

Minutes of the TASSA Transition Team Meeting

Date: 18 September 2010

Time: 15:00 – 17.00 pm

Place: Potomac, MD

Attendees

Haluk Unal

Daver Kahvecioglu

Bulent Basol

Huseyin Abut

Ozgur Kocaturk

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Reviewing and approving the previous meeting minutes.
3. Discussion about the TASSA transition team announcement letter to be posted to the web site.
4. Discussion about the questions and issues document that the transition members worked on in July.
5. Next meeting date and time.
6. Adjourn.

Haluk Unal presented the TASSA Transition team announcement draft document to members.

It was decided not to include David Cuthell who did not attend any meeting so far into active transition team member list in announcement letter.

The transition team decided to post the decisions taken each transition team meeting to TASSA web site. Haluk Unal asked Daver Kahvecioglu and Ozgur Kocaturk to review previous meeting minutes before uploading to website.

Haluk Unal presented the draft questions and issues document. The objectives of TASSA were discussed. All members discussed the essential objectives of TASSA and agreed on the statement “to improve public understanding of the contributions made by Turkish scholars and scientists residing in the United States” as one of the objectives of TASSA.

Haluk Unal asked members to review the draft document and finalize the rest of the TASSA objectives next meeting.

All members agreed on to keep current membership classes for the new TASSA organization.

Haluk Unal opened TASSA activities to discussion based on the issues and questions document. Haluk Unal's first activity proposal, "TASSA lecture series in Turkey" was accepted by all members. TASSA members deliver free lectures at member institutions in Turkey every year.

Members also agreed on to hold TASSA conference bi annually.

All members agreed on that TASSA should provide annual report of scientific contributions of TASSA members every year. A prototype form will be prepared for this purpose and TASSA web site will send reminders to members to have high participation.

The new TASSA organization structure was approved as President, President-Elect, Vice President and Executive Secretary and Treasurer who are selected every two years. The President Elect is the next president who also has to organize the next TASSA conference. The definitions of other officer titles are same as in TASSA bylaws.

All members approved that the endowment is the basis of TASSA financial structure. The current proposal is a 5 years plan to reach \$2,000,000 endowment that could generate 100,000 a year at 5% interest. This amount can be collected from at least 1000 members each can contribute \$200 per year, 20 institutions that will commit \$5,000 and big-money donors to put up to \$500,000. All members agreed on to begin with committed members to generate significant amount before asking big money donors for contribution. It was also decided that the new bylaws should state that board of directors can not spend more than the annual interest income of the endowment.

Haluk Unal asked Daver Kahvecioglu to check the current TASSA website whether it still has authorization for collecting credit card information for membership fee payment or not.

The next meeting will be held on September 26 between 11:30 am – 13:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned.