

MINUTES

Division 15 Board Retreat, November 10-11, 2006, Sherborn, Mass.

Executive Committee members present: Lyn Corno (president), Angela O'Donnell (past president), Eric Anderman (president elect), Jonna Kulikowich (treasurer), Barbara Hofer (secretary), Johnmarshall Reeve (member at large), Jenefer Husman (member at large), Gale Sinatra (editor, *Educational Psychologist*)

Members of the Executive Committee convened at the home of Lyn Corno for a retreat focused primarily on organizational issues and strategic planning.

The first items of business were organizational issues that were either held over from the August meeting or that had arisen since that time. President Corno reported on many new appointments that bring the division officers and committees into alignment with the bylaws (see <http://www.apa.org/divisions/div15/> for complete roster list). Corno noted that APA has solicited proposals for inter-divisional activities. And that she submitted a proposal for funds to upgrade the division website in conjunction with two other divisions, Div. 21 (Applied Experimental/Engineering) and Division 3 (Experimental). The group then discussed the proposal for a 2-year presidency, and agreed to add this proposal to the spring ballot. Discussion of the increasing burden of work for the treasurer followed, and the group agreed to seek paid support, and Corno offered to contact APA about services available through the central office. We also agreed that there should be a permanent budget line for the treasurer. Anderman agreed to draft a statement about the standing committees that have been given authorization for submitting annual budgets, in order to regularize the budgeting process. In order to bring bylaws and practices into con-

gruence, we decided to incorporate more recently designated roles such as historian and graduate student chair into the bylaws and the budget.

Kulikowich provided the treasurer's report, noting the board's ongoing concern about the large amount of money held in a checking account and the absence of a policy to guide the treasurer about allocation of funds between accounts. The group approved a motion to instruct the treasurer to keep a specified balance in checking for operational expenses and to keep the remainder in the Vanguard account. Corno will contact APA about whether investment advice is available from APA.

The next topic of business was a discussion of who receives financial assistance to attend the annual APA meeting. Currently only the president is funded to attend. The group agreed that the conference program chair should also receive funding during the year s/he serves as program chair. The other substantial role at the conference is that of the chair of the Graduate Affairs Committee, who is responsible for planning and running the graduate mentor program at the conference. The group agreed that an annual budget should be submitted for this work (which might include conference expenses for the chair). Eric Anderman will add a template for budget planning to the policies and procedures committee tasks. No other roles were approved for funding for conference attendance. The group discussed whether the EP editor should receive some compensation and how other journals handle this. Sinatra agreed to survey other journals and report back at the AERA meeting, and then the group will revisit the issue. A final budgetary matter was the proposal received by Chris Wolters to gather data on educational psychology graduate programs, which was approved at the August meeting. The group agreed that this was a

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one-time allocation of funds for this particular project and that a letter of understanding would be drafted by Corno and sent to Chris Wolters.

The group concluded this portion of the meeting with a discussion of the role of division Historian, affirming the need for this role and its importance. O'Donnell will see that this is also added to the bylaws so that the position is formally recognized. Rayne Sperling has agreed to take on the role of Historian for a three-year term, and Corno will ask her to draw up a budget request for review at the next board meeting at AERA.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

One of the central items of business was addressing declining membership. The group agreed to propose a bylaw change to remove the membership role from the fellows committee and create two separate committees. We also decided to alert more potential members to the opportunity to join division 15 for \$25, without joining APA, as well as the discounted cost of APA membership for those who also belong to AERA and other such organizations. The group discussed other strategies for membership promotion, as well as how to increase attendance at APA conferences, perhaps by varying formats, holding a pre-conference, investing in big speakers, and providing enrichment and professional development for faculty. Other ideas included making the division more responsive to members through giving small grants to fund research or funding small conferences with appeal to membership, such as the 1996 conference on the Teaching of Educational Psychology.

The group agreed to focus first on funding dissertation research, awarding two grants per year of \$1000 each. Corno will ask the dissertation awards committee to assume responsibility for this competition. We also agreed to develop a half-day pre-

conference workshop for 2008, to be coordinated by Kulikowich. 2007, potentially focusing on methodology, a divisional strength. In terms of proposals for small conferences, the group decided to initiate this with the "teaching of educational psychology" conference as the first topic. Anderman agreed to consider planning this, with June 2009 as a target date. We agreed to further discuss junior faculty research grants at the next meeting.

Corno provided a report from Gary Phye, chair of the publications committee and the group discussed responses to several of his questions, along with other related issues.

The final topic of discussion was in regard to the bylaws, archiving of materials, and the division website. O'Donnell reported that she would take responsibility as past president for forwarding suggested bylaw changes to the board members in advance of the spring balloting.

The board members expressed their gratitude to President Lyn Corno for her generous hospitality in hosting the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hofer

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