-ACDA

Virtual "Zoom" Meeting 2:00 p.m.
Minutes approved unanimously on 9/26/2000

In attendance: Matthew Begale, Amy Bruhahl, Andy Bruhn, Katie Bruton, Laura Coster, Grace Currie, Jeff DeLay Eric Esparza, Donald Fraser, Curtis Fischer-Oelschlager, Lizzie Harley, Jason Hawkins, Ronald Korbitz, Andy Jeffrey, Andy Jensen, Lee Kesselman, Ali Kordelewski, Janet McCumber, Paul Laprade, Lynda Marshall, Janet McCumber, Abby Musgrove, Paul Nielsen, Richard Nunley, Frank Piekarz, Jessica Palmisano, Darius Polikaitis, Aubrey Prince, Jen Reese, Andrea Solya, Jeff Wilson, Brian Winnie, Christopher Windle, Elizabeth Zarley

1. Welcome & Introductions: Jeff Wilson

-Two people are moving to new positions at the start of this new Board cycle:

Abby Musgrove is moving to Community Choirs, Eric Esparza is moving to be the Diversity Chair.

-We welcome Lydia Walsh-Rock, a junior at the U of I, as Student Representative.

- Several departures are noted: Andy Gibb-Clark and Andy Jeffery (tenor/bass choirs), Jeff DeLay (two-year colleges)

-Laura requested that Board Members should let Lee or her know about new people who could fill vacancies in a timely fashion.

2. Minutes: Paul Laprade

Minutes were approved as written. Several board reports were not received, and the new challenges and disruptions due to COVID-19 were cited as a reason for lower-than-usual submissions.

3. Treasurer's report: Paul Nielsen

Paul Nielsen submitted his wonderfully detailed and clear report.

-The *Fall Convention/ReTreat* lost only \$2000.

-Discussion began regarding *Join Voices*, which did not take place this year.

a) Karyl Carlsen was heavily involved at first, and the desire for her to step back to let the initiative develop on its own was mindful.

b) Lee pointed out that National subsidized this event for a few years with dedicated seed money. When that support changed, IL-ACDA decided to support it.

c) Lee suggested that IL-ACDA should still maintain its funding within the next budget, just in case something like this can be supported when it would return in the future.

The motion to approve the budget was made by Andy Jeffery and seconded by Janet McCumber; the motion passed unanimously.

A separate motion was made to support maintaining the line item budget for Join Voices was also made by Andy Jeffery and seconded by Janet McCumber; this motion passed unanimously as well.

4. Membership Update / Constant Contact: Jess Palmisano

-Jess noted that access to the membership portal has been altered and some information is no longer accessible. She has not had total access to membership portal.

-Jess also mention that if anyone has been in ACDA online, the username and password have to be changed.

-Laura suggested that Jess contact ACDA to find out what happened to access to this information.

5. Reports of R&R Chairs & District Reps (some emailed prior to meeting)

Additions to the submitted reports are as follows:

-Jason had been helping with *InTreat*, Still looking for real web redesigner

-Monica Bertrand: Podium deadlines are on August 15th, Dec 15th March 15 deadlines

-Amy Branahl: different groups are holding events, but few are solid due to COVID.

- Liz Zarley: some student chapters seem to

-Aubrey PrinceL R and R roundtable ZOOM session will be held on Friday, June 26

6 different groups comprised of 6-7 people each have committed to the event.

-Andy Bruhn, District 8: Andy needs to step down as he is beginning his DMA at U of I.

-Ali Kordelewski, District 9:-Her priority is to find ways to connect people in her district.

--Andy Jeffrey wants to assist the Tenor/Bass festival in the future.

a) Planned a T/B festival with Bryan Kunstman

b) Jeremy Jones, U of Miami in Ohio will come in January with his group.

This will be the Men's Glee Club winter tour. Plans include a rehearsal in the afternoon

Plans: January 18th (Tuesday) 3pm-5pm rehearsal, pizza dinner, 7/7:30 pm concert

-Jason Hawkins A new date of April 7, 2021 was chosen for the new TB event at WIU.

Andy Jeffrey is happy to help. Bob Boyd and Brian Winnie would lead these.

-Laura suggests that multiple events could be supported for the TB area.

