

Convention Committee Agenda and Minutes Spring 2016 Wed, March 2 8:30 am Lake  
Nokomis  
Diane Vanner Steinberg and Felicia Jean Steele, co-chairing

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Old Business
  1. **Keywords** – we discussed using these to sort papers into panels, and agreed that the actual sessions in 2016 would tell us if they had been successful. We agreed that "Other" should probably read instead "Other / Roundtable" as the use of keywords for roundtable submissions was a bit confusing.
  2. **Fan-fiction** – what is its place at the convention – the consensus of the group was that we would not open up a submission category of "fan fiction" because of the copyright issues involved, but that the convention would be open to a roundtable about fan fiction.
  3. **Double dipping as a "Common Reader" creative text** – the committee recommended that creative submissions in the "Common Reader" category also include a 100 word explanation of how the creative work was inspired by the Common Reader (this explanation would not count in the 2000 word total), and the explanation would not be required of critical essays.
  4. **Academic Integrity and Award Winners** – the convention chairs announced that they planned to use Turn It In to explore all of the convention paper award winners (bearing in mind that many of these papers would already be in the Turn It In database because they had been submitted by the faculty for whom they had first been written). Not a single convention paper award winner showed any sign at all of being an unoriginal work.
  5. **Standing Round tables** – who should submit them – the limitations of EBMS makes scheduling un-submitted roundtables very time-consuming and invalidates the EBMS protections against cross-scheduling participants. Therefore, the committee recommends that standing roundtables – SKD, NEHS, service, Emeritus Sponsors, among any others – always be submitted even if their acceptance is a mere formality. Future convention chairs or the central office should send e-mail reminders. SKD should be commended for their care in submitting their roundtables by the book.

6. Encouraging attendance Wednesday to Saturday night – the committee discussed a scheme for encouraging convention attendance Wednesday evening through the Saturday Gala by exploring an arrangement in which room rates at the convention hotel would be reduced for a 4th night stay so that adding one more night to the convention stay would not be as expensive a decision. The committee decided that this would not be very feasible.

7. Judson Q. Owen awards – it was decided to bring a motion to the Board asking that the "Other Convention Awards" be renamed the Judson Q. Owen Convention Awards." The Isabel Sparks President's Awards remain unchanged.

3. New Business – over to Shannin Schroeder, chair of the 2017 Convention in Louisville – Shannin made some announcements about the upcoming speakers and Common Reader and theme for Louisville in 2017 and referred us to the convention program. She also introduced "Guidebook" a for-purchase app for conventions and other meetings. The committee approved her request to put a motion before the Board that Guidebook be purchased for at least the next two conventions.

4. Thanks – to all judges and moderators and convention committee workers.

Submitted 12 March 2016 by Diane Vanner Steinberg