

NOTIS Board Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m. PST
online meeting
Chair: Shelley Fairweather-Vega

Board members present (online): Shelley Fairweather-Vega - President, Laura Friend -Vice President, Melody Winkle - Treasurer, Yasemin Alptekin - Secretary, Zakiya Hanafi, María Lucas, Olga Cuzmanov, Pinar Mertan.

Guests present (online): Yvonne Simpson, Brianna Salinas.

Board members not present: Yasemin Alptekin, Tarja Sahlstén, Alma Lopez.

- I. Call to Order** **6:04**
- II. Approval of agenda: Approved**
- III. Approval of Minutes (May 12, 2021 meeting):** Approved with a few minor changes

President's Remarks: None

Vice President's remarks: None

IV. New Business

Introduction of NOTIS's new Marketing and Communications Specialist

Brianna Salinas attended the meeting and introduced herself. The members briefly introduced themselves to her and welcomed her. On behalf of the Marketing Committee Zakiya outlined the existing plans for Brianna's six-month tenure. Her responsibilities will include regular contributions to the NOTIS newsletter and social media, along with a number of special projects, which were briefly mentioned.

Update on plans for online Career Day

Laura and Shelley presented preliminary plans on behalf of the planning committee, which also includes Yuliya Speroff and now Yasemin. The date has been set for October 2. Shelley will send a message to members to save the date.

Update on plans for a Summer Picnic

Pinar reported on behalf of the picnic planning committee. She is interested in possibly holding the event at Newcastle Beach Park but asks other board members to send her more suggestions. It was agreed that an in-person picnic could be held, since hopefully most NOTIS members and

their family members will have been vaccinated by then. Decisions regarding bringing food will need to be made closer to the date in accordance with official guidance from King County (or whichever county the event is held in). Sunday, August 8 was agreed on as the date.

Resumption of in-person events

Shelley reported that the Board hopes to gradually resume holding in-person events when and as appropriate. It was recognized that some members who have been more able to participate thanks to virtual connections might no longer be able to attend as often as they have been in the last year or two. Maria Lucas spoke in favor of hybrid events including a Zoom connection when possible to continue including those individuals. Issues of vaccination, masking and indoor events were tentatively explored. It was generally agreed that NOTIS need not be more stringent than King County.

V. Regular Business

- a. **Membership Report:** Olga reported that NOTIS membership, which has been climbing steadily in recent months, has topped 600 and is now at 603. The good news was greeted with enthusiasm.
- b. **Finance Reports:** Melody reported that the balance sheet is healthy. The Statement of Activity shows a net loss for the month reflecting payment of taxes and other expenses.
- c. **CID Report:** Yvonne reported that CID held two trainings last month with a net profit to NOTIS of almost \$1,000. She announced three scheduled new trainings for June and July, as well as plans to reprise two popular trainings. Yvonne is currently accepting no remuneration for the trainings that she gives, as the Chair of CID.
- d. **Translation Division Report:** Shelley reported on the Russian-English translation workshop she has planned. Several attendees felt that the event was worth much more than the prices proposed, so it was decided to call it a master class and charge a higher price, at least to NOTIS members, to avoid losing money on the event.
- e. **Other reports as received:**
Scholarship committee. Pinar reported that another round of scholarships would take place over the summer.
- f. **Updates not covered by formal reports:** Zakiya reported that Yuliya has prepared a slide to advertise the scholarship program. The slide needs to be shared with the technical assistants with instructions to

show it at each virtual event. Yuliya will be asked to distribute the slide.

VI. Housekeeping

The Board decided to hold its scheduled meeting on July 14 but no meeting in August. (The picnic will be in August.)

VII. Announcements for the Good of the Society: Olga's birthday is next week! 😊

VIII. Adjournment: 7:20 pm