

**NCECA meeting, pre-Pittsburgh conference
March 13, 2018
Westin Hotel
Pittsburgh, PA**

In attendance: NCECA Board Members, Cindy Bracker, Naomi Clement, Mary Cloonan, Julia Galloway, Holly Hanessian, Steve Hilton, Reena Kashyap, Roberto Lugo, Kate Lydon, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Sarah Millfelt, Jill Oberman, Shoji Satake, Brandon Schnur, Chris Staley, Russell Wrangle; NCECA Staff Josh Green and Dori Nielsen, and Conference Assistant to Josh Green, Marko Biddle.

4:40pm meeting called to order by NCECA President Chris Staley.

The full board met to discuss expectations and board roles for during the conference.

Josh Green presented a conference update. Our pre-conference registration numbers are up, over 500 more pre-registered than in 2017. There will be over 200 local high school students attending the conference this year. This year NCECA hired a professional book editor for the journal this year and will consider hiring a professional editor for the conference program in the future. NCECA received some late-arriving donations and sponsorships that will not be in the program, but will be recognized on signage and on the app.

Exhibitions Director Leigh Taylor Mickelson updated the board on the Collector's Tour, which was already in progress. The exhibitions look strong this year, and the tour has been successful so far.

Program Director Mary Cloonan thanked the Board in advance for helping to introduce many of our programming sessions and reminded the Board of points to address in each introduction. We also discussed the opening and closing order of events, noting that the announcement of the NCECA 2020 location, Richmond, VA, would be announced at the opening ceremonies.

Secretary Jill Oberman updated the Board on new board member voting status. Numbers are down from last year, and the election for DAL is extremely close. All members are encouraged to vote.

Director at Large Julia Galloway discussed the emerging artists, and suggested we change the application process. This discussion was tabled for our June 2018 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

**NCECA 1st Members' Business Meeting during the Pittsburgh conference
March 15, 2018
Pittsburgh Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA**

In attendance: NCECA Executive Committee Board Members Cindy Bracker, Mary Cloonan, Holly Hanessian, Reena Kashyap, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, and Jill Oberman, NCECA Executive Director Josh Green, plus open to NCECA membership and conference attendees.

8:30 am meeting called to order by Holly Hanessian

Brief status reports were presented: Josh Green, Executive report; Jill Oberman, election updates; Reena Kashyap, Treasurers Report; Mary Cloonan, programs report; Leigh Taylor Mickelson, exhibitions report; and Cindy Bracker, communications report.

Members were invited to ask questions and make comments. Jill was asked to send out the ballot link email one more time before the end of voting, and there were a few complaints about the Wednesday bus tour, specifically about lost bus drivers, long waits, and the impact of fewer bus takers resulting in fewer buses, and longer wait time. A suggestion was made to try to work with Uber/Lyft to get a discount code during NCECA.

The meeting was recessed at 8:50am.

**NCECA 2nd Members' Business Meeting during the Pittsburgh conference
March 17, 2018
Pittsburgh Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA**

In attendance: NCECA Board Members, Cindy Bracker, Naomi Clement, Mary Cloonan, Julia Galloway, Holly Hanessian, Steve Hilton, Reena Kashyap, Roberto Lugo, Kate Lydon, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Sarah Millfelt, Jill Oberman, Shoji Satake, Brandon Schnur, Chris Staley, Russell Wrangle, NCECA Executive Director Josh Green, plus open to NCECA membership and conference attendees.

12:20 pm meeting called to order by Chris Staley.

Chris Staley welcomed the membership and thanked them for their attendance. He also thanked Pittsburgh Onsite Liaisons Kate Lydon and Shoji Satake, and introduced Minneapolis Onsite Liaisons Sarah Millfelt and Keith Williams. Kate and Shoji ceremoniously handed off the NCECA t-shirt to Sarah and Keith.

Chris thanked retiring Board members Kate Lydon, Shoji Satake (Pittsburgh On-site Liaisons), Steve Hilton (Steward of the Board), Leigh Taylor Mickelson (Exhibitions Director), Roberto Lugo (Director at Large), and Naomi Clement (Student Director at Large).

Chris then introduced Holly Hanessian as our new Board President. Holly then introduced our new board members Marge Levy (Past President), Rhonda Willers (Steward of the Board), Brett Binford (Exhibitions Director), Sarah Millfelt and Keith Williams (Minneapolis On-site Liaisons), and Kelly Kerr (Richmond On-site Liaison).

Jill Oberman announced the voting results and welcomed new board members Zach Tate (Director at Large), and Ashlyn Pope (Student Director at Large).

Mary Cloonan presented the awards for International Residencies, Cups of Merit, Regina Brown Excellence in Teaching, Regina Brown Undergraduate Student Fellowships, Graduate Student Fellowships, Multicultural Fellowships, and the NSJE awards.

Thanks was given to all who participated in the annual NCECA Cup Sale. The cup sale had record-breaking numbers this year, with 1490 cups donated and \$44,541 raised. Extra thanks to our Cups of Merit Jurors: David Mack, Jack Troy, and Amy Santoferraro.

The meeting was recessed at 1:05 pm.