6. Old Business

A. Summer ReTreat 2021 (Jeff)

-Our 2020 headliners are postponed to June 23-24, 2021 (due to COVID-19).

-Two of three of our headliners, Robert Bastian and Jill Trinko, will come back for the 2021 ReTreat

-Laura: We have still had no reply from some invitees, and are awaiting word from a few.

B. Summer InTreat 2020 (June 24-25, 2020)

C. Meeting deadlines (board reports, *Podium*) & Website updates (Jeff)

Jeff Wilson noted that timely submissions are crucial to our functioning and communication

Paul L. asked for Board reports to be sent at least one to two weeks in advance.

Monica B., reiterated the deadlines:

Jason H. encouraged people to send items to him, but also to allow for time to post

D. Status of Events & Special Project Funding (Jeff)

Due to COVID-19, the status of several projects is unknown. Seed grant projects are funded, but it is not certain that these will take place.

-The Tenor-Bass event is still scheduled for April 7.

NIU Vocal Clinic may be held in the Spring of 2021, with Lori Sonnenberg
Treble Choir and Show Choir festivals are likely to be on hold.

E. Board vacancies (Jeff)

Jeff noted that there would be vacancies in the following areas:

Tenor/Bass Choirs (see two suggestions above), Districts 6 & 8,
Two-year Colleges, and until today, the Student Representative.

Discussion:

-Andy Bruhn: Dan Wall at Boylan might be a choice for District 8

-Jeff DeLay: Irene Litas from Blackhawk could be a good choice.

-Lee: We should try to create a level of diversity (cultural, age, geographic)

-Laura: Would Lisa Neal be interested? Lynda Marshall said she would
brainstorm for additional candidates.

F. Fall Conference 2021, and future conferences (Laura)

-Eric Esparza will host the 2021 Fall convention at DePaul

-Mary Hopper will be chair of the convention.

-Laura thinks this will be really a good geographical place to push diversity

-Please suggest headliners for next year's 2021 ReTreat

-Jerry Blackstone has committed to the 2022 ReTreat

- Andrea Solya will need to book the rooms before next year if we would
desire to book a Fall 2023 conference at U of I

G. Decker and Outstanding Young Conductor Awards (Lee)

-Decker Award: Dr. Eric Johnson (NIU) is the Winner.

We considered various options for honoring him and whether we
should choose another person next year. The consensus was that
spotlight on Eric will be given in 2021.

Young Conductors Deadline 12/12/2020

Brandon Kat was first and only awardee.

No nominations were forwarded for this year.

-Grace noted that we could be more proactive in advertising these awards:
she suggests increased use of 1) in person contact, 2) social media, and, 3) *Podium*.

7. President's Overview: Jeff Wilson

Jeff said goodbye to everyone. He is leaving Illinois at the end of the month. Jeff graciously thanked the Board for its fine work and expressed his appreciation for ACDA.

8. New Business

A. Special Project Funding: no special projects were proposed at this meeting.

B. Summer ReTreat 2021 (Laura)

The *ReTreat* will be held on June 23-24, 2021. The modality will be decided at a later time.

C. Diversity Task Force (Lee and Laura)

Lee noted that diversity initiatives are moving quickly. Conversations are occurring with speed and purpose. The primary foci at this time are:

1. The development of a statement on justice, diversity, and equity;
2. A statement or position regarding what are we doing to support issues being championed and raised by the Black Lives Matter movement;
3. What are we doing for the Board and our membership to be educated?
4. What other issues should be discussed by this group?

Discussion:

-Amy Brunhahl noted that we could devote seed money to this, and that some of the sources are subconsciously live.

-Grace Currie emphasized that listening is essential.

-Lee offered a few resources, and more, among these, 'White Fragility', which points out that we all struggle and need to demonstrate racial humility.

-Eric Esparza- supports sharing information. Thinks the list of resources could be longer.

-Andy Jeffery pointed out that it would be important to have conversations—how can we have this element added to the board and to choral experiences in IL-ACDA?

-Richard Nunley said that the diversity group would work to address this and other issues.

-Lee and Jeff Wilson suggested that we table this discussion and leave it to the committee.

