Minutes of the Association of Global South Studies Executive Council meeting
Le Meridien Hotel, Marrakesh, Morocco
December 14, 2017

The Association of Global South Studies (AGSS) Executive Council (EC) was called to order by President Dr. Sunita Manian at 1:25PM on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at Le Meridien Hotel in Marrakesh, Morocco. Present were the following EC members: Dr. Doyin Coker-Kolo, Dr. Lauren Eastwood, Dr. Michael Hall, Dr. William Pederson, Dr. James Winchester, Dr. Jose Da Cruz, Dr. Jyoti Tripathy, Dr. Paul Rodell, Dr. Brian Parkinson, and Dr. Philip Szmedra.

- The minutes of the previous Executive Council meeting held at The AGSS meetings at The University of Indiana Southeast in November 2016 were approved as submitted.

- The treasurer’s report was submitted and approved without discussion.

- All EC members agreed that the new iteration of the Journal of Global South Studies (JGSS) published by the University of Florida Press was a step forward in assuring the vibrancy and relevance of the journal and the association in the coming years.

- Dr. Manian asked the EC to consider compensation for the individual that designed the conference program cover as well as the program banners. The EC agreed that paying for the individual’s lodging was appropriate.

- It was noted that Dr. Gary Kline has mentioned his desire to step down from the editorship of the JGSS. A timeline has not been established but the discussion has begun concerning a successor. Dr. Rodell mentioned the need for institutional support for anyone that accepts the role of editor.

- Dr. Hall reported the results of the most recent elections for vice president/president elect and to the EC. Dr. Ryan Alexander is the new vp/president elect and Dr. Jyoti Tripathy was elected to a seat on the EC. Dr. Hall encouraged the AGSS membership to run for office and encouraged those members that did not succeed this year to run again in the future. Self-nomination is encouraged.

- The 2018 AGSS meeting will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the historic Hotel Albuquerque. Dr. Hall has made a deposit holding a block of rooms for November 18-20 which is Thanksgiving week. The conference room rate is $130 per night. The Albuquerque conference will be the first meeting of the AGSS in the southwest United States. Future meeting sites are tentatively scheduled for Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2019 and New Orleans in 2020. There was some discussion of meeting sites for 2021 and beyond including Colombia, Bolivia, Vermont, and Savannah but no proposals have as yet been received.
• There was a discussion regarding conference fees and the need to reconcile member versus non-member fees. Dr. Hall stated that there should not be a financial advantage for non-members attending and proposed a method to correct that discrepancy.

• Dr. Pederson praised the changes that has taken place in the organization making it more professional. He lauded Dr. William Head for the journal transition. Dr. Pederson thanked Dr. Manian for arranging the Morocco conference and everyone present in their role in negotiating the organization’s name change.

• Dr. Rodell thanked everyone for the evolution of the organization after the passing of Dr. Harold Isaacs.

• Dr. Eastwood described her activities in her role as the AGSS representative to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Dr. Eastwood mentioned that the U.N. required that the AGSS constitution mention both old and new names as a requirement of continued observer status at the U.N. The secretary was to make those changes and submit the constitution to the EC for approval.

• In the New Business portion of the meeting Dr. Manian suggested that there be drafted a document that described the do’s and don’ts for conference organizers.

• Dr. Da Cruz as well as the other members of the EC thanked Dr. Manian for her herculean efforts in putting the Marrakech conference together. Dr. Manian praised the assistance of her Moroccan colleagues at the Hassan II University of Casablanca Faculty of Letters and Humanities Ben M’sik Casablanca, co-sponsors of the conference.

• A motion to adjourn was accepted and the meeting adjourned at 3:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Szmedra
Secretary AGSS