

**American Economic Association
Committee on Economic Education**

Minutes of Meeting on Saturday, January 7, 2023

Members present: KimMarie McGoldrick (chair), Avi Cohen, Rita Balaban, Tisha Emerson, Paul Grimes, Andrew Hill, Gail Hoyt, James Peyton, Wendy Stock

Absent: James Hornsten, John List

Guests: Laura Ahlstrom, Sam Allgood, William Bosshardt, Irene Foster, Scott Simkins, and Justin Wolfers (incoming members)

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:30 p.m.

1. **Membership**

This was the last meeting for Rita Balaban, Tisha Emerson, Paul Grimes, James Hornsten, John List and Wendy Stock. This was the first meeting for Avi Cohen and Tisha Emerson as members. The president of the AEA approved the membership of Laura Ahlstrom, Sam Allgood, William Bosshardt, Irene Foster, Scott Simkins, and Justin Wolfers. Their first meeting will be the 2024 meeting.

2. **Approval of Minutes and Annual Report**

Minutes from the meeting of January 8, 2022 (held virtually) and AEA-CEE Report for 2022 were approved.

3. **Annual Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education (CTREE)**

The 2022 CTREE conference was held in Chicago, IL, June 1-3. Despite the additional burdens of the pandemic, the conference submission rate was solid and the conference organizing committee was able to coordinate a full program of paper presentations, panels, and workshops. Attendance at the 2022 conference was down by about 20% compared to recent years. The registration fee was raised from \$125 to \$150 for AEA members, with a similar increase for nonmembers, to help cover increasing costs.

The 2023 CTREE conference will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Portland, OR, May 31-June 2. Plenary speakers include Martha Bailey (UCLA), Julie Berry Cullen (UC San Diego), and Mary Daly (President San Francisco Federal Reserve). The conference organizing committee has completed their initial review of submissions, which achieved record numbers. They are on track to send out acceptance/rejection notifications by February 1. New for 2023, in addition to submissions for papers, complete papers sessions, panels, and workshops, the conference will pilot a poster session.

4. **Expanding Diversity in Undergraduate Classes with Advancements in (the) Teaching (of) Economics (EDUCATE) Workshop, June 3-5, 2022.**

With the dissolution of the AEA Task Force on Outreach to High School and College Students this program has officially moved to the Committee. The AEA Executive Committee originally committed to three years of funding allowing for workshops in 2021, 2022 and 2023. The Committee will be submitting a request to renew funding for an additional three years.

Approximately 50 applications were received for this 25-participant program. The teacher training workshop portion of the program was designed to provide opportunities for instructors of undergraduate courses to take part in course design activities and experience pedagogical strategies that will engage all of the students they teach. The workshop began with an exploration of how to construct learning objectives and utilize them in the backwards course design process. Participants were then introduced to pedagogical practices that are collaborative and inclusive including cooperative learning, engaging lectures, data integration and classroom experiments. To further support development and implementation, participants were paired with a buddy (overseen by a mentor) with the express goal of supporting the enhancement of teaching practices after the workshop has concluded. The program continued successful components of previous iterations, including sessions designed to build community and facilitate discussions of diversity and inclusion. For example, Maria Mora (University of Missouri – St. Louis) and Rhonda Sharpe (WISER) provided short video presentations on how to have discussions on difficult topics and the value of disaggregating data to tell more inclusive stories. Facilitators for the 2022 EDUCATE were Sam Allgood, Tisha Emerson, Gail Hoyt, Gerald Daniels, and KimMarie McGoldrick. The application portal for the 2023 EDUCATE cohort opened in January 2023.