-Jeff recommended that we vote to formally follow this initiative. Lee presented the motion. Paul Laprade seconded. The motion was unanimously passed.

-Lee then suggested that a formal motion be made to create this group. He also noted that this group will report to us, the Board. Andy Jeffrey presented the motion. The motion was seconded by Ron Korbitz. The motion was unanimously passed.

D. Illinois R & R Roundtables (Aubrey Prince)

R&R roundtables are being initiated to create connectivity and community in the time of COVID. The group is small. A moderator is assigned to take notes. The first sessions will be held on Thursday, 6pm, via ZOOM.

E. Synchronizing National ACDA & IL-ACDA Terminology (Lee)

-Terms Change!-Past President according to National, r

Examples: *Men's* is now *Men's /TTBB*

- *Women's* is now *Women's/SSAA*

- *World Musics and Culture* for our former *Ethnic*, etc.
- Change continues so we must be flexible and adopt terminology.

Discussion:

- Grace: are we OK in having our events gendered? Some terms may be exclusive in language.
- Andrea Solya: Why are we going back to some of these terms? We should think of gendered ensembles as communities rather than genders.
- Jason: We can be different from National, can't we?
- Lee: National is trying to address the need for people to be comfortable. We would use language that was appropriate in sharing events. National struggles in how to represent the most people.

**The motion to adopt National's terms was made by Andy Jeffrey, and seconded by Christopher Windle
The motion was passed with two abstentions.**

F. National Leadership Conference Update (June, 2020) -

- Laura, Lee, and Jeff attended and found it a worthwhile experience.
- The National Conference will be held in Dallas, Texas from March 17-20, 2021
As of this meeting, the convention is still being tentatively held in person.

G. Nominating Committee for President-Elect (Laura / Lee / Jeff)

Laura and Lee will be at the helm for a year, so this nomination will be for the following year. This is an unusual situation, and a vote was called to accept this provisional arrangement.

The motion was made by Jason Hawkins. The measure was seconded by Amy Burnhahl and was passed unanimously.

H. September 2020 Board Meeting

Laura and Lee will chair this event as Co-Presidents in light of Jeff's sudden departure. The meeting will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2020 perhaps from 10am to 12noon; the decision to meet in-person at ISU or remotely via ZOOM will be made as the time approaches.

9. Additional Discussion Topics

- InTreat*: Paul Laprade reminded IL-ACDA InTreat presenters that a ZOOM presentation practice/training session will happen immediately following this meeting.
- Jeff Wilson gave a heartfelt goodbye to the membership.

10. THANK YOU for serving Illinois ACDA!

The motion to adjourn was made by Andy Jeffrey, seconded by Jason Hawkins, and accepted unanimously.

NOTE: The addition of "Points of Action" to this portion of the minutes was begun in June 2019. Due to the tentative nature of the matters, the major action points can be summarized as such:

- Promote the Young Conductor Award and membership to (IL-)ACDA
 - Identify possible website developers for our cite
- Suggest headliners for upcoming events and suggest members to fill Board Vacancies
- Continue R&R roundtables and develop the Diversity Committee's charge

Draft submitted by Paul Laprade, July 2020
(approved unanimously on 9/26/2000)

Board Reports

ILACDA Board Meeting: June 23, 2020 at 2:00 PM

**Due to issues with COVID 19, many board members do not have a report at this time.*

Website, Hawkins

Recent successes & challenges:

- Continuous website updates and maintenance
- Registration for IL-ACDA InTreat
- Webpage creation and management for InTreat

Activities in progress:

- The website redesign is still on the back burner. I interviewed a number of professional and semi-profession designers, but didn't quite find the right fit despite our approved budget for the project. I got a little discouraged after that, so it's still in progress. It is definitely a priority for the future though! 😊

Future plans & goals:

- Website redesign

SIDE NOTE:

- I was also helping Andy with the TTBB Festival schedule for April, but it was cancelled due to COVID-19. We do have the date booked for 2021 at WIU, and I'm pretty sure Andy said Bob was still on board to direct.

Podium Editor, Monica Bertrand

Recent successes & challenges:

- Thank you for turning in your articles!

