

**NCECA Executive Committee Meeting,
Tuesday, June 2, 2015
Kansas City Marriot, downtown, Kansas City, MO**

In attendance: Board members Deb Bedwell, Josh Green, Cindy Bracker, Lee Burningham, Patsy Cox, Mary Cloonan, Jill Oberman, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, and Paul Sacaridiz, and NCECA staff Helen Anderson

8:02 am meeting called to order by Deb Bedwell

Deb took a few moments to welcome new NCECA Program Director Mary Cloonan.

The Executive Committee met to discuss the full Board meeting agenda, and to streamline upcoming discussion of certain topics with the full Board. Topics addressed included next year's budget, improvements to NCECA conference registration, database issues, Providence 2014 Conference reflections, year-round NCECA programming, updates from Communications, Exhibitions, and Program Directors, and issues around nominations, membership, and development.

The meeting recessed at 5:57pm

**NCECA Full Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 3, 2015
Kansas City Marriot, downtown, Kansas City, MO**

In attendance: NCECA board members Deb Bedwell, Patsy Cox, Paul Donnelly, Roberto Lugo, Cindy Bracker, Mary Cloonan, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Jane Shellenbarger, Jen Chua, Jill Oberman, Paul Sacaridiz, Amy Duke, and Lee Burningham, and NCECA staff Josh Green, Helen Anderson, and Dori Nielson

Absent: Board members Dylan Beck, Shalya Marsh, and Dandee Pattee

8:00am meeting called to order by Deb Bedwell

After discussion by the Executive Committee the previous day, and a brief discussion on each item by the full board, the Board of Directors agreed to the following:

- To approve the presidential nomination of Roberto Lugo to fill the DAL vacancy created by the resignation of newly elected DAL Justin Rothshank

- To accept a by-law change that would have all officers appointed to the board subject to a 2/3 majority vote of the existing board, and all Directors at Large, including Student Director at Large, to continuing being elected by a membership vote. Once approved by the Board, this bylaw change would require a vote by the full membership.
- To approve submitted board reports and updated board member committee lists

Board Reports

Patsy discussed the progress of the Development and Nominations Committee. The Board is committed to continue developing a list of interested members who would like to serve NCECA. Development and donations are growing. There was 100% Board support again this year.

Josh updated us on some loose ends and projects NCECA is working on outside of the conference. NCECA will continue to co-sponsor live artist talks with the 92Y, and will be working with 92Y to make these more readily available and easier to utilize. NCECA will also be working with Mark Shapiro to help further develop an apprenticeship community.

The Board reviewed the conference structure, and discussed making changes to help accommodate conference crowds and flow of events.

The Board addressed the low turn-out for voting this year. Jill and Cindy will work on a marketing process to improve participation and make a recommendation to the full board at the fall meeting.

Jen is working on redefining NCECA's clarifications for Student Status, working to possibly include special students, post-baccs, and/or apprentices. She also encouraged the Board to help increase student participation on panels, in student crits, and in discussion groups during the conference.

Budget

Helen, Josh and Lee shared the proposed upcoming budget. Conference expenses are higher this year as we work to make our 50th anniversary a special conference event. Additional money has been raised to offset this increase. Special projects for the 50th include NCECA exhibitions, Across the Table, and Honors and Fellows exhibition, a 50th Anniversary book, and a digital journal. Helen is confident that our budget is strong, and that we will once again end our fiscal year in the black.

Bylaw Change

Members will be notified and encouraged to vote on our proposed bylaw change, proposing that all officers would be appointed to the board subject to a 2/3 majority vote of the existing board, and all Directors at Large, including Student Director at Large, to continuing being elected by a membership vote.

Kansas City update

Paul D. and Amy updated the Board on progress for the upcoming Kansas City conference. Gallery spots are being secured, Collector's Tour is being planned, and bus tours are being set. Pre- and Post-conferences are also in development. Two Toned Press has been hired and is working on the graphic identity for the conference.

Exhibitions

Leigh discussed her board report. She would like NCECA to consider improvements to our usual exhibition models for future conferences. The Curatorial task force agreed to work on this, and have a proposal drafted for the full board at the fall meeting.

Collector's Tour

Paul S shared about the Providence Collector's Tour, and updated the Board on plans for the Kansas City Collector's Tour. He believes that the Tour is a fruitful endeavor, and that the bar continues to be raised as they strive to attract new collectors to this event, and keep the returning collectors engaged and fulfilled.

Namita Gupta Wiggers joined the meeting.

Communications

Cindy reported on communications activities, including the conference evaluation, the NCECA blog, and the NCECA Facebook page. NCECA is open to feedback, and member participation, but also wants to keep our identity clear and our content quality high.

Handling Complaints from Conference

The Board is open to all feedback, and committed to try to resolve all issues. We discussed ways to make this more effective, including having a notebook at the NCECA table where comments can be tracked for future resolutions and improvements.

Strategic Planning

Josh identified that NCECA's last strategic plan is coming to the end of its 5 year term. Plans are being investigated for options for future upcoming strategic planning meetings.

