

SEAC Secretary Report, 2021

Elections

The SEAC ballot this year included elections for four voting officers and members of the SEAC Executive Committee (Treasurer-elect, Social Media Editor-elect, Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention [SHARP] Coordinator, and Executive Officer I). The SEAC Nominating Committee identified candidates for these offices, and the nominees then prepared candidate statements and pictures, which the Secretary then edited and forwarded to James Claiborne (Vote-Now), along with wording to be circulated with email announcements and reminders about the election and instructions to SEAC members for accessing the ballot and candidate materials. The SEAC election started on September 17 and closed on October 10, and the Secretary communicated the election outcomes to the SEAC President and members of the Executive Committee on October 11. During the election period, I fielded some inquiries about the election and access to electronic ballots. For the 2021 annual election, there were 912 eligible voters, and 363 voters recorded votes, which is a participation rate of 39.8%, slightly down from 43.3% in the SEAC 2020 election. The candidates were: Jon Marcoux for Treasurer-elect (and he was duly elected); Brandon Ritchison and Karen Stevens for Social Media Editor-elect (Karen Stevens was duly elected); Carol Colaninno and Shawn Lambert for Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) Coordinator (Carol Colaninno was duly elected); D. Shane Miller and S. Margaret Spivey-Faulkner for Executive Officer I (Shane Miller was duly elected).

Congratulations to our newly elected officers.

Thanks to all those who stood for election and who participated in creating the slate of candidates.

The offices for which SEAC needs nominees and candidates for the 2022 election include President-elect, Journal Editor-elect, and Executive Officer II; the chair of the SEAC Nominations Committee for 2022 is Shawn Lambert.

Awards

I have assisted the President in preparing plaques for Lifetime Achievement Award recipients for 2020 and 2021; Janet Levy handled plaques for C.B. Moore Award recipients in 2020 and 2021; Maureen Meyers has handled certificates for other awards.

Newsletter

I have submitted reports and meeting minutes to the SEAC newsletter editor for inclusion in the newsletter and to the Social Media Editor for posting on the SEAC website.

Committees and Task Forces

I have maintained an Excel spreadsheet with the names of chairs of committees and task forces, and the names of members of those committees and task forces.

Board Discussions and Votes

I have recorded votes taken during email discussions of issues put forward by the president, reported those outcomes to the president, updated records of such votes in an Excel spreadsheet, and periodically discussed with the president and others some of the issues under consideration.

Thoughts as Outgoing Secretary

It has been a privilege to serve SEAC as Secretary. I am grateful for the chance to work with my colleagues on the Executive Committee and across SEAC more generally. My thanks to my predecessor, Tony Boudreaux, for showing me the ropes, and thanks for guidance as well from Ann Cordell, Janet Levy, and Karen Smith. I am pleased to pass on the role of SEAC Secretary to Ramie Gougeon, with acknowledgment and appreciation for his help as SEAC Executive Committee liaison for the SEAC Public Outreach Grant Committee during the past, and his participation in “SEACretarying” during this past year as our “SEACretary”-elect. There have been many challenges for SEAC and similar organizations during the past few years, and I appreciate efforts made by many to make SEAC all it can be. My best wishes to EC members and SEAC as a whole in the years to come.

—Respectfully submitted, Chris Rodning, 10/12/2021