

**CSGS**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**Minutes of Thursday, February 18, 2016**

**4:00 PM**

**Omni Charlotte Hotel**

**Charlotte, NC**

**Conference Title: Exploring New Paths in Graduate Education**

**AGENDA**

**Conference of Southern Graduate Schools Executive Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, February 18, 4:00**

**Juniper Room**

**Omni Charlotte**

**Members Present**

John Z. Kiss, President, University of Mississippi  
Any McCandless, President-Elect, The College of Charleston  
William Wiener, Secretary, University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
Andrew Sustich, Treasurer, Arkansas State University  
Paul Gemperline, Past President, East Carolina University  
David Berkowitz (2018), University of Alabama in Huntsville  
F. Douglas Boudinot (2016), Virginia Commonwealth University  
Ernest L. Brothers (2016), University of Tennessee  
Jo Ann Canales (2017), Texas A&M University  
George Crandell (2018), Auburn University  
Meredith Welch-Devine (2018), University of Georgia  
Henry Frierson (2016), University of Florida  
Deborah R. Garrison (2017), Midwestern State University  
Kevin O'Shea (2018), Florida International University  
Sheryl Tucker (2016), Oklahoma State University  
William Person (ex officio), Alabama State University  
Dean Campbell – North Carolina A&T State University  
William Person – Alabama State University  
Julie Thompson – Auburn University  
Sonya Montas-Hunter – Florida International University  
George Flowers – Auburn University  
Julie Reese – Auburn University  
Nicki Adams – Auburn University

**Welcome**

J.Z. Kiss

The meeting was called to order by President John Kiss at 4:05 with introductions of the Executive Committee members and guests. J. Kiss thanked S. Tucker and A. Sustich for their service. He expressed confidence in George Flowers and appreciation for his commitment to assume the position of Treasurer.

## **Approval of Executive Committee Minutes**

W. Wiener

The minutes were reviewed by the Executive Committee, and a correction was made to include Cassandra Foster's last name. The minutes were unanimously approved.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Nomination**

P. Gemperline

J. Kiss gave the report for Paul Gemperline. The Committee followed the procedures as stated in the constitution. There was an initial slate 6 weeks before the meeting with the opportunity for additions from the members. As a result, we have the following nominees:

#### **Nominees for President Elect**

F. Douglas Boudinot

Ernest I. Brothers

#### **Nominee for Treasurer – 3 year term**

George Flowers

#### **Nominees for Executive Committee – 4 members for 3-year terms & 2 members for 2-year terms**

Lori Mann Bruce, Mississippi State University

Michael Cunningham, Tulane University

Jack Derochi, Winthrop University

Jessica Elfenbein, University of South Carolina

Peter Harries, North Carolina State University

Kim Needy, University of Arkansas

Robert Sanders, Appalachian State University

We will vote at the business committee.

### **Awards (faculty)**

B. McNamara

B. McNamara reported on the two CSGS faculty awards. There were 11 nominations for the mentor award and 4 for the contributions award. Members made suggestions for streamlining the process so that letters of support would be more standardized. The ideas will be put on the agenda for the summer Executive Committee meeting and if approved, to be put on the website. The winners were:

2016 Award for Faculty Excellence in Mentoring Graduate Education

Dr. Douglas Masterson, University of Southern Mississippi

2016 CSGS Award for Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education in the Southern Region

Dr. Karen DePauw, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

### **Thesis Awards (students)**

S. Montas-Hunter

George Crandell reported for S. Montas-Hunter on the Thesis Award winners. The voting was electronic and there was strong agreement among the committee members. Next year George Flowers will need to take care of the printing in enough time for the conference. The awards in the area of Social Sciences, Business, and Education will be made at the business meeting.

S. Montas-Hunter joined the meeting and talked about the numbers of submissions declining and that the timing could have played a part. It might be helpful to make the announcements earlier in the next cycle.

### **Membership**

D. Campbell

D. Campbell reported that the committee met twice in the fall and once in the spring. He explained that the committee had expressed concern about the current dues level and made a recommendation for a dues increase. The committee also examined the criteria for membership. D. Campbell further discussed how to increase communication among members and decided to propose use of Linked-In to manage communication. He indicated that it would be easy to transfer the management of the Linked-In group leader each time a new committee chairperson would be selected. He said this use of Linked-In would be announced to the membership at the business meeting. The next action item for the committee is to communicate with members who have unpaid dues.

### **President's Report**

J.Z. Kiss

In regard to future meetings, the 2017 meeting is set for Annapolis. J. Kiss commented that it is good to move the meeting to that part of our region. The location for the 2018 meeting needs to be considered. Northwest Arkansas is interested, but other possibilities included Nashville or Knoxville Tennessee and Oklahoma. This will be discussed further on Sunday at the Executive Committee Meeting.

There was an adhoc committee chaired by S. Tucker to look at the dues structure using a tiered approach. She completed a comparison study looking at approaches used at other CGS regionals. In her proposal, the lowest level would not change under this tiered approach. Smaller budget schools would not be disadvantaged. The dues are \$150 today, and we are not balancing the budget. TIAA-CREFF has not responded in regard to supporting our 3MT and this could also affect our budget. It is expected that the conference will break even this year with less expense and more attendees.

### **Treasurer's Report**

A. Sustich

Andrew Sustich provided the Executive Committee with the treasurer's report for the period of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. We had a beginning cash balance \$96,313.68 compared with last year's cash balance of 114,504.38. Our total revenue this year was \$119,843.06 compared with last year's at 89,082.23. Our total expenses were \$142,398.88 giving us a net loss of \$22,696.32. Our cash

balance is 73,617.36 and this compares with last year's ending cash balance of 96,313.70.

Part of this deficit can be explained by a \$5,000 down payment for Annapolis. Also a \$4,000 deposit for this hotel prior to coming to Charlotte. We spent \$84,000 in New Orleans for food and beverage. It is expected that Annapolis will be less expensive in that regard. One additional charge this year has been an IRS \$300. penalty for filing the income tax late beyond the deadline. Finally, A. Sustich noted that we have had fewer exhibitors this year than in the past.

**CSGS Annual Meeting in Charlotte**

A. McCandless, J.Z.K.

This meeting will have more attendees than last year with 190 as compared to 170 last year. We have good participation for the 3MT program. Last summer's program planning meeting helped us to secure volunteers for each session.

This time the 3MT will not be conducted all on the same day. The finalists will not be announced on Saturday and instead will be announced with the winners on Sunday. This will allow time to prepare the slide show. We have 38 student participants this year. There will be judge's decisions and people's choice decisions from each of the heats. There will be no people's choice award at the finals.

The hashtag for tweeting is #CSGS16 and will be announced tomorrow morning.

**Summer Executive Committee Meeting in Annapolis** A. McCandless

The purpose of the meeting will be to focus on the 2017 program. This has been a two night event over three days. BWI is the preferred airport. More will be discussed at the Sunday meeting.

**Other issues**

All

The Hosted dinners have reservations under the name of John Kiss.

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 by President John Kiss.

Meeting notes submitted by Bill Wiener, Secretary