

Government and Nonprofit Section  
American Accounting Association  
2007 Annual Conference  
Executive Committee and Business Meeting  
Minutes of Meeting  
August 6, 2007  
4:30 to 6:00 pm

G. Robert Smith, Jr., President, called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**Secretary/Treasurer Report: Jayaraman Vijayakumar**

The GNP section's cash balance at June 30, 2007 was \$24,175.53. This is consistent with last year. Our major expense for 2006/2007 was the mid-year meeting. As of June 30, 2007, the GNP section has 408 members. Additional efforts need to be placed on increasing the membership of the GNP section. Thomas Vermeer made the motion to approve the Secretary/Treasurer Report. Abe Simon seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

**2007 Annual Meeting Report: Thomas Vermeer**

Thomas Vermeer presented the Outstanding Research Paper Awards for the 2007 Annual Meeting. The Awards were granted to:

Elizabeth K. Keating, Linda M. Parsons, and Andrea A. Roberts for  
*Misreporting Fundraising: How Do Nonprofit Organizations Account for  
Telemarketing Campaigns?* and

William R. Baber, Angela K. Gore, Kevin T. Rich, and Jean Zhang for  
*Municipal Restatements and Governance*

Thomas thanked the four academics that determined the Outstanding Research Paper Awards.

There were 34 paper submissions in total to the GNP section for the Annual Meeting. Of these, 21 papers were accepted for inclusion in seven concurrent sessions. Three papers were included in the New Scholar Concurrent Session and one in the Forum papers.

Thomas Vermeer presented the following policies for determining the Outstanding Research Paper Award:

Each year the Research Chair of the GNP section is charged with determining the Outstanding Research Paper Award for the annual meeting. The following policies will govern this selection for the 2007 Annual Meeting:

1. Research Chair selects four or less papers submitted to the Annual Meeting that received at least an “accept” recommendation from one reviewer and a “probably accept” recommendation from the other reviewer. In an unusual situation, the Research Chair can decide that no papers merit consideration for this award.
2. Research Chair identifies three or four academics that did not submit a paper to the annual meeting to evaluate these papers.
3. Each academic will receive the paper, the review comments, and an evaluation form.
4. Each academic will rank the paper on the following scale, 1 = “weak support for award” to 5 = “strongly support the award” or N/A = “paper should not be considered for outstanding paper”. In addition to ranking, **additional comments would be greatly appreciated.**
5. The paper with the highest ranking will be awarded the Outstanding Research Paper Award. This paper must receive a ranking of 4 or more from at least three reviewers to be eligible for the Award. If no paper meets this criterion, the Outstanding Research Paper Award will not be given that year.

Lewis Stewart made the motion to approve the policies for determination of Outstanding Research Paper Award. John Trussel seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

### **2007 Mid-Year Conference Report: Suzanne Lowensohn**

Saleha Khumawala presented this report on behalf of Suzanne Lowensohn. We received 17 submissions for the 2007 midyear meeting at the GASB offices in Norwalk. Consistent with prior year’s meetings, both full papers and research in development stages were considered. In two sets of concurrent sessions on Saturday, a total of twelve papers were presented addressing GNP auditing issues, nonprofit issues, governmental reporting issues and governmental accounting issues. The morning ended with an emerging issues research session, where research proposals and ideas were presented and audience input was solicited.

Many thanks to the section members who served as reviewers! And special thanks to Linda Parsons, Tom Vermeer, and Terry Patton for their help with the entire process.

## **Committees and Other Reports**

### **Newsletter: Louis Stewart**

The Newsletter is being distributed fully in an electronic format. Louis thanks everyone for the contributions to the newsletters.

### **Webmaster: Dwayne McSwain**

G. Robert Smith reported that Dwayne, with the assistance of G. Robert Smith, will be working on updating the GNP website.

