

CONFERENCE OF SOUTHERN GRADUATE SCHOOLS

39th Annual Business Meeting
Hilton Savannah DeSoto Hotel
February 27, 2010

The President of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS), Patricia Bishop, welcomed the members and called the annual business meeting to order at 1:10 pm. The membership reviewed the minutes of the 38th Annual Business Meeting held at The Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel on February 28, 2009. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved.

The President then thanked the Vice President, Dianne Barron, and the members of the Executive Committee for their work in planning the CSGS annual conference. She also acknowledged members of the Executive Committee of the Council of Historically Black Graduate Schools who cooperated in planning joint plenary and concurrent sessions at the annual meeting. The President also thanked the graduate deans and their respective graduate programs in Georgia for their support of the annual meeting, including the reception at the Savannah College of Art and Design's Haversham Hall.

Award Presentations

Doug Boudinot announced the CSGS/UMI Distinguished Master's Thesis Award winners. Steven McMurray (University of North Carolina at Wilmington) received the award in the Life Sciences, Jessica Kaczorowski (University of North Carolina at Greensboro) received the award in Social Sciences, Business and Education, and William Story (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) received the award in the Innovative Application of Technology in a Master's Thesis – ETD Format category.

Mark Garrison presided over the award to Bruce Rafert, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School at Clemson University, for Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education in the Southern Region.

Mark Garrison announced the award to Gary Walker, Professor of Biology at Appalachian State University, for Outstanding Mentor for Graduate Education in the Southern Region.

Mark Garrison also presented the CSGS/ETS Award for Excellence and Innovation in Graduate Admissions to the University of Central Florida.

Patricia Bishop gratefully acknowledged the Education Testing Service and ProQuest UMI Dissertation Publishing for their support of the CSGS 2010 award recipients.

Business Meeting

Max Poole presented the Treasurer's report. He reviewed the Annual Revenue and Expense Statement for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, FY 2010. The ending balance as of 12/31/2009 was \$88,855.58. The membership observed that the ending balance represented a modest increase over the ending balance for 2008. Mr. Poole reported 177 registered attendees for the 2010 conference as compared to the 168 attendees at the 2009 conference. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the report of the Treasurer was accepted by the CSGS membership.

Next, the membership received the reports of the CSGS standing committees. Paula Williamson Chair of the Audit Committee, reported that the Audit Committee found the CSGS financial records to be in order and that documentation was provided for all audited transactions. She commended the Treasurer, Max Poole, on the documentation and accounting reflected in bookkeeping reviewed by the Audit Committee.

Troy Terry, reporting on behalf of the Membership Committee, reported that as of February 2010, there were 168 paid members as compared to the 172 paid members at the same time last year. Mr. Terry encouraged the membership to assist in the Committee in outreach efforts to new institutions and to former members who have yet to pay annual dues.

Next, Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, Philip Langlais, stated that according to Article VI, section 2 of the CSGS Constitution, the responsibility of the Nominating Committee is to present a slate of officers to stand for election at the annual business meeting. In preparing the slate of officers, the criteria considered by the Nominating Committee included whether the institution is in good standing with its dues to CSGS, whether the institutional representative is a graduate dean or holds a comparable title, and whether there is evidence of commitment to graduate education. Mr. Langlais noted that Vice President will serve a 1 year term as President Elect, the Treasurer will serve a 3 year term as will the elected member of the Executive Committee. He presented the Nominating Committee's slate of officers then he called for nominations from the floor. Following the close of nominations from the floor a vote on the nominees was called.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was

RESOLVED: that the following are elected as CSGS officers effective 2010 - 2011:

Dianne Barron (Troy University) President
Nancy Marcus (Florida State University) Vice-President/Pres- elect
Andrew Sustich (Arkansas State University-Jonesboro) Treasurer

Executive Committee Members with terms ending in 2013:

Edward J. Dupuy (Savannah College of Art and Design)
Carolyn Hodges (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
Brian S. Mitchell (Tulane University)
Bryan Noe (University of Alabama at Birmingham)

With the call for new business, the Secretary, Maurice Taylor, reviewed an edited (i.e., track changes) copy of the CSGS Constitution that had been distributed electronically prior to the business meeting and also placed at the seat of each representative in attendance. He noted that the Executive Committee has reviewed several drafts of the proposed amendments. Mr. Taylor stated that in addition to the "track changes" copy of the amended constitution he had also distributed an electronic document summarizing the significant amendments being proposed to the constitution. Following a period of discussion including recommended editorial corrections, and upon motion duly made and seconded it was

RESOLVED: that the Constitution of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools be amended as proposed.

Next, Patricia Bishop acknowledged the dedication and the work of Max Poole on behalf of CSGS. She noted that until the Constitution was amended to create separate officers, Max Poole served as both Secretary and Treasurer for CSGS. The membership rose in applause to thank Mr. Poole for his outstanding leadership as the outgoing Treasurer of CSGS.

Patricia Bishop passed the gavel to Dianne Barron who offered remarks as the new CSGS President. Ms. Barron then adjourned the 2010 annual meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maurice C. Taylor, Secretary