Collaborate community projects: Across the Table

Namita updated the Board on the progress of Across the Table, the special NCECA project led by Namita and Michael Strand. Project inquiries are coming in, as NCECA tries to capture and tap into what our membership is already doing with social engagement, and also challenging them to think about things in a new ways. The exhibition at the conference will include objects, images, and stories. Asked to describe this project in one sentence, Namita stated: *Across the table brings together practices that are already happening in ceramics community: practice that connect people and food. Learn their stories, and be inspired by new work.*

The meeting recessed at 5:08pm

NCECA Full Board Meeting Thursday, June 4, 2015 Lawrence Art Center, Lawrence, KS

In attendance: NCECA board members Deb Bedwell, Patsy Cox, Paul Donnelly, Roberto Lugo, Cindy Bracker, Mary Cloonan, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Jane Shellenbarger, Jen Chua, Jill Oberman, Paul Sacaridiz, Amy Duke, Shalya Marsh, and Lee Burningham, NCECA staff Josh Green, Helen Anderson, and Dori Nielson, guest Namita Gupta Wiggers

Absent: Board members Dylan Beck and Dandee Pattee

After traveling from Kansas City to Lawrence, at 10:22 am Deb called the meeting to order

Program Review Process

The Board discussed conference proposals to establish programming for the 2016 Kansas City Conference. Mary lead the discussion, guiding the Board towards a select ion of 20-26 proposals out of the 110 submitted. Special programming options were also discussed. In addition to making selections on the proposals, there was some discussion on the categories set by NCECA, including the Transitions category, formerly New Works. After trying to make this category work, and editing and clarifying the language around this category for the last few years, the board decided to permanently eliminate this as a programming option.

The meeting recessed at 5:23pm, and the Board was welcomed at a reception with locals at the Lawrence Art Center.

NCECA Full Board Meeting
Friday, June 5, 2015
Kansas City Marriot, downtown, Kansas City, MO

In attendance: NCECA board members Deb Bedwell, Patsy Cox, Paul Donnelly, Roberto Lugo, Cindy Bracker, Mary Cloonan, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Jane Shellenbarger, Jen Chua, Jill Oberman, Paul Sacaridiz, Amy Duke, Shalya Marsh, and Lee Burningham, and NCECA staff Josh Green, Helen Anderson, and Dori Nielson

Absent: Board members Dylan Beck and Dandee Pattee

9:05 am Deb called the meeting to order

Mary continued to lead the meeting, summarizing our programming decisions from the previous day. Discussion continued, and panels were ranked.

Discussion continued as suggestions were made for demonstrators, Randall Session, keynote and round table panel topics, dance band, and closing lecturer.

The meeting recessed at 5:03pm

NCECA Full Board Meeting
Saturday, June 6, 2015
Kansas City Marriot, downtown, Kansas City, MO

In attendance: NCECA board members Deb Bedwell, Patsy Cox, Paul Donnelly, Roberto Lugo, Cindy Bracker, Mary Cloonan, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Jane Shellenbarger, Jen Chua, Jill Oberman, Paul Sacaridiz, Amy Duke, Shalya Marsh, and Lee Burningham, and NCECA staff Josh Green, Helen Anderson, and Dori Nielson

Absent: Board members Dylan Beck and Dandee Pattee

8:10 am Deb called the meeting to order

The board voted on two motions:

- The Board adopted the minutes from the Pre-conference meeting held March 24, 2015, the Members Business meeting held March 28, 2015, the open board meeting held March 28, 2015, and the closed Board Meeting held on March 28, 2015.
- Discussion resumed on the proposed 2015-2016 budget, and the Board approved the submitted budget.

Mary presented a tentative draft of our KC NCECA programming selections. There was discussion how some of the selected panels fit into more than one category, and it was agreed that multiple tags would be used to promote them at the conference. Mary will work on redefining our categories for discussion at the Fall meeting. The board agreed to accept the tentative draft of programming.

Loose ends

Discussion continued on a few loose ends for the Kansas City conference

KC Empty Bowls

Paul D received a proposal for an NCECA sponsored Empty Bowls project for the KC NCECA. After discussion, the Board agreed that NCECA as an organization will not produce an empty bowls event in 2016. Pending additional research by the proposer, that demonstrates there is a local agency to produce an event and take responsibility for the donations, NCECA would be willing to provide a small space to collect bowls at the conference center.

Roundtable

Paul S: would like to continue working on developing the round table panel discussion, and to continue it in the spirit it was developed-to extend time with or to further discuss the content of the keynote, with ways to permeate the conference either subtly or overtly. Once the keynote speaker is confirmed, Paul S will work with Josh and Mary to craft this again for the Kansas City conference, and will present this to the full board as progress is made.

Portland conference themes

Josh has been working on theme ideas for the Portland Conference with Onsite Dylan Beck. Themes usually connect to identity of place, while tying into more global concerns. The board brainstormed ideas, and will make a recommendation pending acceptance by Dylan (who was not present for this discussion).

Board Business

Paul S gave his resignation to the Board. In July, he will be moving to Deer Isle, Maine, and will be taking on the position of Executive Director of Haystack Mountain School of Crafts. The Board will miss Paul's leadership greatly, but wishes him the best of luck at Haystack.

The Board will give suggestions for filling the President-elect Board position, and Deb will make a presidential nomination as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jill Oberman, NCECA secretary