



**National Collegiate Honors Council
Annual Business Meeting
Swan & Dolphin Resort, Southern 2
Saturday, October 30, 2021**

Call to Order: 8:04 a.m.

- I. Welcome
President Bhavsar convened the meeting at 8:04 a.m. He congratulated Christina McIntyre and the NCHC staff on a successful conference and thanked Mary Beth Rathe for her team's work throughout this past year.
- II. Announcements and Introductions of NCHC Staff
The NCHC staff was acknowledged and recognized for their outstanding work.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda
Motion made by Susan Dinan seconded Eddie Weller.
The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.
- IV. Approval of 2020 Minutes, as Posted and Distributed
Motion made by Eddie Weller seconded Connor Dailey.
The minutes were accepted by unanimous consent.
- V. Treasurer's Report
Keith Garbutt, NCHC Treasurer, acknowledged the organization's Executive Director, Mary Beth Rathe, and the NCHC staff for the outstanding job managing the organization's finances. Garbutt notified the membership that the organization had received the audit report for 2019. There were no findings in the 2019 audit. Obtaining a clean audit tells us that our management processes are in line with accepted good practices for accounting and management and legal requirements for the financial management of a nonprofit. Garbutt also noted this was the sixth clean audit in a row NCHC received.

In 2020 the organization saw a surplus of \$20,422, due mainly to the Federal Payroll Protection Program loan HEB and Rathe obtained during the pandemic. The loan allowed the organization to cover the payroll of all the NCHC staff during the pandemic without furloughs.

Old Business

a. 2021 Conference

Christina McIntyre, NCHC President-Elect, presented on the 2021 Orlando Conference. McIntyre spoke about the success of the in-person conference after a year of online programming. The organization met its attendance goals for the 2021 conference; however, attendance fell sharply from the 2019 conference. McIntyre was delighted with the mix of speakers and the conference content the attendees presented. She closed by inviting everyone to join her in Dallas, Texas, for the 2022 conference.

b. 2022 Conference

Susan Dinan, NCHC Vice President, announced the Dallas conference theme concept of centering community. She thanked the staff and Julie Holm for all their work. Everyone should mark their calendar for the 2022 conference in Dallas from November 2 through November 6, 2022. Dinan announced a student service-learning project is being introduced as a signature program for the Dallas conference.

VI. New Business

None

VII. Slate of Nominees

Susan Dinan, on behalf of Elaine Torda, NCHC Immediate Past President, presented the 2021 nominees for the NCHC Board of Directors

Officer Nominees

Vice President Nominees

Eddie Weller

Secretary Nominees

Carrie Pritchett

Board of Directors Nominees

Board of Directors Nominees (Professional Three-Year Term)

Beta Jones, Texas Christian University
Christopher Kukk, Longwood University
Minh Nguyen, Florida Gulf Coast University
Daniel Roberts, Virginia State University
Allanah Rosenberg, Saddleback College

The floor was opened for nomination. There being no nominations from the floor, Jim Ford moved to close nomination, Andrew Cognard-Black seconded. Board of Directors nominations were closed.

Student Nominees (1 Year Term)

Matthew Goldman, University of New Mexico

Belinda Dapreis, University of Georgia

Student Nominees (2 Year Term)

Oluwadamilola (Lola) Oke, University of Tennessee Chattanooga

The floor was opened for student nominations. There being no nominations from the floor, Emma Cieslik moved to close nomination, Victoria White seconded. Student nominations were closed.

VI. Recognition of Retiring Board Members

Bhavsar recognized the retiring Board Members

Executive Board

Elaine Torda, Orange County Community College SUNY (2018-2021)

Laurie Smith Law, Iowa State University (2019-2021)

Board-at-Large

Emma Cieslik, Ball State University (2020-2021)

Andrew Cognard-Black, St. Mary's College of Maryland (2019-2021)

Leah Creque, Morehouse College (2019-2021)

David Jones, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (2019-2021)

Gabriella Rivera, Bridgewater State University (2021)

Victoria White, Texas A&M University (2020-2021)

VII. President's Address (Appendix A)

President Bhavsar spoke about his core principle of Diversity and Inclusion within Honors.

VIII. Passing of the Gavel

Bhavsar passed the gavel to Christina McIntyre as the incoming NCHC president. McIntyre recognized Bhavsar (President 2020-2021) for his hard work and dedication to NCHC.

IX. Adjournment (McIntyre)

Motion made by Keith Garbutt seconded by Belinda Dapreis.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Smith Law

NCHC Secretary

Presidential Address
A Sense of Belonging

I struggled with what to say in my presidential address. I wrote mostly about the issue that has been a core priority for me as president of NCHC. Our pursuit of Diversity and Inclusion in Honors and how much more we need to do. Last night it felt totally inadequate in view of the frank and heartfelt expressions about this issue I have been hearing from our students in the last few days.

So, I threw away my prepared talk and decided that the most genuine thing for me to say, on a topic I deeply care about and struggle with but don't have answers to, is to share with my Honors colleagues and students, *my* personal experience as a person of color and an immigrant.

Describing myself with these qualifiers to academic colleagues is something I have never done and feels odd to me because one's otherness is not fashionable to talk about professionally. At the same time, it feels cathartic.

I am a privileged person of color. Though I arrived in the US, over 40 years ago with a suitcase and \$8, I also had a scholarship to pursue a PhD at Princeton and I had the best mentors and professors in the field of Astrophysics at my program. The privilege I enjoyed and continue to enjoy is genuine.

More recently though I have come to realize that the gratitude I feel for my privilege resulted in rationalizing and explaining away prejudiced and bullying behavior that hindered or demeaned me.