

NACIS BOARD MEETING - JULY 2026

Date: July 2, 2026 Board Meeting

Time: 7 PM Eastern

Location: Online

Executive Office (non-voting)

X Susan Peschel, Business Manager (*Central time*)

X Martha Bostwick, Associate Business Manager (*she/her, Atlantic time*)

X Kate Leroux, Director of Operations (*she/her, Pacific time*)

X Jenny Marie Johnson, Executive Director (*she/her, Central*)

Executive Board (voting)

Hannah Dormido, Past President (*term expires 10/26*) (*she/her, Eastern*)

X Vicky Johnson-Dahl, President (*term expires 10/26*) (*she/her, Eastern*)

Nick Lally, Vice President (*term expires 10/26*) (*he/him, Eastern*)

X Jen Mapes, Vice President-Elect (*term expires 10/26*) (*she/her, Eastern*)

X Josie Sajbel, Secretary (*term expires 10/27*)

Neil Allen, Treasurer (*term expires 10/26*) (*Pacific*)

Board of Directors (voting)

X Jessica Breen (*term expires 10/26*) (*she/her, Eastern*)

Silas Hill (*any pronouns, Eastern, term expires 10/26*)

X Lily Houtman (*term expires 10/26, they/them, Eastern*)

X Mike Foster (*term expires 10/27*)

X Kelsey Taylor (*term expires 10/27*) (*she/her, Eastern*)

X Zhaoxu Sui, Student Board Member (*he/him; Eastern; term expires 10/26*)

X Alexis Wood, Student Board Member (*term expires 10/27*) (*she/her; Pacific*)

Ex-Officio (non-voting)

X Jim Thatcher, *Cartographic Perspectives* Editor

X Nat Case, *Atlas of Design* Series Editor (*he/him, Central*)

X Daniel Huffman, Volunteer Coordinator

Conference Updates

Martha and Susan both recently went on site selection trips for the next conference location. Martha provides details of the visits for the 2027 conference, including RFPs and what is most feasible based on hotel locations. Susan provides further details of the area of town of the selected hotel location and the room costs at the conference hotel. Martha discusses the alternate location not selected and the logistics she observed upon her visit.

Martha and Susan also provide updates on registration fees for the 2026 conference. Martha shares her screen to show pricing as it currently stands and discuss minor adjustments that may

be made based on how many people attend. Martha opens the floor for any comments on pricing and will begin entering costs into Eventsquid for testing registrations by mid-month. Martha also asks for suggestions on registration groupings, Vicky mentions we can discuss via email.

Approval of Minutes

Martha motions to approve the June 2026 minutes.

Jessie seconds.

No discussion.

9 Ayes. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstentions. Motion passes.

General Updates

Vicky: Regarding Committee chair continuity, it is recommended to have a succession plan in place for this October if you are cycling off. It's beneficial for incoming board members to have a solid foundation. Ideal to get a document together and collect some thoughts ahead of this fall.

Jen picks back up with other conference updates: We are getting close to scheduling sessions. Around next week the schedule should be finalized. There are a good amount of sessions this year and we are working to fit everything in. We are starting to put the schedule into the Sched app.

Website rebuild check-in

Kate provides a summary of NextByte's status report that was sent recently: Discovery is largely complete. The staging site is up and the live site has been fully replicated for review and audit work. Strategy work begins next, and we are ready to move into that phase as soon as a few open items on the NACIS side are closed out. The most time-sensitive of these is Stripe access.

Kate mentions there are no decisions to be made yet, things are moving along well, and Kate will connect on Stripe access with Martha.

Atlas of Design

Nat details that the transition to U VA Press is complete, warehousing overstock at East View for through June 30, 2027. The Atlas of Design site now links to the U VA site. All stock did not go to U VA, a lot of stock is still in Minnesota and needs labeling / barcodes.

Nat confirms work on Atlas of Design promotions and publicity, including course work and retailers, has begun. Production planning for volume 8 has begun with overseas printing in mind. This saves printing costs and pushes schedules back a few months. We have a couple bids for printing which are substantially lower than our US quotes.

Awards

Jessie provides an update on applicants for travel grants, and an update on the current amount of submissions to the map gallery competition and how many are from students. She

encourages the community to spread the word on entering submissions to the gallery. Awards committee will be having a meeting shortly.

Cartographic Perspectives

Jim provided the following update in writing:

- Issue 108 out
- Issue 109 and 110 have full peer-reviewed content ready
- Some delays in peer reviews, working to sort this out.
- Seeking:
 - Suggestions for our next themed/special issue (~2027)
 - Content for editorial reviewed sections

Communications & Outreach

Kelsey provides an update on social media presence and communications. Kelsey mentions we have started posting new types of content, including Cartographic Perspectives articles in the latest issue. A few more are slated for upcoming posts. Atlas of Design is also slated for future posts, as is encouraging map gallery submissions. Kelsey is still seeking content for the next few months.

