



OSA BOG Meeting Minutes

Date:	Scheduled Date: 03/09/2025	Meeting Type: Regular
Time:	8:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EST)	Actual Start Time: 8:05 PM
Location:	Virtual	Actual End Time: 9:40 PM
Presided By:	Leena Mishra	
Topic:	Regular BOG Meeting	

Invitees/Attendees:

BOG Member	Chapter	Designation	Attendance
Leena Mishra	OSA EC	President, OSA	Yes
Saradakanta Panda	OSA EC	Vice President	Yes
Santwana Dash	OSA EC	Secretary	Yes
Subhransu Mishra	OSA EC	Treasurer	No
Gyana Patnaik	Past President	Imm. Past President	No
Rani Acharya	OSA EC	Jt. Secretary	No
Siddarth Parhi	OSA EC	Jt. Treasurer	No
Satyabrata Mohanty	OSA – CA	Chapter President	No
Chinmaya Panda	OSA – GA	Chapter President	Yes

Supragnya Dash	OSA – Ohio	Chapter President	No
Dillip Behera	OSA-New England	Chapter President	Yes
Nilasundar Jena	OSA – NYNJ	Chapter President	Yes
Mousumi Swain	OSA – Southern	Chapter President	Yes
Sukanta Dash	OSA – Mt Hood	Chapter President	No
Amulya Das	OSA – Seattle (WA)	Chapter President	No
Sourav Parida	OSA – Carolinas	Chapter President	Yes
Smaranika Rout	OSA – South West	Chapter President	No
Kamala Kanta Behera	CANOSA	Chapter President	No
Manoranjan Sahoo	OSA – Chicago	Chapter President	No
Jayanti Mohapatra	OSA -- MN	Chapter President	Yes
Deepak Jena	OSA – Rocky Mountain	Chapter President	Yes
Girija Prasad Rout	OSA Michigan	Chapter President	No
Bidyashree Parhi	OSA DC	Chapter President	Yes
Nirakar Jena	OSA - Florida	Chapter President	No
Vacant	OSA - MD/VA	INACTIVE	NA
Vacant	OSA - Ozark	INACTIVE	NA
Vacant	OSA - Grand Canyon	INACTIVE	NA

Agenda

- Introduction / Roll Call
- Chapter update
 - External Artist visit & How to Handle
- Convention
 - FundRaising
 - Cultural participation
 - Awards
 - GBM & Responsibility of BOG
- Standardising Volunteering Hours
- Convention guideline Review & Approval
- Secretary's Desk

Introduction

The meeting started with a brief Meet and Greet over Zoom online video conference. The session was started by President Leena Mishra.

Chapter update

The California Chapter President, Satyabrata Mohanty, informed us that they are planning to celebrate Utkala Dibasa outdoors. They are organizing a program where chapter artists, as well as members from other chapters, are invited to join as an artist band for the celebration. They have decided not to bring in any external artists for the chapter program.

Leena Mishra emphasized to all BOG members that the primary objective of organizing activities within the chapter is to promote their culture and honor local talents. Instead of inviting external artists, she encouraged all members to participate actively in the chapter program.

Southern Chapter President Mousumi mentioned that they are planning to hold a chapter election. The President and Secretary advised her to follow the guidelines and conduct the election accordingly.

Georgia Chapter President Chinmaya Panda highlighted that they are planning to celebrate Utkala Dibasa with a four-hour cultural program. Additionally, they are organizing a charity initiative focused on planting trees within the GA chapter.

The Washington, D.C. Chapter President informed us that they are planning to celebrate Utkala Dibasa on April 5th and are also organizing an RDF event on May 10th.

NYNJ Chapter President Nilasundar Jena shared that they are planning to celebrate Utkala Dibasa on April 13th. The chapter recently participated in the NDF and is also planning to present a drama at the RDF event. Additionally, they are organizing a movie night and a local fundraising event for charity.

The New England Chapter President mentioned that they will be celebrating Utkala Dibasa with local artists and have planned a Sursangeet program. They are also organizing a picnic on June 14th. The

chapter elections will take place in September, and the process has already been initiated.

Sourav Parida, the Chapter President of Carolinas, informed us that they recently celebrated Holi and are now planning for Utkala Dibasa. They make sure to celebrate all OSA functions in the central area of the Carolinas so that both North Carolina and South Carolina members can participate in the events.

Jayanti Mohapatra shared updates on the Minnesota Chapter, stating that they are planning to host Utkala Dibasa and will also conduct a membership drive during the event.

Convention

OSA President Leena Mishra highlighted on the following areas ;

- Fundraising
- Cultural participation
- Awards
- GBM & Responsibility of BOG
- Standardizing Volunteering Hours

Fundraising All fundraising

There was a discussion regarding convention funding and fundraising through OSA's chapter network. Any sponsorship received for the convention should be for the OSA Convention as a whole, not for a specific program in the convention. It was also discussed that chapters should reach out to their members for providing sponsorship for the convention. On a separate note, a few members expressed concern that some individuals are using the OSA network to raise funds for causes other than OSA, and suggested that OSA should take action to protect their information.

Cultural participation

Several BOG members expressed concerns about chapter participation in the inaugural program. There was unanimous agreement that, as OSA's inaugural event, every chapter should have the opportunity to showcase the vast presence of OSA across North America. A few members mentioned that the host chapter has set unreasonable requirements for participation such as requiring participants to arrive a week in advance for practice. Many members objected to this - they pointed out that in the past, chapters were given their segment of the music track ahead of time and in some cases received guidance on choreography, props, backdrops, and sequencing. This allowed chapters to prepare for the show without having to come early for practice.

Awards

President Leena Mishra said that many volunteers work behind the scenes in chapters but don't get recognized. She encouraged us to nominate these people if they qualify for an award. It's important for everyone to nominate deserving individuals, so they don't go unnoticed.

GBM Responsibility

The President reminded all BOG members that the core of the convention is the GBM, and therefore, their responsibility for the GBM is vital. BOG members should attend and take primary responsibility for everything, from maintaining quorum to ensuring the completion of the entire GBM agenda.

Convention Guideline Review & Approval

Vice President Saradakanta Panda addressed all BOG members, emphasizing the need to review the convention guidelines and share their thoughts. Based on the feedback, updates will be made, and the convention team will be asked to follow the revised guidelines. He also informed members that there would be some updates regarding the Samik Singh Youth Entrepreneur initiative. He will provide the updates soon and seek email approval for the changes.

Additionally it was discussed again that all chapters should follow the standard volunteering hours template of OSA. This ensures that all OSA programs across the chapters have the same number of hours and that the volunteer hours for a specific event do not exceed the assigned maximum limit.

Secretary's Desk

Secretary Santwana Dash requested all BOG members to share their chapter reports for the upcoming spring issue of Utkarsha. She also reminded all chapter leads to use the OSA flyer template for OSA chapter programs. Additionally, she shared a certificate template and instructed all chapter leads to use it for chapter activities. She expressed concern regarding the non-attendance of some chapter presidents at BOG meetings. She stressed that it is the responsibility of chapter presidents to attend the BOG meetings. If they are unable to do so, they should ask their other chapter officials to represent them. However, there must always be a representative from each chapter at BOG meetings. Regarding membership, she informed all chapter leaders that she has updated all email IDs in OSAnet and the OSA All Members email distribution list. She has also prepared a Chapter Distribution List for all 17 chapters, which she will share with the chapter leaders to facilitate OSA-related communication with members.