

WACAC EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

May 31, 2005
Soka University

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patty Avila-Porter, Kavin Buck, Andy Castillo, Linda Conti, Terri Hart-Devine, Michael Hughes, Esther Hugo, Heather Keddie, Deanna Kilgour, Alice Kleeman, Esther Lopez, Marc Meredith, Sonja Montiel, Robynne Royster, Art Stenmo

NOT PRESENT: Peggy Hock, Sybil Furman, Jan Russell, Helena Johnson

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The minutes were updated to reflect the decision that there would be a discussion of bylaw changes at the retreat.
- The minutes were updated to reflect Marc's concern about the amount of time the president-elect would spend planning the conference.
- **It was moved that the minutes be approved (Keddie) w/ changes; minutes were approved.**

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Art announced that we are close to confirmation of San Jose State as the site of the next conference, which will probably take place early in June of 2006.
- Including exhibitors, attendance at this year's conference should be about 565. A brief discussion ensued about the dates that make most sense for spring conference, as well as whether it would ever be practical to hold the conference at a hotel.

III. NEW WACAC OFFICERS: Esther Hugo

- President: Elsa Clark
- Treasurer: Marissa Dash
- Assembly Delegates: Mary Jane London and Steven Williams (high school side) and Chris Krzak and Jenny Woo (college side)
- A strong attempt was made to nominate people of color.
- Chairmen of College Fairs, Technology, DEA are all rotating off; new College Fairs committee chair has already been named – Lanita Foley from the Branson School.
- The Board was encouraged to offer words of support to those who were not elected so they will be eager to remain involved. Patty suggested that each be personally contacted about committee involvement. Esther suggested that at the retreat Board members be

assigned to contact specific people. Marc suggested that we encourage people here at the conference to talk to him about serving on committees.

- Esther L. brought up the possibility of having a co-chair, not on the EB, who might then come into committee chair position; Marc suggested instead that such a person not be named a co-chair, but rather groomed for leadership with a different title or role. These people should not be promised chairmanship, as the incoming president appoints the chairmen.

IV. OVERVIEW OF ICL: Robynne

- Robynne encouraged us to “be there and stay there” (sometimes people leave after lunch). Everything is set to go.
- Most recent count: 65 (last year, about 50).

V. UPDATE ON SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE: Esther

- Why are we doing this? We want to use our advocacy powers to create an educational tipping point to align programs and policies, to create more effective ways to increase graduation rates, and to develop a shared agenda with other counseling organizations. June 16-17 at Notre Dame de Namur, 4:00 Thurs. to 3:00 Friday, sponsored by WACAC, Summit on the Future of Counseling. Who is coming? California Assn. of School Counseling, California School Counseling Association, California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, California Department of Education, Counselors Emeritus, College Board, ACT, Los Angeles County Office of Education, Chela Financial, Stanford University, WACAC.
- This meeting will lead to other meetings to continue combining resources, talents, and voices.
- The “Big Idea”: to have all counseling organizations agree on goal of increasing graduation rates by 5% in California.
- Andy posed the question: “How is counseling going to help the kids pass algebra?” This is a challenge at many public high schools. Alice pointed out that there’s a movement in CA to adopt “a-g” as high school graduation requirements. This is an issue of academic success, not academic counseling; how will counseling address this issue? Some students need personal counseling even to make academics important to them.

VI. RESPONSIBILITIES AS PART OF CONFERENCE: Linda

- Nevada Task Force met to encourage involvement on the part of

people who haven't yet been involved. Two possibilities: WACAC as more of a service provider (Nevada appreciated the professional development) or WACAC as an organization that mentors Nevadans to create their own agenda within the context of WACAC. Ad hoc group from Nevada would like to get together with committee chairs and other leaders (who might serve as "cheerleaders" to support greater Nevada involvement). This would take place immediately following opening session in Pauling 416. About 21 participants from Nevada will be at the conference (possibly more).

- Sonja brought up the fact that Nevada feels self-sufficient and wonders about whether, in fact, it should be part of WACAC (as opposed to on its own or part of Rocky Mountain region). Patty pointed out that Nevada being absorbed by Rocky Mountain was not necessarily realistic. UNLV and Nevada high schools are feeling confident, at this point, because enrollment isn't a problem and professional development is already offered. Nevada counselors may simply not feel the need at this point. There is a great deal they could contribute to us as an organization, but we need to consider what will motivate them to be an integral part of WACAC. Linda pointed out that we must offer the vision of how WACAC is part of NACAC. Esther L. mentioned that we often treat Nevada as an underrepresented group, but they may not see themselves as needing to be "taken care of." Meeting among Nevada attendees and WACAC EB members will elucidate the potential for the relationship between Nevada and WACAC. Marc pointed out that the needs of California high school counselors are so well known that the association can fill those needs; that may not be the case in Nevada. We need to learn what Nevadans currently lack or need, which may or may not be the same as California's needs. Linda pointed out that we can show the value of, for example, the directory and other educational resources. Patty pointed out that Nevada colleges are becoming more of an alternative for California students as well. Esther H. pointed out the need to develop a critical mass of Nevada members. It would be a good idea to send a number of Nevada members to the Washington, DC, legislative conference.
- Business meeting: Lunch Thursday.
- Marc reviewed the conference registration procedures and the binder contents and detailed the locations for the major events of the conference. Three breakfast possibilities Thursday: most EB members should go to First-Timers Breakfast.
- Marc, in his welcome speech, will mention some ways WACAC has

responded to members' desire for better financial accountability: we offered a discount for Early Bird Registration, held the line on exhibitor costs, added more scholarships, sent more people to national and state legislative conferences.

- Esther H. reminded Marc that donors of scholarships (USC and Chapman) should be publicly acknowledged.
- Andy asked if there was any mechanism for members to make suggestions. Linda suggested that we could encourage members to make suggestions on their evaluations. Robynne suggested that Survey Monkey could be used to do this. Deanna pointed out that Survey Monkey will be used for conference evaluation starting June 6.

VIII. NACAC TIMELINE: Linda

- Linda reviewed the EB's obligations during the NACAC conference in Tampa. Our Board Meeting is 9/21.

IX. SPGP EVALUATION: Linda

- Linda divided us into groups to review sections of the SPGP.

X. SURPRISE!: Linda

- Linda thanked the Board for its service, and expressed appreciation to past-president Esther Hugo and incoming president Marc Meredith.
- Linda provided rolling tote bags from WACAC to the EB.

XI. NACAC COLLEGE COUNSELING PROGRAM IN NC

- NACAC is seeking a representative member of WACAC to attend a college counseling program July 7-9. **It was moved that we use \$1,000 of WACAC resources to send a representative. Second and approved.** We will seek a first-time college counselor attendee to go to this program. We can ask that member to submit a newsletter article about his/her experience.

XII. NEWSLETTER: Linda

- Deadline August 1
- Esther H.: Summit
- Robynne: ICL
- Two first-timers about conference: Kevin's assistant director (Laura Young)
- Robynne will take pictures
- Description of new people on the board

XIII. KUDOS AND HUGS: Linda