Kelsey brings up the current posts on LinkedIn and Instagram and is considering adding BlueSky as a third channel of communication. She mentions it is an opportunity to reach more of the community and NACIS has an account already. There is support for this idea in the meeting chat.

Nat inquires about the cost to add additional social media channels beyond three. Kelsey mentions we would need to budget for it, but we have discussed the possibility of adding Facebook posting in the past. Nat agrees there is a map-interested crowd on Facebook. Kelsey will look into the cost.

DEI

Zhaoxu provides an update on the speaker series and which speakers have confirmed their presence at the conference so far. Zhaoxu also mentions from the DEI monthly meeting that a member has shown interest in a Spanish and French version of the website for the conference and inquires if this is possible as it has been done in the past.

Vicky mentions volunteers have translated the webpages in the past to Spanish and French, with proofreading of dates and city name, etc. A whole new translation approach may not be needed, we can likely repurpose with changing city and year names. We can seek out someone to proofread these translated versions.

Kate poses the question of who would like to look into this, and is willing to assist. Zhaoxu mentions DEI can find volunteers to translate, and can provide the updated text to the website team. Kate can provide the starting text from previous translated versions and the conference team can lead the effort. Vicky will send the existing translated site links to Nick, Jen, and

Zhaoxu for the next round of updates. Mike is wondering if optimizing this process will occur alongside the website update; Kate believes internationalization plans will be coming in the future and we most likely won't have to do translations manually in the future after the website rebuild.

Martha confirms no finance updates from Neil to share at this time.

Fundraising/Development

Vicky requests comments on the draft Sponsorship Prospectus and Website Donation Page. The board will have a vote on these items soon. Vicky also notes the deadline for the printed program as it relates to sponsor pages and requests any thoughts on sponsorship turnaround time. Susan and Daniel discuss previous contributing sponsors and logistics. Alexis mentions deadlines may depend on level of sponsorship. Mike requests additional comments from the board regarding levels of sponsorship in the Prospectus.

Nat inquires about the logistics of sponsoring rooms and coffee breaks, including signage. Martha confirms this is possible. Nat brings up the draft document detailing new fundraising language on the NACIS website. The content is currently in a draft stage and Nat is looking for how it will integrate with current website planning and how Kate would like to proceed. Kate confirms the draft is in good shape. Nat provides further details on the layout of sponsorship, membership, volunteering all together on the website as "ways to get involved with NACIS". Kate will share the draft plan with NextByte, as they are close to the stage where it will be useful for planning purposes.

Kate relays the information that we are not eligible to earn from our Youtube channel. We have enough subscribers, but no views of Shorts and close to, but not enough, public watch hours in the past year.

Governing Documents

Martha mentions there was a committee meeting recently. There is another meeting upcoming. There is a rules and procedures document in progress, and Martha anticipates more updates at the next meeting.

Nominations Committee

Martha motions to move In Camera.

Mike seconds the motion.

9 Ayes. 0 oppositions. 0 abstentions. Motion passes.

In camera discussion about nominations committee.

Mike motions to move back out of camera.

Jen seconds the motion.

9 Ayes. 0 oppositions. 0 abstentions. Motion passes.

Shop Update

Lily mentions previews of the t-shirt and tote bag are available for the board to review. The shirts will have preorders available in the registration form and extras of each size will be ordered. No new stickers and luggage tags are needed for orders. Tote bags are new, we are trying them out to see if popular. These will be promoted on social media, and Lily would also like to encourage more promotion or updates to the current online NACIS shop. Lily asks if anyone would like to create a new design for the online shop. Martha mentions new pins this year as well, and inquires if we can open up the online shop for more Printful content and types of items with NACIS logo. Lily and Martha will collaborate on new items on the online shop, Mike volunteers to assist with this effort as well.

Volunteer Coordinator

Daniel provides an update on position descriptions created for volunteer roles. Folders have been created in the NACIS Google Drive to explain role duties for each position. Daniel has provided a form to fill out for each position in order to create these descriptions. Progress is being made. Daniel emphasizes involvement in the volunteer recruitment process in order to expand opportunities. Daniel has received inquiries for volunteering via the new email address, and wants to ensure all volunteer tasks are documented and that we can properly thank all involved for any volunteer task.

Other Updates

Vicky provides a brief update on the current link to Youtube on the NACIS website. A future goal is a website section with language describing the content of NACIS Youtube videos. Alexis volunteers to help with this, and Jim volunteers to assist with the effort.

Vicky: Presenter guidelines are still in progress, no further updates.

Kate follows up on the question of traffic data for French and Spanish translated pages and provides insights into how often the translated sites are utilized in comparison to the main page.