

Division 15 Executive Committee

Meeting Notes: November 5-6, 2010

In Attendance: David Bergin, Paul Schutz, Martha Carr, Sharon Nichols, Heather Davis, Helen Patrick, Jacque Eccles, Sandra Graham, Michael Martinez, and Tim Urđan

Friday, November 5, 2010

President Bergin opened the meeting with a welcome to new members. He began the meeting with a review of ad hoc committees and members. Since the August meeting, the Executive Committee voted on several items. These include:

- Approval of the Minutes from the August 2010 Meeting
- Approval of the budget for the Fall 2010 Meeting

Next, Past President Schutz gave a brief report on behalf of the Division 15 representatives who attended the *11th International Conference on Education Research (ICER)* in Seoul, Korea. Division 15 was contacted by e-mail to attend and present at the conference. The majority of the expenses were paid by ICER; however members requested and received \$2000 to offset the cost of incidentals. In addition to presenting at the conference, Members visited with Mimi Bong and Jonmarshall Reeve's students at Korea University College of Education. Past President Schutz noted that if we are really serious about international activities, ICER might be a place where we can make further connections with the Korean Educational Psychological Association. Member at Large, Jacque Eccles noted that ICER is hosted every other year and would be a great way to connect and develop possibilities for post-doc programs.

Next, the Executive Committee turned its attention to membership rates. Current

membership rates are \$11 for APA members, \$25 for non-APA members, and \$10 for students. Two questions were raised: Should membership rates change? What are the real costs to the Division in supporting members? Jacque Eccles noted that Division 9 (SPSSI) uses a voluntary sliding scale for membership. Their website offers recommendations about what to give, and they explicitly use money from membership dues for fellowships as a way to give back to the division. The Executive Committee noted that many professionals in the field do not understand that you can join Division 15 without joining APA. The question was raised, what do you get by joining the Division - especially if your library already has the journal? Should we continue to advertise the low cost of being a member of the Division without being a member of APA? Jacque Eccles urged caution with that approach. Instead, she argued that part of what we need to do is to *educate* the membership about what APA does. The main thing that APA does for Division 15 is to lobby for research funding. APA representatives Rena Subotnik and Karen Studwell attend Division 7 meetings to update the membership about what APA has been doing on Capital Hill. How can we get them to update Division 15, without necessarily taking up Executive Committee time? What members, within Division 15, could we get to educate the membership about this? Paul Schutz added the Division has enough funds and doesn't need additional money from membership dues; we need to identify ways to use the funds we currently have. He motioned to leave the membership rates the same. President Elect Marty Carr seconded the motion. The Executive Committee unanimously voted to retain the membership dues as they are and to revisit issues of voluntary sliding scale and or reduced rates for memberships in multiple organizations (i.e. AERA, SRCD etc.).

In addition, a short-term action item was to revisit the design of the membership page.

The Executive Committee next dealt with issues associated with archiving documents that are not public to the membership, and therefore not published in the minutes, but integral to the business of Division 15 (i.e. Contracts for publications, Publications Committee Minutes, Rubrics and Procedures for Awards etc.) Several options were suggested including setting up a password protected space on our website that can only be accessed by Executive Committee members and pertinent Committee Chairs, to create one large searchable document (i.e. in the form of an editable wiki) versus a series of folders, to ask APA to set up an accessible archive. Incoming Treasurer Sharon Nichols noted a related need to develop a database of budgetary decisions with outcomes that could be searched in order to facilitate Treasurers in understanding how the Executive Committee has handled budget issues in the past.

This led to the discussion of who would create and manage these databases. Would this be another appointed position for a Member of the Division? Should we pay for administrative time for someone at a University to work as an assistant? Secretary Heather Davis noted that, in the past, the three solutions that have been offered were 1) Full time person devoted to Division 15, 2) work with another division to hire a full time person, or 3) enlist the support of a volunteer from Division 15 who can submit requests for funding for special projects. How will we continue to deal with all these issues: piecemeal via appointed positions that turn over or implementing a structural solution by hiring support staff. Jacque Eccles noted that is it time to hire a part time person to do the things that are administrative and need to be accomplished in order to move the organization forward. For example, several members noted the need for a communications person who could educate about the mission and goals of the Division and APA, for example on the website. A short-term action item was set to

investigate adding private archive space to our website.

