
AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
18TH-CENTURY
STUDIES

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

**2022 ASECS Business Meeting
Agenda**

1 April 2022, 3:15 pm

Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor, Key Ballroom 7 & 8

1. Call to Order (Executive Director: Mark Boonshoft); 3:33 pm
2. Call for Quorum (Parliamentarian: Joe Bartolomeo); Quorum met
“At least 10 percent (10%) of the Society's members in good standing who have registered for the Annual Meeting shall be in attendance at the Business Meeting for official votes to be conducted.”
3. Summary of Major Executive Board and Business Office Actions 2021–2022, and Executive Director’s Report
 - a. Switched operations from a campus-based model with a part-time Executive Director, to an office run by an independent, full-time Executive Director.
 - b. Purchased perpetual access to Gale’s Eighteenth-Century Collections Online (ECCO) 1 & 2 for all ASECS members in North America and nearby areas.
 - c. Successfully completed a \$70,000 fundraising campaign to support the purchase of ECCO.
 - d. Established with Gale a non-residential fellowship program, to support work in ECCO.
 - e. Adopted the first new dues structure since 2013-14, with more income-based gradations.
 - f. Held an ASECS Town Hall to discuss the future of the Society.
 - g. Contracted with Gladiator Consulting to complete a comprehensive membership survey.
 - h. Created a new standing Committee on Development to coordinate ASECS fundraising efforts. This committee consists of 5 members: Chair: Catherine Ingrassia, Catherine Jaffe, Heather McPherson, ASECS Treasurer Joe Bartolomeo, and Executive Director, Mark Boonshoft.
 - i. Created a new, ad-hoc committee on advocacy, chaired by Lisa Cody, and consisting also of Tita Chico, Alex Dubé, Suvir Kaul, and Elizabeth Cassie Mansfield.
 - j. Hired a new bookkeeping and accounting service.
 - k. Transferred *Eighteenth-Century Studies* from its former home at University of New Hampshire, under editor Sean Moore, to the University of British Columbia, under editor Ramesh Mallipeddi.
 - l. Conducted a search for a new Book Review Editor, to replace Jennifer Thorn. An offer will be made and to a new Reviews Editor soon.
 - m. Transferred away from a print Annual Meeting program to an app and digital PDF.
 - n. Hired the second fulltime Executive Director, Benita Blessing, who will take over in June.
4. Treasurer’s Report (Joe Bartolomeo)
 - 1) Investment Balances: as of Monday, March 28, 2022, totaled **\$2,098,117.37**, a loss of approximately \$69,000 from the prior year.
 - 2) As of March 28, 2022, the ASECS bank account balance was \$85,195.70. Most of those funds are committed to Annual Meeting expenses.

- 3) Slightly over half of ASECS's invested funds are restricted endowments, the rest unrestricted. For many years, unrestricted funds have been needed to support annual operations. This year, we estimate that we'll need \$50,000. In other words, ASECS has a structural deficit that must be addressed.
- 4) Some of ASECS's restricted endowments, which support prizes, travel awards, and library fellowships, are overcapitalized, but others are uncapped. The Executive Board recently appointed a Development Committee to work on addressing this imbalance.
- 5) Finally, the ECCO Equity Fund campaign has been very successful and has met its goal, so we have the funds needed to pay Gale for perpetual access to ECCO for all ASECS members.

5. 2022 Election Results

248 ballots were cast, an increase in turnout of nearly 100 voters over recent years.

President	Wendy Wassyng Roworth
First Vice President	Lisa A. Freeman
Second Vice President	Paola Bertucci
Member at large, 2022-2025	Emily C. Friedman
Member at large, 2022-2025	Meghan Roberts

On behalf of the Board and Society, Boonshoft extended thanks for their service to outgoing Past President William B. Warner; to outgoing First Vice-President Meredith Martin, to outgoing Board Members Tita Chico and Jennifer Germann; and to Jennifer Thorn, who concludes a term as Book Review Editor of *Eighteenth-Century Studies*. Boonshoft also thanked other ASECS members who stood for election this year, Gregory S. Brown, Alison Conway, and Barbara Naddeo.

6. Report on Upcoming Annual Meetings

- a. 2023 Meeting in St. Louis
The 2023 meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch, March 7-12. Room rates will be \$165.
- b. 2024 Meeting in Toronto
The 2024 meeting will be held at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, April 2-7. Room rates will be \$259 CAD.
- c. 2025 Annual Meeting Virtual
The Board voted to hold the 2025 Annual Meeting virtually.
- d. 2026 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia
The 2026 meeting will be held at the Philadelphia 201 Hotel, April 8-11. Room rates will be \$237.

7. New Business; None

8. Adjournment; 3:47pm