

**CSGS**

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**CSGS Planning Meeting, Fayetteville**  
**Minutes of Sunday, June 11, 2017**  
**3:00-5:30 p.m.**  
**Chancellor Hotel**  
**Fayetteville, Arkansas**

**Members Present**

Ernest L. Brothers, President, University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
David Berkowitz, President-elect, University of Alabama in Huntsville  
George Crandell, Interim Secretary, Auburn University  
George Flowers, Treasurer, Auburn University  
Any McCandless, Past President, University of Charleston  
Michael Cunningham (2019) Tulane University  
Jean Van Delinder (2020) Oklahoma State University  
Jack DeRochi (2018) Winthrop University  
Andrea Golato (2010) Texas State University  
Peter Harries (2019) North Carolina State University  
Brian Kloepfel (2020) Western Carolina University  
Kim Needy (2019) University of Arkansas

**Members Absent**

Jie Chen (2018) James Madison University  
Lori Mann Bruce (2019) Mississippi State University  
William Person (ex officio with vote) Alabama State University  
Meredith Welch-Devine (2018) University of Georgia

**Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by President Brothers at 3:00 p.m. After Dr. Brothers welcomed the group to Fayetteville, members of the Executive Committee introduced themselves.

**Review of Annapolis Evaluations**

The discussion focused on survey results from the Annapolis meeting. The survey provided a number of helpful suggestions for planning the next meeting. Participants strongly suggested that there be more interactive and discussion-oriented sessions led by peers. There was also a call to include more topics relevant to master's degree granting institutions. Those who attended the meeting disliked

having vendors give presentations (sales pitches) as plenary sessions. It was also suggested that presenters be given the same directions—so that there is consistency in the concurrent sessions—where interaction is expected. Presentations by representatives from the NSF and SACS did not receive positive reviews—suggesting that these presentations be reconsidered. Responses to the 3MT competition were generally positive. Some participants thought that more judges were needed, although additional judges places a burden on the host institution. It was suggested that a program booklet for the 3MT competition be developed.

### **Suggestions for Themes**

Dr. Brothers suggested a possible theme for the Fayetteville meeting, “Discovery and Innovation in Graduate Education.” After brief discussion, the Executive Committee accepted this option as the theme for the 2018 meeting.

### **Discussion of Program Format, Time Slots**

The Executive Committee discussed various organizational templates for the conference. The idea that gained the most currency during the initial discussion was to link each plenary session to a group of related concurrent sessions (as many as three).

Some of the ideas considered included the following: work force preparation; best practices in mentoring, data collection, decision-making, recruiting analytics; generational differences; professional development; student issues; fundraising; crisis management; promoting 3MT competitions; student engagement; online education; immigration issues; research initiatives; program rigor; preparation for jobs outside of academia; holistic admissions practices; new program development; retention; health insurance; legal issues; public/private partnerships; faculty buy-in; marketing methods; strategic recruiting; and resource allocation.

The time for the proposed optional trip to Crystal Bridges was discussed, with Thursday or Saturday afternoon as possibilities. Thursday was the final choice.

It was generally agreed that the Meet New Colleague Dinners should continue.

### **Call for Proposals**

In an effort to attract both participation and an array of topics, the Executive Committee discussed sending out a call for proposals with suggested topics (to be determined). It was deemed advantageous to have abstracts at an early stage. September 2017 was set as the target date for the receipt and selection of proposals. Notifications to presenters would go out in October.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m., with plans to continue the conference planning discussion on Monday morning.

Submitted by George Crandell, Secretary