A long-term action item was set to move forward with creating a new paid position job description. The Executive Committee then set about identifying the type of tasks for which a Director of Public Relations / Communications would be responsible. Member at large, Sandra Graham, inquired about whether the Division has enough money to hire a full time person, who knows *enough* about Educational Psychology, to accomplish these tasks? In order to generate a list of tasks, Past President Paul Schutz talked with the communication director at UTSA about the tasks she accomplishes for the college. Several members argued for retaining the positions Historian and Newsletter editor. They would then act as liaisons for the new Director. The Executive Committee reviewed the list of tasks and decided one way of advertising for the position would be to put out an 'RFP' and ask members of the Division to put together a proposal for a two-year contract that the Division could evaluate after the first year. The Executive Committee set a goal of soliciting a call for proposals with a salary boundary (part time request proposal ranging from \$30-50K see below). In the meantime, Treasurer Sharon Nichols would investigate what it means to subcontract with someone to be a communication director.

Next, President Bergin offered an update on the 2011 Program. Program Co-Chairs Michele Gill and Bob Hoffman established an online survey to catalog information from reviewers. They asked if the Executive Committee had suggestions for the program. One suggestion was that we attempt to make poster sessions a social / mentoring opportunity to increase attendance. The Executive Committee revisited the proposal for the 'slice of advice' with prominent members session. It was also recommended that we work towards generating a list of topics (for non substantive hours) that could be set up when the program is lean.

Additionally, the treasurer, Sharon Nichols addressed the issue of the Early Career Research awards procedures. When submitting their Division 15 proposal for review, should winners indicate somewhere in the proposal that the work was supported by Division 15 Early Career Award funds. Then, the program chair can set aside at least a poster slot for them to present. The Executive Committee members agreed that Early Career Award winners should be encouraged to submit their work for presentation, and they should expect to receive at least a poster slot on the program.

The Executive Committee revisited the nature of the Historian position. Specifically, should the historian have a budget to hire a graduate student to support the research that goes into the memorial awards and updating the awards pages on the website? If so, should this budget be a standing budget or requested as needed? There was some uncertainty about how the tasks of the Historian position will change depending on the role of the new communications person. For example, would the Historian be the one to do the research and then be able to turn it over to the communications person to construct the write up? The Executive Committee decided it wasn't ready to make a policy change and encouraged the current Historian, Revathy Kumar, to continue to request funds on an as needed basis.

The final item of Friday's agenda was a discussion of whether Division 15 should consider sponsoring its own conference during winter or preceding the annual APA meeting. For example, would it be useful to institutionalize the Teaching Ed Psych pre-convention meeting? Member at Large Helen Patrick noted the early career psychologists who attended the focus groups felt they benefitted from the TEP conference. They thought the TEP was helpful but requested there be different topics from year to year. Jacque Eccles cautioned that before we go to different topics such as hosting a conference on

Teaching Child Development, we should talk to other Divisions like Division 7. President Bergin noted that we could co-sponsor or we could differentiate by specifying the conference is for Child Development for Teachers one year and another topic another year. Past President Schutz inquired about hosting a conference in conjunction with AERA. Or, should we be hosting a mini Ed Psych Conference? The discussion was tabled for Saturday.

Saturday, November 6, 2011

The meeting opened on Saturday with a discussion of the Small Conference Awards initiative. Specifically, Member at Large, Helen Patrick reviewed the history of the award initiative. Currently, the Division has awards for graduate students and early career members; a Small Conference Award was proposed to support the mission of the general membership. Concerns were raised that \$5000 is a small amount of money. What can you do with \$5000? It was determined that funds could be used to support regional meetings or pre-conferences associated with the larger APA meeting. Next, the Executive committee discussed how to implement the proposal. President David Bergin moved that we accept the current call for proposal, Sandra seconded the motion, minor wording changes were recommended, and the Executive Committee voted unanimously to move forward. President Bergin plans to identify a chair of an ad hoc committee and members. Several nominations were made regarding who might chair this committee. Secretary Heather Davis will post Small Conference Awards as a new link on the Awards page.

Member at Large Jacque Eccles encouraged the Executive Committee to develop a survey that would allow members to indicate they ways they would like to become more involved in the Division.

Several issues arose over the last year with the implementation of the Memorial Award.

Jacque Eccles expressed concerns about the current wording of the award as honorific. There is the potential for a member of the Division to feel hurt or alienated if their mentor was not deemed worthy of honor. She moved that we provide a memorial award to all Division 15 members who pass in the form of an obituary on the website and sent to the family members. There was some discussion of the recent history of the award. Council Representative Michael Martinez moved to retain the award in its current form and that the Division be supportive of requests for members who have passed to be honored. The Executive Committee discussed the set of procedures that would be outlined in the Policies and Procedures Manual for committee.