Activities in progress:

- Collaborated with Grace and ideas for selling advertisement space

Future plans & goals:

- I will be asking for articles from those who do not submit one to be added on to the next rotation

Children's Choir, Amy Branahl

Recent successes & challenges:

- Very successful Central/NC Children's Honor's Choir performances.
- Excited for the "Intreat" and to connect with more Children's Choir Directors.

Activities in progress:

- Compiling a list of Children's Choir offerings virtually this summer.

Future plans & goals:

- Reach out to director's in the area to do a zoom where people can share how they are doing and ways they are adapting for covid19.
- Find out ways we can connect and support each other at local conventions and elementary school offerings.

Two-Year Colleges, Jeffrey DeLay

Recent successes & challenges:

- Two-Year College Choral Festival (to occur March 21, 2020) canceled due to Coronavirus.
- While scheduling and logistics for the annual Two-Year College Choral Festival have presented challenges, contact has been made with a number of directors at two-year institutions who have expressed interest in the event and in IL-ACDA.

Activities in progress:

- Paul LaPrade hopes to host the Two-Year College Choral Festival at the University of St. Francis (Joliet) in spring 2021, pending revised university schedule.

Future plans & goals:

- Ideally someone else will step up as two-year college rep for IL-ACDA.
- Develop repertoire resource(s) for two-year college choir directors.

Community Choirs, Abby Musgrove

Recent Successes:

Completed two Zoom "Round Table" sessions for Community Choirs & Worship Choirs (one in July and one in Sept)

Activities in Progress:

Planning another round table - updates, what's working, what isn't, etc.

Future Plans:

Someday - hoping to plan a Community Choir festival which brings together choirs from the whole state

Ron Korbitz, Middle School/ Jr. High R and R

Recent Successes and Challenges

- Presented material at ILMEA reading session.
- Getting more MS and Jr. High Directors involved in IL-ACDA.

Activities in Progress

- Presenting at InTreat

Future Plans

- Contacting current MS directors and asking them to join IL-ACDA.

Community Choirs, Eric Esparza

Recent successes & challenges

- All choirs faces challenges due to cancellations due to COVID-19

Activities in progress

- Determining the best practices for choral singing in the age of COVID-19
- Determining the best advocacy practices for choruses in the age of COVID-19

Future plans & goals

- Abby Musgrave taking over leadership of this position.

ILMEA Chorus Division President - Curtis Fisher-Oelschlaeger

Recent successes & challenges:

- 2020 IMEC

Activities in progress:

- Currently selecting performances and sessions for IMEC 2021

Future plans & goals:

- ILMEA will be working helping all students and teachers safely get back to school
Hoping Fall Festivals, All-State and IMEC will be able to proceed as planned.

Student Representative, Elizabeth Zarley

Recent successes & challenges:

- Actively offered resources for student chapters via Instagram and Facebook
- Fostered dialogue about important societal issues relating to choral music education among chapters, including the representation and celebration of BIPOC in choral music.
- Failure to host a virtual Zoom presentation among student chapters

Activities in progress

- Continuing to maintain an active, interactive social media presence to engage collegiate student chapters
- Contacting music education students from Illinois colleges and encouraging the reactivation and/or continuation of student chapter activities.

Future plans & goals:

- Encourage further participation and engagement in ACDA conferences and the student chapters by offering Zoom presentations featuring relevant topics for pre-service teachers
- Contact ACDA student chapters across Illinois and encourage the creation of chapter Instagram pages to stay connected

Repertoire Specific, Aubrey Prince

Recent successes & challenges

Activities in Progress

- Organizing round tables which will start after the InTreat
- Presenting at the InTreat

Future Plans

- Hope to continue round tables in a variety of interest areas to help with fall planning
- Fall Convention 2021 Interest Session Chair

District 2 Representative, Jen Reece

Report was emailed by Jen and cannot be opened on my acct. Report will be added soon!

District 9 Representative, Ali Kordelewski

Recent successes & challenges:

- Outreach to other colleagues in District 9 for Intreat

Activities in progress:

- Recruitment for District 9 for ACDA

Future plans & goals:

- Potential virtual gathering for District 9 to connect teachers
- Reaching those who are not in ACDA and how can we connect those who are within our district
- When we can meet together again, a potential District 9 festival for some of our beginning ensembles

