

Notes for ISKO C-US General Assembly at NASKO 2021

July 11, 2021 at 9:00 am Pacific

Virtual meeting (Zoom hosted by University of Washington)

Notes taken by Chris Holstrom, cholstro@u.washington.edu

Introduction

Quorum reached and agenda approved.

Thank you to everyone who made NASKO 2021 possible: the program committee, session chairs, NASKO officers, Joe Tennis for organizing the Doctoral Symposium, and Hilary Thorsen for work as a webmaster. Special thanks to the University of Washington iSchool, particularly Galen Guff, for hosting the virtual meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Membership: With 62 members, we have maintained stability. Membership tends to increase in years with a NASKO conference and dip slightly in years without a NASKO conference. For example, we had 52 members in 2020 and 63 members in 2019. Overall, membership exceeds levels of late 2010's, showing a small amount of long-term growth.

Breakdown of membership demographics:

- 39 regular members
- 4 retired members, which is a bit of a dip
- 19 student members. The high number of student members this year was particularly gratifying because of the vital contributions from students at the conference. NASKO provides a supportive community for developing research and researchers. Student membership tends to be particularly tied to attending the NASKO conference.
- 1 institutional member

Almost all members are from the United States and Canada.

Finances: Overall, we are doing well financially. For the first time ever, we have more than \$10,000 in our accounts. After paying ISKO Central, we will have over \$6500 remaining. Historically, these balances are quite robust, as in the past we have typically had just a little over \$5000. We should continue on our current path with finances to be ready for any future emergencies.

Nonprofit status: We pay a small amount in taxes some years (\$0 in 2020 and \$65 in 2019). We have discussed filing for 501(c)(3), but have not done so because we lack legal expertise, the non-refundable application fee is high (~\$2000), and our tax expenses are low. We can minimize tax liability by timing the collection of some membership fees until after the calendar year.

Expenses: 2020 expenses were lower because 2020 was not a NASKO conference year. 2021 expenses will be significantly reduced from 2019 (a NASKO conference year) because of the pandemic. For example, holding a conference over Zoom meant that we did not help to fund travel for doctoral students participating in the Doctoral Symposium and we did not pay facility fees for conference space.

2020 expenses totaled \$688.02 and went toward web hosting, domain name registration (paid for three years), EasyChair subscription, PayPal transfer fee (in lieu of wiring fee for payment to ISKO Central), and other subscription fees. Hosting and subscription fees are expected ongoing expenses. Future officers will need to decide on other expenses, such as travel bursaries for graduate students. Multiple attendees expressed support for travel bursaries for students ("The investment in students is well worth it.") and for a way to contribute to the fund, such as a Click to Donate button on the conference website.

Future of the Treasurer Position: After serving as treasurer for a long time, Tom Dousa is stepping down. Tom noted that the current state of the position is too specific to him personally, including the account being at a smaller local bank near him. He proposed formalizing the role so it is not dependent on a specific person, possibly transferring to a new bank (maybe BMO, which might ease banking with ISKO Central's new location in Canada), and establishing an overlap in service between the outgoing treasurer and the treasurer-elect through the end of the calendar year after elections. President Heather Moulaison-Sandy expressed support for Tom's plan and attendees expressed support for the plan and great trust in Tom's stewardship for the transfer of the role.

Listserv: Tom also noted that the Listserv for NASKO is currently hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which makes us dependent on somewhat from that university managing the list. We might want to explore other hosting options.

Awards

Long paper submissions were considered for best paper and were judged based on rankings by reviewers.

Winners:

- Re-examining Aristotle's Categories as KOS - Brian Dobreski

- Comparing the Cataloguing of Indigenous Scholarship: First Steps and Findings - Tamara Lee, Sarah Dupont, & Julia Bullard

Special Award: Tom Dousa was recognized for his amazing scholarship, his work as a session chair and reviewer, his amazing contributions to the NASKO community, and his willingness to help.

Elections

Elections were conducted over zoom by attendees raising a virtual hand to support candidates and votes were counted by Wan-Chen Lee.

- President: Brian Dobreski
- Program Chair: Sam Grabus
- Treasurer: Vanessa Schlais

New Business

- NASKO 2023 will be held in Seattle.
- Heather Moulaison-Sandy asked if we wanted to develop our own conference code of conduct. Discussion was deferred due to lack of time. Interested members should raise the possibility with incoming officers.
- Heather Moulaison-Sandy suggested a Zoom meet-up for later in July 2021.
- Conference attendees should look for a survey to arrive by email in the coming days and are encouraged to provide feedback on the conference.