

Minutes of the ASEF-PSOM Executive Council
December 5, 2017

Present: Roger Allen (PASEF), Peter Bloch, Warren Gefter, Howard Goldfine, Joel Greenberg, Sue Kramer, Ana Lia Obaid, Jon Lindstrom, Anna Meadows, Yvonne Paterson, Brian Salzberg, Jim Saunders, Peter Wilding

Absent: Mike Cancro, Fred Frankel, William Hanson, Susan Heyner, Rob MacGregor, Jeanne Myers, Marvin Steinberg, Donald Young

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Luncheon speakers for the spring term were discussed. Professor Robert Forster will speak April 24, 2018 in room 251 of the Biomedical Research Building. The date and location for the talk by Professor Sunil Singhal remain to be determined.

Carl June has agreed to speak, but the time and date remain to be determined.

Professor James Saunders will give the Healthy Aging Lecture March 22, 2018 in Biomedical Research Building room 253.

Dr. Lynn Lees (lhlees@sas.upenn.edu) is organizing 8 talks for residents of West Philadelphia and would appreciate it if two volunteers from ASEF were to give one hour talks on health issues.

There was extensive discussion about plans by the joint ASEF-PASEF Program Committee for Co-ordination of Future Programs for future new retirees receptions. It was generally agreed that the whole issue has to be completely rethought. Attendance was very low at the last reception, and there were too many oral presentations, primarily for retirees who were not present. Several felt that it would be better to speak only about those present, and that a written format could cover everyone. Peter Bloch suggested that the written format might be inserted in the Almanac. It was unclear how many people would notice it there. It was undecided whether the retirees would be asked to write their own 250 words or approve what someone else might write. It was unclear whether to have the event in the fall, spring, or not at all. In any case, the committee would have to make their recommendations by early January if there were to be a spring event.

There was some discussion about whether social events of any kind were attracting sufficient participation.

Roger Allen presented the PASEF report. In the following week two sets of issues were to be discussed. One concerned TIAA and its recent bad press in the New York Times for being a for profit company and not taking a fiduciary interest in its clients, and the propriety of Amy Gutman being a member of the board of Vanguard. The other set of issues concerned to what extent PASEF and ASEF should be involved in the local community. It was thought that much was already going on informally, and it was unclear what, if any, further institutional involvement there should be.

Some new business was briefly discussed. Jim Saunders mentioned that possibility of a retirement community near the university continues to be discussed, apparently with some encouragement from the administration. Although there is some increase in ferment on this issue, it remains unclear where this might lead.

The meeting adjourned and the holiday celebration commenced, to the satisfaction of all.