November 29, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) Board of Directors Elects Officers and Sets Goals for Fiscal Year 2022

RIVERDALE PARK, MD – The Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) held its Fall 2021 board meeting November 4–6 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in preparation for the 2022 AWP Conference & Bookfair. New members of the board were able to meet with the full board in person for the first time.

The board reviewed the report and projections provided by the finance & audit committee and approved the FY22 annual budget. The conference committee updated the board on the progress, changes, and COVID-19 precautions for the upcoming conference & bookfair. Board members and senior staff discussed prioritizing staffing and website needs and setting goals to better serve the membership and the writing community at large while maintaining a sustainable revenue stream.

In an executive session on Friday, November 5, 2021, the full board unanimously elected officers. Kathleen Driskell of Spalding University was reelected as board chair. January Gill O’Neil of Salem State University and Mimi Herman of Writeaways were retained as vice chairs, and attorney and policy analyst Bruce Saul was retained as treasurer. Kris Bigalk of Normandale Community College was elected secretary.

2021–2022 AWP Board of Directors

Kathleen Driskell
Term: 2018–2022
Office: Chair
Region: Mid-Atlantic Council Chair; kdriskell@spalding.edu
Affiliation: Spalding University
January Gill O’Neil  
Term: 2015–2023  
Office: Vice Chair  
Affiliation: Salem State University & University of Mississippi

Mimi Herman  
Term: 2019–2023  
Office: Vice Chair  
Region: WC&C Council Chair; mimiherman@gmail.com  
Affiliation: Writeaways

Bruce H. Saul  
Term: 2020–2024  
Office: Treasurer  
Affiliation: Attorney & Policy Analyst

Kris Bigalk  
Term: 2017–2025  
Office: Secretary  
Affiliation: Normandale Community College

Regina Brooks  
Term: 2019–2023  
Affiliation: Serendipity Literary Agency

Sumita Chakraborty  
Term: 2021–2025  
Affiliation: University of Michigan

Jenny Yang Cropp  
Term: 2021–2025  
Region: Southwest Council Chair; jcropp@semo.edu  
Affiliation: Southeast Missouri State University

James Tate Hill  
Term: 2021–2025  
Affiliation: Author & Editor

Jeff Kleinman  
Term: 2019–2023  
Affiliation: Folio Literary Management
Kenyatta Rogers
Term: 2020–2024
Affiliation: Chicago High School for the Arts

Stephanie Vanderslice
Term: 2019–2023
Region: Southern Council Chair; stephv@uca.edu
Affiliation: University of Central Arkansas

Dan Vera
Term: 2019–2023
Affiliation: Author & Poet

Judy Wilson
Term: 2021–2025
Region: Midwest Council Chair; judy.wilson@smsu.edu
Affiliation: Southwest Minnesota State University

Cheryl Woodruff
Term: 2020–2024
Affiliation: BookMavericks

*The mission of the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) is to amplify the voices of writers and the academic programs and organizations that serve them while championing diversity and excellence in creative writing.*