Association for Institutional Research
Board of Directors Virtual Meeting
November 8, 2021

Attendees: Laura Palucki Blake, Michele Hansen, Maren Hess, Braden Hosch, Heather Kelly, Elizabeth Lee, Mary Lelik, Junelyn Peeples, Christopher Pena, David Troutman, Karen Webber

Guests: Christine Keller, Jason Lewis, Miguel Pineirovigo, and Leah Ross from the AIR Executive Office.

Absent: Mitchell Nesler

Call to Order

President Junelyn Peeples called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. ET. A quorum was established.

Agenda Amendment

Braden Hosch requested a Treasurer’s Report be added to the meeting agenda.

Required Approvals and Acknowledgements

Meeting Minutes

David Troutman provided a review of the October 28-29, 2021 virtual meeting. No corrections or amendments were made.

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Emergency Executive Director Succession Monitoring Report (EL IV)

David Troutman confirmed that the monitoring report was received on time and stated that the interpretations were reasonable, the data support the interpretations, that no additional information is needed. Mary Lelik moved to accept the monitoring report. Braden Hosch seconded.

Discussion included the duration of the succession plan; that is, how long Jason Lewis or Leah Ross would serve in the Executive Director role if Christine Keller were unavailable to serve. The interim Executive Director would work closely with the Board within the context of the circumstances. It is desirable to further clarify the language that the interim Executive Director will work with the Board chair to determine next steps; the Executive Director will make that change to the memo distributed to staff in future years.

The motion passed.

Ends Monitoring Report (Policies C &D)

David Troutman confirmed that the monitoring report was received on time and stated that the interpretations were reasonable, the data support the interpretations, that no additional information is needed. Braden Hosch moved to accept the monitoring report. Mary Lelik seconded.
Discussion included clarification of language around the Board’s role to determine whether the Executive Director’s interpretations are reasonable, not whether they are acceptable.

The motion passed.

Committee Updates

Nominations and Elections Committee: Heather Kelly shared that there are 21 eligible nominees who will be considered for the slate, compared to 23 last year. Each committee member will review all of the candidates and will confirm the slate early in 2022.

Board Structure for Accountability and Effectiveness Committee: Heather Kelly thanked the Board for the conversation that took place about the committee’s work at the October meeting.

Governance Orientation and Training Committee: Karen Webber shared that there are no updates, but offered thoughts on plans for 2022 trainings as proposals are developed.

Board of Director’s Role as Ambassador of AIR Committee: Michele Hansen shared that the committee is working to develop a definition of what the ambassador role means, what it looks like, and relevant success indicators. The committee will present a formal proposal at the December meeting.

Membership Committee: Braden Hosch noted that the committee charge lapses at the end of the calendar year, and will request a revised committee structure moving forward to continue to advise the Executive Office on the adoption of organizational membership. The committee will soon meet with its advisory committee to share updates. Also, the committee seeks to address concerns about the role of organizational membership for international institutions.

Treasurer’s Report

Braden Hosch shared the Board budget, the timing of which is Board year to Board year (a mismatch with the Association’s budget year). The Board has not spent money originally intended for travel and meetings due to the pandemic, and there are unbudgeted funds for to-be-determined training and initiatives.

Executive Session

{The Board entered Executive Session at 1:57 p.m. ET}

{The Board ended Executive Session at 2:23 p.m. ET}

Ends: The Future of IR through a JEDI Framework

Junelyn Peeples continue the conversation about wrapping JEDI concepts in the Ends that was started at the October two-day Board meeting. To frame discussion, she turned to the four key concepts of the Statement of Aspirational Practice for IR: Activating Data-Informed Decision-Making; Building and Supporting an IR Function; Leadership for the IR Function; Activating a Student-Focused Paradigm. Junelyn posed the questions: What can we do as a Board to help the AIR community reach this aspiration of practice? How do we do these things in space that is considerate through the JEDI lens? How do we first acknowledge unconscious biases we carry in our work? How do we focus on the Ends and
understand that the Means are the pathway to the purpose as achieved by the Executive Office? Discussion included the way success in this area would be defined (i.e., not just a shift in the numbers of individuals with different identities in a wide variety of roles, but also preparing AIR community members for this work, such as to take on new roles, to seek out different institutions for employment, to lead in these areas, to seek out new diverse data sources, etc.) Additional topics include the lack of agency some IR professionals have, which speaks to a need for equitable access to resources so that focus can include more than mandatory reporting and allow space for this work. Also, attention is needed to the education component of JEDI work as well as the need to energize people who are already doing this work.

**Board Face to Face Meeting**

Christine Keller shared that if the Board meets in-person March 31 – April 1, 2022, as currently planned, the suggested location is one of the upcoming Forum hotels in Phoenix. Additional details will be shared as plans develop.

**Other Business**

Christine Keller shared that AIR Awards will be advertised soon and asked that Board members promote and engage in the process to encourage nominations.

**Adjournment**

Junelyn Peeples adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m. ET.