

Members Meeting
ARNOVA Theories, Issues, and Boundaries Section
Saturday November 17, 2007

7:00AM to 8:15AM

Location: Dogwood B, in the North Tower on the M1 level.
Atlanta, GA

Minutes

Attendees (29% of the 104 TIBS members were able to attend)

Felice Perlmutter, Peg Hall, John Whitman, Roseanne Mirabella, Brenda Bushouse, Susan Ostrander, Robb Shoaf, Mary Katherine O'Connor, Keith Seel, Mike Moody, David Horton Smith, Jim Mandiberg, Dwight Burlingame, Wolfgang Bielefeld, Eleanor Brillante, John Van Til, Rona Stein, Denise Crossan, Peter Elson, Yuko Suda, Nuno Themudo, Paula Kabalo, Cheryl Nicolas, Marilyn Taylor, Thomasina Borkman, Margaret Harris, JoAnne Schneider, Michael Moody, Terry Boychuk

Welcome at 7:00AM

Felice Perlmutter, TIBS Chair

Member Business

1. Results of 2007 Election for Executive Committee Positions

Announced by Peg Hall, TIBS Secretary

38% of TIBS members cast ballots

Vice Chair	Susan Ostrander
Treasurer	Brenda Bushouse
At-Large	Jim Mandiberg
	Laurie Mook

2. Treasurer's Report

Brenda Bushouse, Treasurer

Report in included as a separate document

Member Discussion Topics

Led by Felice Perlmutter

1. Encouraging membership

It was decided that TIBS should continue to reach out within the ARNOVA membership and encourage people, through our emails, conference programming, and Special Edition of *NVSQ*, to join TIBS. Other ideas included having a handout describing TIBS at the Plenary Session and having a sign-in sheet at that session so the Membership Committee could contact attendees later.

2. Discussion of the optimal time for the Members Meeting

It was suggested that a late evening meeting, even as late as 9:00 or 9:30 might be as attractive as the early morning time, 7:00AM, this year and could be considered as an option by the Executive Committee.

Member Assessment of TIBS Events at 2007 Conference and Input for TIBS Events at 2008 Conference

Led by Felice Perlmutter, Chair

1. 2007 Plenary Session

Members talked about whether there was adequate time for discussion. There was support for having a second session at which there could be small group discussions of the Plenary topic. Ideas for future Plenary topics included:

- Humanities areas, such as ethics and philosophy of science
- A boundary discussion about international research, social justice, and un-voiced populations
- How to use theory approaches to improve understanding of marginalized peoples
- Cultural theory and critical theory approaches to understanding the civil sector
- A discussion of how theories rooted in national research can be expanded to become transnational
- A discussion toward setting a new research agenda concerning foundations, as recommended by Joel Fleishman

There was support for continuing to take an issue and look at it through various theory lenses and perspectives.

2. 2007 and 2008 Roundtable Luncheons

Members liked the Roundtable format for the first conference luncheon. TIBS had two tables and could have had a third. The Executive Committee will request that ARNOVA continue the format. It was mentioned that the Roundtable might also be a discussion of an *NVSQ* article, although the noise level would need to be resolved.

3. A Joint Session with C-GAP Section in 2008

There was support for a joint session in 2008. The topic suggested by the CGAP Chair, social change and social movement theory, was well received. Jim Mandiberg will join the planning group.

Discussion of the TIBS *NVSQ* Special Edition

Margaret Harris, Editor

Dwight Burlingame and Wolf Bielefeld, the co-editors of *NVSQ* and Margaret Harris provided a description of the history of the Special Issue and its role in *NVSQ*. Margaret asked members who are not submitting a paper to volunteer to be reviewers.

Margaret stressed that the issue must be about theories. Articles should be crafted to address the theory purpose of the issue. The issue will try to address where we are in the body of theory and to move the body of theory forward.

Based on member questions and comments, there was discussion of whether the articles ought to deal with normative or explanatory theory. There seemed to be some preference for explanatory. Others felt that explanatory suggested quantitative and positivistic, thus putting qualitative pieces at a disadvantage. The editors specified that qualitative studies that fit the length guidelines will be welcome.

It was mentioned that theory has many meanings and the point is to have the issue be more than description, with a bit of theory. All good articles are based on theory, but in this issue the articles should focus on it.

A member mentioned that since empirical/causal articles are more typical of NVSQ than qualitative articles, TIBS should specifically state that qualitative research is welcome.

Margaret said that she would be pleased to review and comment on a one-page description that an author sent her to see if it fits the criteria.

Appreciation to 2007 Committee Members and Candidates

Felice Perlmutter, Chair

Many members were actively involved in TIBS this year. Felice thanked all committee members by name, and Jane Andrews and Kelly LeRoux who were candidates for the Executive Committee. A list of all committee members is included as a separate document.

Adjournment at 8:15 AM