1. **Call to Order: 5:08pm**

2. **Acknowledgements and Appreciation**
   a. **2016 Local Arrangements Committee**
      - Steven Loza, Chair
      - Georgia Broughton
      - Luis Henao
      - Kathleen Hood (special recognition)
      - Pablo Infante-Amate
      - Scott Linford
      - David Martinelli
      - Loren Nerell
      - Otto Stuparitz
   
   b. **Program Committee**
      - Timothy Cooley
      - Charlotte D’Evelyn
      - Paul Humphreys, Chair
      - Jesse Ruskin
      - Jonathan Ritter
      - Heather Strohschein

3. **Communications from those unable to attend**
   a. Kimasi Brown in Paris, Tim Rice and Ric Trimillos also send their regards
   b. Ruth Hellier-Tinoco also sends her regards (Tim Cooley)

Many people passed away. Any one else who you would like to add, please let us know.

4. **Necrology**
   a. John Bilezikjian
   b. Jack Body
   c. Andrae Couch
   d. Ornette Coleman
   e. B.B. King
   f. Jean Richie
   g. Dr. Mohinder P. Sambhi
   h. Laura Sobrino

(a moment of silence was taken)
5. Approval of 2015 Minutes
Minutes were posted on the website.
Who moves to approve: Jonathan Ritter
Seconded by Liz Przybylski
Everyone was in favor.

6. Reports
   a. President (Charles Sharp)
   b. Vice-President (David Harnish): Ki Mantle Hood Prize
      i. the committee met last year (Talusan, Ruskin) and the prize went to
         **Max Jack** (“You Call this Democracy?”) about music, sports, and
tension between police. David Harnish read the committees
evaluation of Jack’s paper.
   c. Secretary-Treasurer (Ken Habib)
      introduce new treasurer, Jessie Vallejo
      Ken mentioned old business
      Jessie read current estimates
   d. Student Representatives
      seconds.
      **Paula Propst** (UCR) volunteered after the meeting
   e. Web Editor
      Yuki Proulx sends her regards. Her report is that the website
still works. She and Charles Sharp have continued keeping it
working.
   f. **Program Committee Chair report**: Paul Humphreys: It was a wonderful
committee and we had a student representative from Hawai’i. 38 proposals
were submitted (digital), 3 panel, 1 workshop, 1 roundtable. 27 individual
papers were accepted, all panel and workshop panels were accepted. 44
papers were presented, 4 by Skype. 21 papers submitted to be considered for
Ki Mantle Hood prize. The committee enjoyed reviewing the papers. No
regrets. It was a pleasure to work with the LAC, Steve Loza and Kathleen
Hood especially. Thank you also to Helen Rees. We did discuss the use of
Skype in paper presentations, and we believe that the Skype option should be
remain open to students or scholars within our geographical scope; however,
we observed that the vitality of the meetings hinges on bodies being present,
physically, (in person quorum) at the conference. Thank you!

7. Old Business
   a. We resolved previously that the fee amounts can remain open to LAC.
   b. There was a lengthy discussion about Skyped papers (or people presenting
virtually from a remote location). Below is an overview of the discussion, but
in sum, the following language was voted on to be added to the society’s
chapter by-laws: *Presence is required at the conference to give a*
presentation, except for members in Hawai‘i and in other exceptional circumstances.”

DISCUSSION ABOUT SKYPE: Skype could also remain up to the LAC and Program committees (this was discussed two years ago). Tim Cooley mentioned that there were extra chapter submissions being made (a Skype presentation from the east coast). Should we consider not allowing presentations beyond the chapter regional scope. Charles Sharp mentioned that we may not need to put this in the By-laws just yet, but we could consider limiting Skyping to our geographical scope; however, this could be at the discretion of the Program Committee chair, which it already is. Paul Humphreys suggested that it could be advantageous to have it in the By-laws to be cited, but it could be emphasized in the Call for Papers. Gibb Schreffler, asked about if people are members of the chapter if they register (yes). He also asked if people applied because they were or are affiliated in some way with the chapter, why did they apply as a Skype presentation? Tim Cooley mentioned that if a graduate student from one of our regional programs is in the field, they would be an appropriate candidate. Jonathan Ritter mentioned that the point of a regional conference is to allow and nourish a neighborly, regional cohort and questions what opening it up too much as an online conference could question the integrity of the purpose of a regional conference. Charlotte D’Evelyn suggested that we might have language in the call for papers or the by-laws, this might clarify people’s misunderstandings of the call for papers. We could put the language in the by-laws to suggest language for the committee chairs. Rene Lysloff mentioned that it’s a deeper discussion, such as (1) how should the chapter define itself?; and (2) who does it benefit and how? The Skype option shouldn’t be the first, but the last option, so that if a student, for legitimate reasons, cannot make the conference, s/he has an option. Charles, the business meeting is where this discussion and the decision have to happen, not the board meeting. Ken mentioned that we could suggest “between the mainland and Hawai‘i.” Jonathan suggested we go back to the model to having an SEMSCHC meeting in Hawai‘i or mainland that would be Skyped in (parallel panels/meetings between the two locations of our geographical regions). We could encourage more students in Hawai‘i to be more involved (this year we only had one paper from Hawai‘i). Perhaps we should avoid a free for all of people Skyping. Ken mentioned that what if only one student who submits a paper from Hawai‘i is accepted, could they be excluded? Jonathan mentioned that originally the point for Skyping with Hawai‘i was to have them all in attendance with us. Aaron Singer – while Hawai‘i would love to host a chapter meeting, the university doesn’t have any funding. We would be open to the possibility, but I’m not the person to commit to that. In terms of Skyped in papers, yes it all seems very far away and even with Skyping we still feel very removed. Perhaps if we were to do what Jonathan was mentioning happened before, it would help. Charles Sharp asked how recruiting might help? Could we suggest/encourage a Hawai‘i panel? Normal paper submissions/acceptances would be in place. Jonathan Ritter suggested that the faculty in Hawai‘i could check in with Program Committee to see what is feasible. Rene reminded us that
the point of Skyping with Hawai‘i was to encourage a two-way thing, and if it's just a “dropbox” type of thing, who does it benefit? Do they get the type of exchange that one would in person? Ken and Charles mentioned that productive discussions have happened between in-person and Skyped attendees, despite the fact that it’s not ideal. David Harnish mentioned that we have departed from the main issue. Hawai‘i is safe and should always be included in Skype. Students and independent scholars outside the chapter, however, are in question. Are there people who would abuse this? Present too much at many conferences? Charles points out that if we put it in by-laws, it may exclude students in the field. Ken asked, is there a problem with the way it stands now? Jonathan Ritter mentioned that yes, that is why we’re having this discussion because some non-geographically-related members Skyped this conference. Rene would like to see Skype attendees more engaged.

