AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CRIMINOLOGY

Executive Committee Meeting

Time: March 4, 1967; 10:30 am to 4:00 pm.
Place: University of Pennsylvania
        Center of Criminological Research
        223 S. 38th Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Participants:

Board members
Bruno Cormier
Albert Hess
Samuel A. Kramer
Gerhard O. W. Mueller

Walter C. Reckless
Stephen Schafer
Marvin E. Wolfgang, Chairman

Other members
Thorsten Sellin
Thomas O. Murton

The minutes of the December 5, 1966 meeting of the Executive Committee were read and approved after the spellings of the names of Daniel Glaser and Stephen Schafer were amended. The chairman then asked for agenda items to be added to his own prepared list for the present meeting, and several were suggested.

1. NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY.

The conference is to be held in New York on November 3, 4, 5, 1967. The authorities of the New York University School of Law have generously agreed to the use of facilities at Vanderbilt Hall, including the auditorium and the faculty lounge. The building is not open on Sunday morning, but another suitable place will be available. The usual rental fee of about $300 has been waived. Two reasonably priced hotels are adjacent to the school, and other hotels can be reached easily within public transportation. About 150 are expected to attend, but the number requiring hotel accommodations cannot be foreseen at this time, since many will be non-member students and others from the New York area. Newspaper notices and other suitable methods of publicity should be arranged by a committee of the Society working with the press officer of the University. Donal MacNamara was appointed chairman of the publicity committee.

2. POSSIBLE AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE.

The first suggestion was that the entire meeting be devoted to a consideration of the reports of the President's Commission on Crime and the Administration of Justice, with other items to be considered as time allowed. However, it was thought that the lapse of nine months might make the discussion outdated. Other subjects were proposed, with related ideas evolving from the discussion. These included: organized crime; alcoholism; vocational rehabilitation; mental illness; science and technology; omissions of the President's Committee reports; legal aspects of these reports; sociological aspects of criminology without emphasizing punishments; procedures in research as the main function of this Society; technical revolution in criminal science and its effect on crime rates and community action; overlapping of governmental and private agencies in studying crime; status offenses and categories of crime being eliminated; corporate or aggregate crime, including riots and group sentencing; evaluation of action programs; changes in meaning of criminal actions and treatment, such as labeling of offenders by police, social workers, and institutions, and the effect on research, statistics, and public concepts; what the criminologist would like to see in police reports, and the type of employee who prepares the information; who may use these data legally; invasion of privacy; reduction of data to workable form and proportions; comparative criminology, including reports of United Nations; panel discussion or a lecture by an authority on the reports of the President's Commission; and political crimes, including draft dodging. Daniel Glaser was appointed chairman of the program committee, after he accepted a telephoned invitation. He will select chairman for each session, and together they will prepare a program based on any of the items listed, or others which they and President Wolfgang may prefer.

3. Application forms, dues statements, and letterheads are to be printed. Names of individuals are to be deleted, and the address of the executive office is to be changed to "Department of Sociology, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. 20017". Envelopes are not to be reprinted, but the return address is to be changed in any suitable way. The executive secretary was instructed to change the billing form as necessary.
4. Bills for 1967 dues were not mailed, and the newly-appointed secretary-treasurer was instructed to send them as soon as the new forms are printed, possibly with a brief statement to explain the delay.

5. It was reported that all address plates have zip codes, including the 188 corrected last week. They were used to mail the February issue of Criminologica.

6. The treasury currently consists of $935.38 in bank deposits, plus a bank certificate for $1000. Outstanding bills total $1,080.03 overdue, and another bill for about $550 expected for the printing of the February Criminologica, and about $1� expected for the address plate changes. The oldest printing bill, dated 11-9-66, will be paid immediately, the others to be cleared in the books to determine current status.

7. Requests for lists of members have been received. It was agreed that lists may be furnished to members at no cost, but not to any non-members. Such a list will be prepared when the dues-paying period is over in April. Possibly, it will be mailed to all members.

8. Presentations are to be made at the annual meeting in New York, for the Vollmer and Sutherland awards. The Bloch award, given in 1966, is not repetitive, and will not be given this year. President Wolfgang will secure from Donal MacNamara a statement of the tradition and history of these awards, which probably are not in written form at this time. An awards committee has not yet been appointed, but members of the executive committee were asked to make nominations to President Wolfgang.

9. Relationship to auxiliary meetings as considered in four phases. First, members may be observers at conferences of related bodies, such as NCCO, but not officially represent the Society. Second, members may participate in such programs, but their views do not necessarily represent official policy or philosophy of the Society, as at the Orthopsychiatric meeting, and a disclaimer should be made. Third, members may be assigned to such participation to represent the Society and its views, such as with the Joint Commission on Correctional Manpower and Training or the International Society of Criminology. For this third, or official, representation, the member should be selected by the president or by a panel of the executive committee. Fourth, affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science presents two problems: (a) the Christmas season meetings are inconveniently timed, and (b) there has not been an adequate attendance at our Society sessions. For (a), no change is contemplated, since more than 8000 registered at the recent conference, and nearly 12,000 are estimated to have attended the various sessions, demonstrating that the timing is not unpopular. For (b), the Society had over 300 at its meeting in Cleveland, but only 32 in Washington; so that the conditions and publicity should be reviewed. It was further suggested that the secretary check with AAAS, ASA, APA, and other behavioral science groups in Washington, to determine the feasibility and acceptability of holding a combined meeting in New York, during the AAAS conference. President Wolfgang is also to explore the possibility of joint meetings with the Quebec Society of Criminology or a similar unit, alternatively in Canada and the United States. Another possibility is with Mexico and Latin America, and this may be considered within a few years.

10. The nominating committee for officers for 1967-68 will consist of Jacob Chwast as Chairman, Donal MacNamara, and Hans W. Mattick.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm, to be followed by a meeting on publications policy. This was attended by the same participants as at the executive committee meeting.

Samuel A. Kramer, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary