

**Asian Pacific Islander Caucus**  
**August Conference Call**  
Friday, August 13, 2010  
1 pm EST

**MINUTES**

<b>Present:</b>	Harry	Mona	<b>Excused:</b> Tana	<b>Absent:</b> Jay
	Ann	Vishnu	Arnab	
	Winston	Luceli	Domin	
	Lily	Jamie		
	Alek	Fahina		

**I. Welcome**

**II. Officer Updates**

Chair – Harry, Alek, Winston  
General updates

Current Updates: Nadia Islam was not selected to be on the AJPH Editorial Board. All three of our nominees to APHA Boards/Committees were not successful. We will look into how to increase our chances for next year’s opportunity.

Winston, Alek, and Harry are spearheading the efforts to select and invite a keynote speaker for the upcoming social at APHA. Current names include Ignatius Bao, Sherry Hirota, and Kyu Rhee. Additional updates will be shared on the next call.

Communications Chair Update: Tana will no longer be serving as the Communication Chair but will serve in another capacity. Want to thank all for your patience and concern. Meantime Alek and Harry will be working to identify an interim communications chair between now and the APHA meeting and will have some confirmation and updates via email. Fahina will be asked to immediately get a “special call for nomination” ready for a Communication Chair. Please encourage folks that you may know that can fill this seat and also forward announcements to others who may be interested.

Winston update: Looking forward to working on keynote speakers and sponsorship.

Alek update: No updates at this point.

Harry will be looking into setting parameters to sponsorship, goals, etc. Hope to have an update on next call on sponsorship issues. Mona asked if they write letters to potential sponsors and if so, can they share the letter requesting sponsorship with executive committee. Harry will forward the letter to the executive committee.

## **Program Chair – Sean, Luceli**

Sean: co-sponsorship and sessions

Lots of work, as everyone knows, occurred this last month. Everyone assisted by looking through the programs and recommended sessions for the caucus to sponsor. Co-sponsoring serve as a supplement to our program. We hope that co-sponsorship of these program helps others learn more about our caucus. Still in the process - once sessions are recommended, we make formal request from other program chair to approve our requests. We have heard from half of these program chairs and currently working to get other contact information for the other half. A request was made to the Spirit of 1848, a theory oriented group, which they rejected because they only allow co-sponsorship if the sessions were actually co-organized with the requesting group. We wanted to co-sponsor only one of their programs. A no answer is fine and folks have the option to accept or reject, which is not a problem. We currently have about 20 to 30 programs who approved our co-sponsorship and 30 pending. We have to see what the returns are of our co-sponsorship...are folks learning more of our caucus or not.

Session Objection: We have three more sessions to go through of which Sean will do today. Once decided, though they will be late, but we will be able to go ahead and add a session. Sean will look into how to work late submissions in. It is possible at this point, he just has to figure it out. A member informed that there is a link to late abstracts after submission date is past. Just have to go thru and do it manually. Sean felt that we are doing pretty good thus far with about 30-40 co-sponsorships with a little need to do some tweaking to do. It was a lot to shift through and basically what was decided to do was to go ahead and accept all the sessions that we all recommended.

Luceli tried to confirm assigned moderators. A few responded but not all of them. We are going with the final assignments that were sent to the group; except for Jay, who will confirm sometimes in August if can attend the APHA meeting. That's the only other possible moderator Luceli is waiting for; and everyone else, she's assuming is fine with their assignment. Deadline for the moderator for print is next week. There are sessions where poster sessions are at the same time as moderation assignments but those people will work it out so that they can moderate and do poster session at the same time – just minor details. Alek is a substitute presenter, but will be kept as moderator and presenter.

Harry thanked Sean and Luceli for great leadership and guidance to getting this through. Thanked committee for following through with assignment. It appeared that approximately 90% of the committee followed through.

Sean suggested that at the retreat, that time be set apart for evaluation of program organizing, look at things that worked or not worked and how it was for the committee.

Luceli mentioned that the OMH Website had included the listing of the APHA schedule which included some of the API Caucus sessions. OMH is also presenting in various sessions and this year there are some good federal turn out.

## **Communications Chair – Tana**

Not present

**Membership Chair – Jay**

Not present

**Policy Chair – Mona**

Policy Review Update: In Feb 2010 when caucus went over policy review, it was hard because there were 21 policies this year and Mona as one person, not an expert in all the areas, found it difficult to cover all the policies. We ended up accepting 2 of the policies. Mona Suggested: If caucus wants to be more proactive and to be a factor in interviewing the policy, it would be nice to recruit members for a policy committee. Mona can call on such a committee to help review the policies and assign by expertise or interest. Sean likes the idea and if we could have a program specific sign up sheet for those who want to be policy reviewers or participate in reviewing and recruit at the annual meeting. There's good turn out at the annual meetings.