### **Doctoral Program Liaison: Leslie G. Eldenburg**

The dissertation proposal grant was awarded to Dan Neely at the University of Houston for his dissertation entitled *The Impact of Corporate Governance on Financial Reporting and Agency Costs*. The award includes an award up to \$1500 to defray expenses for his dissertation.

The dissertation award was granted to Rabih Zeidan at the University of Houston for his dissertation entitled *Charity Care Measurement, Political Cost Constraints and Discretionary Spending by Hospitals*. This award includes a check for \$500.

The travel grant awards were granted to Annette Pridgen at University of Mississippi and Cathy Scott at Jackson State University.

There was a discussion regarding the manner of funding for the dissertation award. G. Robert Smith made the following motion and Nicole Thibodeau seconded it.

Saleha Khumawala investigates, with the assistance of the Doctoral Program Liaison, the ramifications of a \$1,500 funding for the Best Dissertation Award.

Motion passed unanimously with one participant not voting.

### **GNP Accounting Standards: Kathryn Jervis**

Please forward information to Kathryn Jervis regarding proposed accounting standards. Kathryn will assist you in writing up the comment letter.

A discussion ensued regarding whether the GNP should release official positions on proposed accounting standards.

**Historian: Barry Marks**

G. Robert Smith has forwarded the financial statements up to 2004. Otherwise, nothing to report.

**Information Technology: G. Robert Smith**

The GNP section database has numerous bad email addresses. G. Robert Smith will follow up on this and obtain correct email addresses.

**International: TBA**

It was noted that James Chan is International liaison.

**Long-Range Planning: Dana Forgione**

We have been in confidential discussions with the editor of a journal which is pending completion of the current issue. This has been a long process, and once the current issue is complete we will have a better idea of whether we need to go ahead and launch a new Section journal on our own, or whether we will be able to work with an existing journal.

Dana noted that our patience will be rewarded.

**Nominating: Dana Forgione**

The following slate of officers were presented for the 2007/2008:

President – Saleha Khumawala  
President Elect – Jayaraman Vijayakumar  
Secretary/Treasurer – Thomas Vermeer  
Research Chair – Suzanne Lowensohn  
Research Chair Elect – Jackie Reck

Lewis Stewart made the motion to approve the slate of officers for 2007/2008. John Trussel seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

**Regional Coordinators: Saleha Khumawala**

Mid-Atlantic – no coordinator  
Midwest – Ola Smith – no GNP papers presented at the regional meeting  
Northeast – Andrea Roberts – two GNP papers presented at the regional meeting  
Ohio – Sandra Richtermeyer – three GNP papers presented at the regional meeting  
Southeast – Royce Burnett – seven GNP papers presented at the regional meeting  
Southwest – Robert Webster – Six GNP papers presented at the regional meeting

Western – Kimberly Sawers – no contact with Kimberly. Looking for new Western region coordinator

### **Old Business**

Section Journal – see long-range planning discussion  
Dues – still \$15 because there is no Section journal

### **New Business**

James Chen presented a check for \$500 as a contribution to the GNP section. All parties present at the meeting thanked James for his generosity.

Ken Smith discussed the shortage of Ph.D.'s and what the GNP section could do to address this issue.

G. Robert Smith formerly passed the gavel to Saleha Khumawala and introduced her as the President of the GNP section. As her first official act, Saleha thanked G. Robert Smith for his continued service to the GNP section. Saleha noted that these will be the key initiatives of her tenure: 1) Every member recruit a person to join the GNP section, 2) Special GNP issue of the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*. Bill Baber and Mike Granof will be co-editors for the special issue. An announcement will be posted soon providing details regarding the special issue. and 3) obtain a section journal for the GNP section.

The 2008 GNP Mid-Year meeting will be held in San Antonio, TX on February 29 to March 1. The call for papers will be coming out soon for the meeting.

Saleha thanked the GNP section for choosing her as the President.

Following this the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted by Thomas Vermeer, Secretary/Treasurer. GNP section.