**American Evaluation Association**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**February 3-4, 2012**

**Attendance and Call to Order:** President Rodney Hopson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, February 3, 2012. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

**Board Members Present in Minneapolis:**Jennifer Greene, Rodney Hopson, Brian Yates, Stewart Donaldson, Jody Fitzpatrick, John Gargani, George Julnes, Kathryn, Newcomer, Victor Kuo**,** Patricia Rogers

**Present for Portions of the Meeting Via Conference Call:**

Christina Christie, Tristi Nichols

**Not Present at the Meeting:**

Jenny Jones

**Staff Representatives:**

Gwen Fariss-Newman, Susan Kistler

**Minutes:** It was moved and seconded (Newcomer, Donaldson) to approve the November and December minutes of the meetings of the AEA Board of Directors. The motion passed (11-0-0).

**International Listening Project:** It was moved and seconded (Newcomer, Fitzpatrick) to allocate up to $5,000 for facilitation and guidance to identify and clarify strengths and weaknesses of, and recommended priorities among, policy options to guide the Board in policy decisions based on the work to date of the International Listening Project, and testing of possible policy options with key informants. The motion passed (10-0-0).

**International Travel Support:** It was moved and seconded (Kuo, Newcomer) to allocate up to $10,000 to support attendance of international evaluation leaders at the conference. It was moved and seconded (Greene, Fitzpatrick) to table the motion. The motion to table passed (10-0-0).

**EPTF External Evaluation:** It was moved and seconded (Newcomer, Greene) to identify a chair for the EPTF External Evaluation Panel as documented in the directive to the Board liaison. The motion passed (10-0-0). Kathryn Newcomer will serve as the Board Liaison to the EPTF External Evaluation Panel.

**Policy Changes:** It was moved and seconded (Newcomer, Greene) to approve the policy changes represented in the Member Engagement Principles and represented below in yellow. The motion passed 11-0-0.

**GOALS POLICIES**

4.1 ~~Community and~~ Member Engagement: AEA will actively engage its members in the policy and operational work of the organization, with adherence to the Member Engagement Principles (see glossary) and through a variety of mechanisms.

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~~4.1.2 AEA will have structured member involvement outreach~~

4.1.2 AEA will undertake a range of internal community-building and member-involvement efforts.

**EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS POLICIES**

D. DECISION MAKING: The ED shall not develop or implement programs, initiatives, or policies, without weighing (a) alignment with the association’s mission, vision, values, and goals, (b) input from the board, (c) input from members and relevant member groups (e.g. TIGs, relevant task forces) and adherence to the Member Engagement Principles (see Glossary), (d) evaluative data, and (e) short- and long-term ramifications. The ED shall not implement new programs, initiatives, or policies without first informing the Board about the AMC’s plans. If a majority of the Board does not believe that the plans are a reasonable interpretation of Board policy, the ED shall not implement the plans without reconsideration of Board policy.

**GOVERNANCE POLICIES**

3. GLOBAL GOVERNANCE-MEMBER CONNECTION: The Board serves the organization membership. It draws its authority from and is accountable to the members. As such, its role is that of servant-leader to and for that group.

A. MEMBER INPUT: The Board will gather input from members, with adherence to the Member Engagement Principles (see Glossary) and employing a variety of mechanisms, as needed to understand the membership’s needs and priorities.  
B. ACCOUNTABILITY TO MEMBERS: The Board will ensure that members are informed about Board decisions and actions.

GLOSSARY

Member Engagement: Member engagement contributes to the fulfillment of the AEA’s governance and operations while concurrently building member capacity and leadership. Such engagement contributes by:

• Generating responsive and strategic AEA policy and positioning as well as operations that are congruent with AEA’s mission, vision, and values.

• Keeping the board and the association relevant and vibrant to its members and outside communities.

• Offering opportunities for leadership development to all AEA members.

• Offering opportunities for leadership development through continuity of service and through engagement in knowledge acquisition, management, and sharing.

Member engagement democratically draws on—and contributes to—valuing diverse experiences, talents, and ways of knowing, as well as diverse racial, ethnic, gender, and cultural backgrounds by:

• Taking multiple and varied forms so that diverse AEA members have the access, opportunity and means to participate and build their leadership capacity.

• Ensuring that multiple perspectives and lenses are included in governance, policy- and decision-making, and operations.

Member engagement draws on both individual and collective voices by:

• Providing opportunities for a collective voice related to current and impending issues that are of concern to the organization and the profession.

Member engagement contributes to trust, respect, ownership, responsibility, and timeliness of interaction within AEA by:

• Affording member voice and access to individuals and information in a transparent, open, and timely manner.

• Enhancing members’ feelings of belongingness and connection to AEA and the broader evaluation community.

• Respecting, valuing, and giving feedback on members’ contributions.