

WVPSA TWENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION MINUTES  
HOST: FAIRMONT STATE COLLEGE  
RAMADA INN, MORGANTOWN, W.VA.  
October 15-16, 1976

Kenneth B. McMillen, Acting Secretary

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Executive Council Meeting - October 15, 1976 - 12:00 Noon

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Patricia Ryan, President of the Association, presided with Robert Reinhardt, Harold Seely, Roger Yeager, Allan Harlock, Clair Matz, David Lynch, Joseph McCoy, Charles Daugherty, John Tator, and Kenneth McMillen in attendance. President Ryan introduced a series of topics for discussion.

1. The nominating committee composed of Gerald Pops, David Linden, Evelyn Harris, and Jabir Abbas will report at the Plenary Session at 12:15, Saturday.
2. The Claude J. Davis Award has not increased competition even though Harold Seely has made the award a \$100 savings bond. Only two essays were received to be sent to Kenneth McMillen, the judge for this year. The best essay was by Elizabeth Hughes from Marshall University who will be present at the annual dinner to accept the award. It was proposed that the question of continuing the award or discontinuing it for lack of interest be deferred to the Plenary session.
3. The American Political Science Association extends its services to the Association. Among the services available are mailing lists and sample contracts for organizational activities. The APSA will do this if the Association will send them the convention program, furnish them a copy of the directory and keep in contact.
4. President Ryan reported on her efforts to broaden membership in the Association. Letters were mailed to local officials, state office holders, and others who could be interested, describing the Association, its membership, aims and purposes. The response to the letters was negligible.
5. It was suggested by the President that the tax exempt status of the Association be investigated. There might be some advantage in such a status.
6. The Newsletter was not published this year and it was recommended that it be reactivated even though information from departments was not forthcoming. Perhaps a twice-a-year issue should be considered. The need for a secretary to assist with the Newsletter and with correspondence is evident and is recommended.
7. Marshall University had agreed to publish the Directory but it was crowded out by more pressing concerns. By the time they could get to it, it was time for a new one. Harold Seely questioned the need for an annual directory but there was no follow-up discussion. The Bureau for Government Research will print the current directory and is in the process of collecting information. The APSA format will be followed.

8. Student attendance at state conventions remains a problem. Attendance from the host school is usually good but problems of finances and housing works to keep other schools under-represented. At this point, John Tater, the Student Counselor and a student at Fairmont State College, was introduced.
9. The Treasurers report was presented and accepted.
10. It was announced that the new issue of the W.Va. Blue Book will list the organization.

The Council adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Saturday, October 16, 1976

Annual Business Meeting - 12:15 p.m.

President Ryan called the meeting to order.

1. It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Ninth Annual Convention, previously distributed, be approved without being read. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
2. In the absence of the Treasurer, President Ryan discussed the low estate of the treasury pointing out that Fairmont State College had been generous in its support of the convention and its attendant costs. She reviewed her efforts on behalf of the Association to broaden membership and, therefore, to improve the financial condition of the treasury.
3. The association is indebted to the personnel of Fairmont State College who generously gave their time and efforts to make this convention possible and to further the aims of the Association. The Association is especially indebted to Lola Ross Robinson, President Ryan's Secretary, Nancy Lynch, John Tater, and the students who assisted with the registration at the convention.
4. Jerry Pops presented the nominating committees report. The nominations were: for President, Allan Hancock; for Vice President, Joe McCoy and Clair Matz; for two vacancies on the Executive Council for three-year terms, Steve Cupps, James Oxendale, Sophia Peterson, and Troy Stewart; for a one-year unexpired term on the Executive Council, Evelyn Harris and Jerry Pops. At the call for nominations from the floor it was moved, seconded, and approved that the nominations be closed.

Allan Hancock was elected President by voice vote and Clair Matz was elected Vice President by written ballot.

Written ballots elected Steve Cupps to a three-year term on the Executive Council with a tie between Sophia Peterson and James Oxendale for the second vacancy. The run-off election gave the position to Sophia Peterson.

Evelyn Harris was elected by written ballot to the one-year unexpired term on the Executive Council.

5. By voice vote the Association expressed its appreciation to West Virginia University for its cooperation and support, including financial support, which helped make the convention and its program possible.
6. President Ryan introduced the incoming President, Allan Hancock, and presented to him the official banner of the Association.
7. A resolution was offered to express the gratitude and appreciation of the Association to Patricia Ryan for her outstanding service to the Association. The resolution was approved by voice vote.
8. The new president, Allan Hancock, accepted the Presidency for the coming year. He expressed appreciation for the confidence shown by his selection as President. He indicated his commitment to the organization and to its second decade and pledged that the movement forward would be continued. He thanked Patricia Ryan and Bob Reinhardt for the excellent convention program which featured speakers who were delightful to hear and who represented the best in the profession. He said the program will set an example to invite trust in the association.
9. The suggestion was offered that a double, hinged postcard be designed to invite people to join the Association. A discussion resulted which drew other suggestions: perhaps a meeting in Charleston would draw public officials and legislators; a way might be found to appeal to the student population; high school students have not been appealed to.  
  
It was moved and seconded that the President and Executive Council explore moves to attract funds, new members, and to beef-up the Association.
10. President Hancock announced that the Newsletter would be reactivated. It is planned to contain news and notes on the activities of the Association and of the membership but, also, to be expanded to include short essays describing political science at the member institutions and articles from state agencies. The long standing problem of getting information from the various departments needs commitment from the departments for solution.
11. The President returned to the topic of the Davis Award raised during the Executive Council meeting. He proposed that the topic for essays be expanded beyond West Virginia and beyond state government. After discussion, it was moved that the essays for the next contest be open to any political science topic. After being seconded the motion passed by voice vote.
12. A short discussion on the location of the convention next year led to consideration of Charleston v. Morgantown and resulted in authorizing the Executive Council to investigate and decide.

13. David Temple discussed the state of political science research in West Virginia. He pointed out that there is no member of the Inter University Consortium in W.Va. and that the expense is such that a single department is discouraged. However, if a concerted effort of all schools, or at least, several schools, were to be exerted, the expense could be shared in a manner to make it feasible. It would also remove a handicap on research development in the various schools. He proposed to make informal contacts with departments to start a movement toward joint state membership since a joint approach is most promising. As a result of this discussion a motion to seek the support of the Council of Presidents was offered, seconded and passed by voice vote.
14. The President announced that the state Political Science Directory would be published by the Bureau for Government Research at West Virginia University and requested that the forms for the directory be completed before the end of the convention. He also asked that forms be taken back to the various departments by those present for completion by members not in attendance.

The meeting adjourned.