



Actions of the AASLH Council

The Council of the American Association for State and Local History met on Wednesday afternoon, August 28, 2019, during the 2019 AASLH Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. AASLH Chair John Fleming led the meeting, and Council took the following actions:

1. Voted to confirm the Chair's appointment of Lisa Anderson, Woodbury Art Museum, Utah Valley University, and Marianne Carpenter, The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, to fill two vacancies on Council.
2. Welcomed newly elected Council members Ashley Bouknight, Trevor Jones, Jennifer Kilmer (re-elected), and Jennifer Ortiz; thanked Council members finishing their terms, Marian Carpenter, Jennifer Kilmer, Erin Carlson Mast, and Sarah Pharaon.
3. Voted to approve the appointment of Scott Wands as Council Representative to the AASLH Executive Committee.
4. Discussed the Governance Committee's report on its biennial survey of Council members and their views about how the Council functions internally and how it connects to staff and committees.
5. Discussed next steps for diversity and inclusion efforts with regard to how Council itself operates, as well as an inclusion assessment, led by the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, of the organization as a whole.
6. Heard a proposal to dissolve the Creativity & Experimentation Task Force and agreed that the group had accomplished its work. Council thanked the chair Trina Nelson Thomas and her task force members for their help over the past two years.
7. Discussed a proposal from the Climate Sustainability Task Force to create Climate Sustainability Committee. Discussion was tabled until John Dichtl and Council members Mari Carpenter and Lisa Anderson seek clarifications from the task force.
8. Voted unanimously to approve the proposal from the Awards Committee to create a new category for publications, which will have four subcategories: Best Small Press Local History, Best Local History Book, Best History Practice Book, and Best Journal Article.
9. Voted unanimously to proceed with plans that staff and the AASLH 250th Anniversary Coordinating Committee have been developing for the Semiquincentennial. Council heard a report on what the committee and its five working groups have begun to organize with regard to five goals of promoting relevance, inclusion, history education, collections, and funding, in particular the Summit Meeting held during the Annual Meeting on August 29.