**Open Board Meeting during the Pittsburgh conference
March 19, 2016
Pittsburgh Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA**

In attendance: NCECA Board Members, Cindy Bracker, Naomi Clement, Mary Cloonan, Julia Galloway, Holly Hanessian, Steve Hilton, Reena Kashyap, Roberto Lugo, Kate Lydon, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Sarah Millfelt, Jill Oberman, Shoji Satake, Brandon Schnur, Chris Staley, Russell Wrangle, Keith Williams, Kelly Kerr, Zach Tate, Ashlyn Pope, Rhonda Willers, Marge Levy, NCECA Executive Director Josh Green, plus open to NCECA staff, membership, and conference attendees.

1:30 pm Holly Hanessian called the meeting to order

The Open Board Meeting gives our membership the chance to offer feedback to the board. Attendees were given the chance to share their thoughts:

Comments from our membership:

- Jonathan Kaplan strongly suggested Denver as a possible NCECA location for 2024
- Extra thanks was given to all of the student volunteers in attendance
- Increased attendance did not negatively impact programming
- More programming by local scholars
- Possible future Honorary Members: Louise Cort, Don Hine (Kiln Archeologist)
- K-12 Exhibition, thanks all around, especially to Juror Pete Pinnell. This year they had 1231 entries that were reduced to the 150 selected. Scholarship program growing
- Water filter conference was great
- NCECA was helpful for many international attendees this year
- Consider a QR code with contact info on each badge, to make networking easier
- More programming needed for K-12 teachers
- Vendor area was great this year
- THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU to our tireless, amazing NCECA Staff (Josh, Dori, Kate, Jacqueline, Candice, Helen, Tammy, and Jeff)

Holly Hanessian thanked all who attended our Open Board meeting and gave us feedback for future improvements.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Closed Board Meeting during the Pittsburgh conference
March 19, 2016
Pittsburgh Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA

In attendance: NCECA Board Members, Cindy Bracker, Naomi Clement, Mary Cloonan, Julia Galloway, Holly Hanessian, Steve Hilton, Reena Kashyap, Roberto Lugo, Kate Lydon, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Sarah Millfelt, Jill Oberman, Shoji Satake, Brandon Schnur, Chris Staley, Russell Wrangle, Keith Williams, Kelly Kerr, Zach Tate, Ashlyn Pope, Rhonda Willers, Marge Levy, and NCECA Staff Helen Anderson, Candice Finn, Marko Fields, Josh Green, Jacqueline Hardy, Tammy Lynn, Dori Nielsen, and Kate Vorhaus

Not in attendance: Brett Binford

1:51 pm Holly Hanessian called the meeting to order.

Josh introduced the staff to our new Board members, and thanked them for their hard work: Kate, Candice, Helen, Tammy, Dori, Marko, and Jacqueline. We are truly grateful to all they do.

At 2:05 pm, the staff left the meeting for a closed Board meeting to follow.

Josh asked all new board members to create or designate a gmail email for future NCECA Business, and so we can share our "Guide to the Board" paperwork.

Communications Director Cindy Bracker's term ends in March of 2019, so she will begin training her replacement.

Josh informed the Board that the Staff will have an extensive conference debrief and will share info on problems and issues with the Board at our June meeting. We are already aware of the issues with the Bus Tours, as well as getting presenters to honor deadlines and use the Prep room in a timely manner. We also had some inaccuracies with member status lists, likely a result of our transition to our new database. Voting is still an issue for some, both getting the ballot, and using the ballot. The Awards Ceremony went way over the time limit and needs to be re-thought.

The board also shared their impressions and successes of the conference.

- Keynote sound check was not good, could not be heard in back, and text was impossible to read if you were not sitting up close
- Collectors had a great tour, but the tour is too long, and should be more selective with exhibitions and fewer days. A survey will be sent out to those on the tour for their feedback.
- Dick Wukich will be doing an extensive economic impact survey from this conference, and will share info as soon as possible
- Cindy will upload the presentations as fast as she can, we should see that starting the week after the conference
- The closing is still awkward, can we re-think the order of things addressed
- Moment of silence at opening is still awkward, too
- Lots of programming in Pittsburgh reflected the theme, is Claytopia too general? We need to craft clear text around this theme soon.
- Pairing Vanessa German with Erika Halvorsen at the opening was a great match
- 50 Friends was a great meeting, brought up issues of NCECA being more nimble and flexible with planning in the moment
- NCECA badge design with large first name was great
- Should we consider moving emerging artists? They are all so nervous for the entire conference until they present on Saturday
- Wednesday talks with emerging artists needs a tech present
- Break-out sessions are still too close together in one room

- Really great pottery in the expo, but not so much visible in other exhibitions out in and around Pittsburgh, none in the NCECA show this year or next...
- Consider creating an award for studio techs or art centers
- Create a sign/banner for photographer (Glen) to shoot/document awardees and presenters in front of to give photos context and location

Reminder-the dates for our June NCECA Board Meeting in Minneapolis:

- EC meets in the afternoon of June 5, 2018
- Full board meets June 6-8, 2018 (8am to 5pm each day)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Jill Oberman, NCECA Secretary
May 20, 2018*