NACIS BOARD MEETING AGENDA - AUGUST 2026

Date: August 6, 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)

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

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

X 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)*

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

Board of Directors (voting)

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)*

empty board member seat with term expiration 10/27, does not count for quorum

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)*

Daniel Huffman, Volunteer Coordinator

Email vote on July 22 to accept proposed website updates

Alexis Motions to accept. Zhaoxu seconds. 9 Ayes, 0 abstentions, 0 No. Motion passes.

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

We'll discuss, amend if needed, and vote to approve the July 2026 minutes
Motion to approve from Mike. Jen seconds. 9 Ayes, 1 Abstention, 0 No. Motion passes.

Conference Updates

Nick: The preliminary schedule is out. Registration is open, acceptances have been sent. Taking edits until August 10. After that, the print program will be in progress. There are 125 talks, 25 PCD presentations.

Martha: Tracking registration and hotel rooms. We have 28 registrants already, which is on pace. PCD is above where we were last year, but below previous years. Hotel rooms are slightly below pace, but not enough for concern.

Question from Jenny Marie about Slack inquiry regarding conference hotel room rates, discussion about hotel registration. Susan will contact hotel to address this, as it is in our contract that rates cannot be lower than NACIS rates. Martha receives weekly reports of hotel registration and tracks against previous years. Those who already booked will get the updated rate.

Jen discusses feedback on themes and groupings of PCD presentations, particularly software-specific talks. Board provides feedback on a new name for the grouping of presentations and who uses which tools, best way to group or disperse talks. Reminder that presentations are not solicited and are responses to call for participation. Discussion in meeting chat on potential names for sessions to incorporate feedback.

Nick: Looking for someone to design the front and back of the print program. Back is usually a map. Also made a spreadsheet for moderators. First access for board members, then will open up to broader membership in the Slack. Also looking for a moderator coordinator.

Website rebuild check-in

Kate: We made a good choice on website vendor. In addition to being in the discovery phase of rebuilding the site, they've helped us with a few shorter-term things as part of the same deal/agreement. NextByte is able to work on the changes proposed by fundraising committee recently (vote approved at the beginning of minutes, via email).

Nat: There are a few new pages that don't have content yet. If there are people who want to help build these pages, please reach out. Why NACIS? Page, Videos Page, etc. (added pages into meeting chat)

Kate: NextByte is working on a plugin for membership troubleshooting.

Discussion on potential preview of updated website at conference.

Cartographic Perspectives

Jim not present until later in the meeting, but provided the following update:

- Lily Houtman has stepped up to handle our next special issue (mobile cartographies!) more soon.
- We still need more content in our non-peer-reviewed sections, so encourage folks or volunteer yourselves.
- Next issue should be out a bit before/after the annual meeting with our third following in December.
- Already scheduling content out well into next year.

Volunteer Coordinator

Daniel not present but provided the following update:

- A fair number of positions are documented, though many more to go. Meanwhile I am focusing on recruiting volunteers for conference-related needs. Volunteer ads have started to circulate.

Shop Update

Lily is working on adding plain NACIS logo on more items. Pre ordered shirts are underway. New totes, pins, mentioned previously. Working on updates with additional merch.

Kate: We should add this to the next newsletter when there are updates.

Nominations Committee Update

- Replacement board member next steps
    - We have a board member, starting in October to fill out rest of term. Lily extending board service by a year.
- Ballot for 2026 ongoing
    - Discussion on presidential track
- Communication to membership of changes in leadership
    - Will be part of next NACIS News

Governing Documents

The committee met a few times leading up to this meeting. The board is asked to review the changes suggested by the committee before the next meeting.

Martha shares screen, description of bylaws updates and rationale for revisions. Will leave edits open for a week or so longer, Committee will re-work as needed, board will vote at September meeting. Plan to announce to membership at the annual business meeting in October for vote.

Martha: Reviews updated bylaws language, including membership, board, term limits. Feedback wanted for amount of participation necessary by board member. Also includes language updates on VP and presidential track process, ballot appearances, methods of communication, member voting, etc. Suggestion to establish a signatory for NACIS to be appointed by the board. Next order of business will be to create a procedures document.

Nat: address question of Thursday lunch meeting. Currently called: annual business meeting, vs. annual meeting (the conference). Suggestion to clarify or ensure consistency in all mentions throughout bylaws.

Fundraising/Development

- Vicky: Sponsorship Prospectus continues apace, goal of launching the program at conference
- Bookshop.org has an affiliate program as a way to raise an amount of funds
    - Connect with Cartographic Perspective book reviews?

Finance

- Update on financial adjustment made to cash & 2026 tax filing
    - Neil: reconciliation on the process completed, adjusted. Next reconciliation at the end of the year.
- A large donation came in today for NACIS travel grants.

DEI

Zhaoxu not present but provided the following update:

- DEI speaker registration in progress with Martha.

Communications & Outreach

- Kelsey: Budget would be needed for Buffer to include an additional channel (Facebook)
    - 4 channels would be $240/year (we currently pay $0 for 3 channels)
    - +$60/year for each additional channel (Youtube, Mastodon, TikTok)
- Would need volunteers for Facebook admins on the account and review current admins
    - Nat mentions interest in being a Facebook admin for the page, same with Alexis.
    - Kelsey: Can also connect Instagram to Facebook to automate posts in the future. Justification in general of reaching a new audience and promoting conference.
- Kelsey: Upcoming content:
    - Registration open
    - Prelim program
    - Volunteer roles CTA
    - NACIS Shop
    - Continued CP content
    - More Annual Meeting content over Sept and Oct would be great! Kelsey to reach out to Nick and Jen about the idea
        - Presenter guidelines carousel
        - Guide to NACIS 2026 carousel

Neil mentions he has a few updates to provide on budget communications per bylaws.

Discussion on budget for outreach efforts.

The Zoom chat has some suggestions from the board on what some of the conference-related contents postings could be about.

Awards

- Update on travel grant applications (~45-46 applications so far, from Jessi via email)

Other matters

- Vicky: Image for NACIS membership email wanted
  - Suggestion from Nat to use the group picture from the conference
- Vicky: Presenter Guidelines Update - does anyone else want to take the lead on this?
- Alexis: Received advice on Slack about Zine. Anything anyone else wants to add to this? Lily and I will have text/draft ready for next meeting. Email anything you want to add or contribute in Slack. Confirmed there will be a map swap this year in response to an inquiry.

Neil: Donation committee - we need a more formal process for thanking donors. Do we want to call out at business meeting/recognize at conference? Topic for next fundraising committee (Mike), along with how we allocate these grants (Nick).

Awards committee meeting needed on how to distribute these donation funds (Martha/Jessi).

Discussion on possibility of sponsoring NACIS Night Out and how it would be implemented. Continued discussion on whether this would be reasonable this year since NNO is pay on your own. Maybe better to sponsor other events such as coffee breaks or Wednesday Reception.

Meeting adjourned.