Also at APHA policies, if members can help review those policies. As a caucus we have to sign up ahead of time to review a certain subject. This year there were 55 archival policies and we as a caucus did not sign up for one this year. Usually, as a caucus we can read 5 to 10. The question is, are we interested in reviewing these APHA policies? A person asked "if the review of APHA policies was to identify which policies stays active and which gets retired?" The answer was "yes."

Mona felt that this would be under this committee's jurisdiction.

Ann will find out what the topics are and as a caucus, we can determine which is important to our caucus and then circulate it. Options can be for individuals to choose to review as individuals or we can review the policy as a caucus. Caucus need not do everything underneath the sun, but we can get involved in some things that pertain to our caucus.

Mona asked if at the Annual Public Hearing meetings, where joint policy meeting meet and it's open to the public, if anyone attends? It usually happen on the Sunday before conference starts. Did anyone go last year? Ann has gone previous years but not last year. Mona asked if we should start going? Ann stated "No!" and added that most policies that are looked at just 'sits.' Ann further suggests that if we care about a certain policy then we can put energy into it. It usually takes a lot of time and energy to work with a policy, it's a lot of work, and we should do it only because we care about it. It's an event that takes lots of energy without a whole lot of 'bang.' Ann suggests and is supportive of the caucus supporting of individual who are interested in specific policies. The caucus can be a door opener for individuals who are interested in specific policies.

**Treasurer – Domin**

Domin was not present but set her update to Harry. Budget update: currently \$7,994.00 Recently got menu for student breakfast where some of funds will go to.

### **Secretary – Fahina**

Fahina thanked Harry and Lily for assisting with the nomination process and procedure. She welcomed Vishnu Nepal (Secretary), Felice Le (Student Rep), Jamie Lok Weng (Caucus Councilor) and Mona (Policy Chair).

Harry reminded her of “Special Call for nomination” for the Communication position and would like to see that out early next week.

### **Student Representative – Arnab**

Arnab not present, Harry to do updates.

Arnab wanted to discuss potential subjects for student breakfast topics. The breakfast will happen on Tuesday morning and usually there is a good turn out. Last year’s topic was “what jobs are like in the various sectors (for-profit, academic, government). The year before that, session was on PhD programs (things you can do and focus on) and year before that, Gilbert from UCLA talked about ‘getting a PhD vs getting a DrPH.’

Arnab wants to send out the suggested topics to see what the topics the members are interested in. Harry asked if there were specific topics students and professionals may be interested in? Mona felt that we can incorporate the APHA theme – social justice – into the breakfast subject. Felt that it would be a good thing to tie our breakfast subject to the overall theme. A lot of the work that naturally occurs with people that comes to APHA is around social justice. Sean likes Mona’s idea and added that mentorship in communities and how it occurs and looks like can be a part of it. Jamie added that in last year’s monkey survey, most popular option was “a call to leadership” – inside and outside of the workplace. This seems to have been some interest to our survey folks.

Felice felt that there was a lack of knowledge around advocacy, what that looks like and how to get involve in community setting from an academic setting. Some academician wants to do stuff in the community but don’t know how to go about it. Felt that this may also be a good area to look in to.

Harry will summarize the topics suggested and will forward to Arnab. It’s exciting. This is more of an opportunity to help our students and young professionals. Please email other suggestions to Arnab and Harry.

### **Caucus Councilors—Lily and Kawika**

Lily is working on the award reception location and executive committee Sunday dinner. She is in contact with persons in Denver and have done own research about Denver. She needs excel sheets and Harry will work on it and forward the excel sheets to her. Lily requested that if committee members know folks in Denver, to please forward name because we need a few local contacts to assist with information. She also requested if we could reach out to our membership to see who resides in our Denver area. She found out that there in not a huge Asian community in Denver, but there are a few API agencies.

Near the conference center there is an area that is known for Japanese restaurants. There is also a high concentration of Hmong people in Denver. On census, there’s about 4 – 5% API population in Denver. Mona will connect with some folks that she knows in Denver and will forward to Lily. Sean stated that there is a Japanese internment sight in

Denver and that it would be nice to organize a trip to see it, especially since the sight visit would be historical and addresses social justice. No one knew how far away the internment site was from the conference center. Mona will contact Mori with the national JACL to get more information on the site. It was added that there is basically nothing by the convention center. Discussion on conference location hases and have nots pursued.

### **III. Additional Items**

Harry suggested that the next meetings in September and October, that we focus on the updates and preparation for the APHA meetings. Harry wanted everyone to keep updated on their email as we continue to plan and pull things together.

Sean suggested that we also start thinking about student abstract award and to make sure that it's on our agenda for next months. He also suggested that we allow time at the next meeting for introduction of the executive members and also the new members so that the new members and old members will get to know each other a little better.

Harry thanked everyone.

Meeting adjourned at 2:03pm EST