c. except for Hawai‘i and for those under exceptional circumstances” could be the by-laws language. Charles suggested that if it’s not in by-laws, it’d be in oral history

d. For example: “Papers are expected to be presented in person unless you are a member of the society that is in the geographic area of where the conference is held.” *the language could mention that people should present in person whenever possible. Above bolded language is what was decided on.

e. Suggested wording: “Presence is required at the conference to give a presentation, except for members in Hawai‘i and in other exceptional circumstances.”

f. Motion to add this to the by-laws. Seconded. Affirmed by all.

8. New Business
   a. DjéDje discovered that this year was the 57th Meeting, not 50th
   b. Location needed for 2017 conference.
      i. Cal State Fullerton, and Charles Sharp will be the LAC chair. Funding may be tight, please help him figure out how to get money. Will need a program committee chair.
      ii. 2018 – tentative with Claremont Colleges (Pomona / Scripps most likely on Scripps campus)
   c. Do we need to pay someone to do the website?
   d. Incoming VP position will be 1-year position, so we will need to elect new VP again next year.
   e. David Harnish will be the incoming/acting president, but will be on sabbatical and will need a new person to fill this position next year. The election will need to be made in an odd year (going against the even year elections in our by-laws). Should we change this in the by-laws to “every other year” except when we can’t? Rene motions, Aaron Singer seconded, all were in favor.
   f. TO DISCUSS NEXT YEAR:
      i. The 2 year term commitment for student representatives (student concerns committee) – many students can’t make the commitment for
2 years (e.g. fieldwork), so we should figure out how to better appoint and maintain student reps

ii. We also need to suggest to the Program Committee chair to make sure the schedule allows for not back-to-back Keynote / Business meetings, or something that encourages more to attend business meeting (perhaps hold over lunch with refreshments or another time?)

9. Election of New Officers
   a. Co-Web-editor(s). This is a three-year term. Charles Sharp self-nominates to continue to do this, but getting more help is ideal.
   b. Corey Blake (UCR) volunteered to help with the web editing. cblak004@ucr.edu
   c. Vice-President. This would normally be a two-year term, but will be a one-year term this year. The main duties of the vice-president is chairing the Ki Mantle Hood Prize committee. The vice-president becomes president at the end of their term.
   d. Nominee: Mary Talusan. All in favor. Voted in.

10. Welcome incoming president. Charles passed the gavel to David, who struck the gavel and became acting president.

   Adjourned at 5:52pm

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF Feb 1, 2016, 11:00am
* PayPal balance: $591.05
* Chase balance: $4,522.27
* TOTAL PRE-CONFERENCE BALANCE: $5,113.32

2016 SEMSCHC CONFERENCE INCOME
* As of March 6, 2016, 11:00am
* In attendance: 86 paid participants (37 students, 49 non-students) – not including student volunteers
* PayPal registration fees: $962.40
   * Students paid via PayPal: 30 x $15 = $465 ($0.63 fee applied per transaction)
   * Non-students paid via PayPal: 21 x $25 = $525 ($0.85 fee applied per transaction)
* Cash registration fees: $505
   * Students paid with cash: 7 x $15 = $105
   * Non-students paid with cash: 16 x $25 = $400
* Check registration fees: $275
   * Students paid with checks: 0 x $15 = $0
   * Non-students paid with check: 11 x $25 = $275
* TOTAL 2016 CONFERENCE INCOME: $1742.40
2016 SEMSCHC CONFERENCE EXPENSES
* Ki Mantle Hood Prize (2016 prize awarded 2015 to Max Jack): $100
* Keynote Speaker honorarium for Martha Gonzalez and Jacquelyn DjeDje: $500
* Website Fees: N/A (web-hosting paid through Nov 2016 and .Org through Nov 2019)
* Reimbursement to UCLA, local arrangement committee expenses: $3098.00
* Office supplies: $129.55
* TOTAL 2016 CONFERENCE EXPENSES: $3028.17

SEMSCHC POST-CONFERENCE ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF JANUARY 8, 2017
* PayPal balance: $453.20
* Chase balance: $2,809.72
* Total Balance: $3,262.92