5. Brief Reports on 2023 AEA-CEE sessions and events at the ASSA meetings. Some sessions included remote presenters, discussants, or both.
 - a. "Exploring the Economic Major: Requirements and Content" organized by KimMarie McGoldrick and presided over by Avi Cohen. The session was attended by 45-50.
 - b. "Economic Education Interventions and Outcomes," a Papers and Proceeding session, was organized and presided over by KimMarie McGoldrick. The session was attended by 50-55.
 - c. "Efficient and Effective Course Preparation" organized and presided over by Wendy Stock. The session was attended by 40-45.
 - d. "Ancillaries of Undergraduate Economics Programs: The Extras Can Make All the Difference" was organized and presided over by Gail Hoyt and Roisin O'Sullivan. The session was attended by 25-30.
 - e. "Crisis-Related Teaching: Covid, Climate, Inequality, and Democracy" was organized and presided over by Charlie Holt. The session was attended by 30-35.
 - f. "Innovative Assignments in Economics Courses" was organized and presided over by Emily Marshall. The session was attended by 30-35.
 - g. The annual Poster Session, chaired by Rita Balaban, featured 29 posters. The session was attended by 40-45.
 - h. Sam Allgood attended the Breakfast for Department Chairs and shared an overview of the activities of the CEE, highlighting the CTREE conference, EDUCATE workshop and sessions at the ASSA meetings.
6. Coordinated activities with the AEA Task Force on Outreach to High School and Undergraduate Students in Economics (Chaired by Sam Allgood with KimMarie McGoldrick serving as a member).
 - a. **Expanding Diversity in Undergraduate Classes with Advancements in (the) Teaching (of) Economics (EDUCATE) Program.** See above.
 - b. Community College Outreach: The Task Force recognized that economics instructors and students at community colleges are an important but under-served population. However, they found it very difficult to engage with this important group of instructors on a large scale. The time and effort needed for outreach targeted at community college instructors proved beyond the scope of the Task Force. The Committee on Economic Education has a community college instructor member, and this committee is the most likely group to continue this effort. But this will require resources from the AEA as any effective outreach will be time intensive.
 - c. High School Outreach: With the support of seed funding from the Strandberg Fund for Economics Research on Gender Equity (administered through UC Berkeley), an [online platform](#) was created on the AEA web page to enable teachers to order free wall posters. While initially intended for high school counselors and teachers, ordering is available to college-level instructors as well. Each poster includes diverse images of college students and features the message "Economists change the world with data." A QR code links to the AEA website for high school students. Teachers are able to choose from a selection of 6 posters via a website which the AEA staff helped to build. The fund covers an undergraduate assistant at UC Berkeley, plus printing and mailing of approximately 1,000 posters. The Committee will take over supervision and maintenance of this project.
 - d. Curriculum: There was a general agreement among Task Force members that the economics curriculum, particularly at the principles level, does not fully introduce students to the current state of economic theory nor the set of questions economists addressed. In order to compliment related efforts to expand the curriculum (see the [DiversifyingEcon](#) and [CORE](#) websites, for example), the Task Force, under the direction of Ann Owen, spent substantial time curating content for the principles class that is designed to appeal to under-represented groups. This content will be organized by members of the Committee and hosted on the CEE web page. The project is ongoing and it is expected that additional materials will be added over time.
7. Annual Report from the *Journal of Economic Education (JEE)*
KimMarie McGoldrick, co-editor, shared the *Journal* report and reaffirmed the commitment of the *Journal* as a co-sponsor of CTREE. The *Journal* also continues to sponsor a session at the AEA meetings which is subsequently published as a symposium.

8. Brief Reports on plans/assignments for the 2024 AEA meetings (January 5-7, San Antonio, TX):
 - (a) AEA Proceedings (Cohen); (b) Annual poster session on innovative teaching methods (McGoldrick/Foster); (c) Integrating Happiness Research into the Undergraduate Curriculum (Bosshardt); (d) Model Departmental Ancillary Programs (Hoyt); (e) TBA (Ahlstrom); (f) TBA (All); (g) JEE session: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Allgood and McGoldrick).

9. New Business
 - a. AEA CEE EconEdNews. The Committee has submitted a proposal to the Executive Committee for funding to support a newsletter, initially published twice a year but with the expectation that this may increase with the addition of relevant topics to highlight and summarize. The proposal included support for a print version of the first 2 issues, to be distributed at the 2023 CTREE and the 2024 ASSA meetings to raise initial awareness. Subsequent issues will be emailed and all issues of the newsletter will be available electronically on the Committee website. Content will include descriptions of sessions at upcoming conferences, information about other economic education events such as workshops, highlights of resources for economic educators in general and for diversity, equity, belonging and inclusion specifically, and descriptions of programs and resources available through various Centers for Economic Education and Federal Reserve Banks.
 - b. Supporting Junior Economic Education Scholars. Ideas were put forward to mentor young scholars in the field. The Committee will explore various models of mentoring, developing skills, and providing opportunities for junior scholars.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.
Respectfully submitted,

KimMarie McGoldrick, Chair