



## Conference of Southern Graduate Schools MINUTES - Executive Committee Meeting Jacksonville, FL, February 26, 2012

The new President of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS), Jeannine Blackwell, convened the meeting of the Executive Committee (ExCom) at 7:30 AM on February 26, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel in Jacksonville, FL. Executive Committee members in attendance were Jeannine Blackwell, Nancy Marcus, Duane Larick, Andrew Sustich, Paula Williamson, Carolyn Hodges, Sherry Sandkam, Brian Mitchell, Len Roberson, Troy Terry, Dianne Barron, Maurice Eftink, Mark Garrison, Jennifer Keane-Dawes, Dennis Grady and Bryan Noe.

President Blackwell thanked the current Officers and Executive Committee members for their efforts on behalf of CSGS and for a great meeting. She especially recognized the service of the departing members (Terry, Eftink and Barron). New members (Keane-Dawes, Grady and Garrison) were introduced.

### **1. Breakdown and follow-up discussion of Jacksonville meeting**

- a. President Blackwell indicated she had collected the 3x5 index cards that were distributed at the Business Meeting and will summarize the suggestions for use at the upcoming planning meeting in June, 2012. She also will provide a summary of the assessment results obtained from the "Annual Meeting Evaluation Form."
- b. We were reminded that all presentations made at the Annual Meeting should be forwarded to President Blackwell for posting on the website.
- c. A list of prospective volunteers was also obtained and she will follow up with them.

### **2. To do items**

- a. Greenville 2013
  - i. Plans to date – Troy Terry gave an update on planning progress for the 2013 meeting in Greenville, SC. Greenville is a very "family friendly" location so spouses and children are encouraged to come. They are working on a BMW of North America Driving School pre-meeting experience. Tours are being planned and the SC graduate deans have met and committed to the Friday night reception.
  - ii. Possible meeting theme – a quick look at the 2012 evaluation forms indicated that attendees like the overarching theme concept and suggested it be continued for 2013. Ideas/Themes from the Executive Committee included:
    1. Some sort of follow-up to Nathan Bell's presentation on student debt
    2. Continue with the 21<sup>st</sup> century student theme and how we will address the digital student. Ex. include team dissertations, use of social media, etc.
    3. Organizing graduate student information – organizing SIS, Banner, etc. for Graduate Education

4. On-line learning – where are we now and where are we going. Present really good examples of what is being done and how. Also topics such as assessment, security, Federal lisc. requirements, etc.
  5. University Research Parks – leveraging university/business partnerships. What works and what doesn't. Worker training verses research development and how does this impact graduate education.
  6. Nuts and bolts session on what good deans, associate deans and assistant deans do. How are they trained and re-trained.
  7. Managing structural change – combining universities or colleges or programs. Data needed and processes to do it.
  8. Contrasting our Roots to the New Norm – from where we came and where we are going
- iii. Executive Committee meeting in June – President Blackwell reminded the group that the Executive Committee is critical to the organization, especially when it comes to planning and delivering the Annual Meeting. She encouraged everyone to participate. It was decided we would try to meet June 6, 7 and 8 with a dinner on the 6<sup>th</sup>, all day meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> and hopefully early departure on the 8<sup>th</sup>.
3. **Locations for CSGS 2014** – Future locations for the CSGS Annual Meeting in 2014, 2015 and 2016 were discussed. Possible locations that will be pursued include San Antonio, TX (2014), Memphis or Nashville, TN (2015) and New Orleans (2016 – late February).
  4. **Other Business** – Nancy Marcus and Jeannine Blackwell were commended for a great 2012 meeting in Jacksonville, FL. Andy Sustich was also recognized for all his planning efforts with the Hotel.

An added note to be considered was brought up at the end of the meeting. We had two Plenary Sessions (1 hour each) on Sunday morning. They were **very** interesting topics that seemed to hold attendance over to Sunday (86 people for session 1 and 55+ for session 2). We need to consider scheduling high interest programs for Sunday AM in 2013.

5. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned by President Blackwell.

Respectfully Submitted  
Duane Larick, Secretary CSGS