The Executive Committee also discussed moving the Ad Hoc Committee for Early Career Educational Psychologist toward permanent committee status. They reviewed the Report on Early Career Psychologists and a list of things the Division currently does to support early career psychologists. Jacque Eccles inquired about the extent to which the Division advertises information concerning other early career activities such as Spencer fellowships for pre and post-doc training. Past President Paul Schutz made a motion to create a standing committee for the Early Career Educational Psychologist Committee. It was seconded by Jacque Eccles and was unanimously passed.

The Executive Committee also discussed moving the Ad Hoc Committee for Division 15 Early Career Research Awards toward permanent committee status. Paul Schutz reviewed the history of the award and noted there has been an increase in submissions over the last three years. It has become a highly competitive award. Jacque Eccles inquired as to whether giving three awards are enough. She noted this is a great way to increase membership. She made a motion to increase the number of awards to five. The motion was unanimously approved.

Newly elected Treasurer Sharon Nichols provided us with an update on tasks, difficulties, and solutions she encountered entering the position. She noted funds were set-aside for an assistant and that she identified and hired someone to assist with administrative tasks. In August 2010, she met with outgoing Treasurer Chris Wolters. She noted that all APA expenses had been paid and that she had followed up with the Early Career Award Winners. She noted that while the training for the Treasurer was helpful, there was no time to acclimate to the position before you are in charge. One full day of training was not enough time. Secretary Heather Davis offered that in the future, being copied on important e-mails and attending the meeting in the spring would be helpful. Sharon noted that during the spring the Treasurer is also preparing taxes and the new budget - two tasks that feel intimidating. The challenge is that given the election cycle, the incoming Treasurer doesn't know they have been elected until June.

Secretary Nichols brought up the issue of the distribution of award funds. Specifically, the winners are announced a year before they give their talk. When is it appropriate for them to receive their \$1,000 award? Jacque suggested that instead of giving awardees two amounts, a \$1,000 award and then up to \$1,000 for travel reimbursement, why not just make the award \$2,000? That would ease the burden on the Treasurer. The awardees would receive a single check and would not need to submit receipts. A motion was made for the Pintrich, Snow and Thorndike awards to increase the award amount to \$2000 and eliminate the travel reimbursement. The amount would be awarded in conjunction with recipients' presentations at the APA Conference. The motion passed.

Several reports were given. Council Representative Michael Martinez provided a brief update about the growing concerns surrounding APA increases in membership dues. Past President Schutz updated the status of the Nominations Committee.

This year we need to elect a new President, Secretary, Member at Large (Patrick), and Council Representative (Martinez). Schutz will submit a call to the list serve and will work with the committee for nominations. Lastly, the Executive Committee was asked to review the APA criteria for Fellows status specifically with regard to the definition of unusual and outstanding contributions in educational psychology. The Executive Committee was asked to provide concrete examples of criteria that APA could use to review / evaluate the nominated Fellows. The Executive Committee wrestled with whether we should be identifying specific journals. How would we note impact to education? What about members who are not on the tenure track? How would we reflect their contributions in the Fellows Criteria? Member at Large Sandra Graham noted that Fellows status is not meant to be a recruiting tool but as an honor, recognition of status in the field. President Elect Marty Carr expressed concern that we would give criteria to APA and they would come to have a life of their own and eventually become exclusionary. The group decided not to provide concrete examples and to continue to use the existing criteria.

The Executive Committee dealt with several issues associated with publications and contracts. Regarding the Newsletter for Educational Psychologists, the current editor put out two issues this year and has indicated that he can only publish two issues. Because his term is nearing an end the Executive Committee agreed to support only two publications this year. However, the editor will be instructed that both issues need to be double issues: Spring / Summer 2010 (that would include meeting minutes from the Fall 2009 meeting, meeting minutes from AERA 2010, the Early Career Report; the call for nominations, and the calls for Thorndike, Pintrich and Snow Awards) and Fall 2010 / Spring 2011 (to include meeting minutes from APA 2010, meeting minutes from the Fall 2010 meeting, calls for the Early Career, Dissertation, and Small Conference Awards, and AERA Program information).

Regarding the proposed new journal, Sage wants the Division to name an Editor prior to finalizing the contract for the journal. President Bergin inquired about the next course of action. The Executive Committee revisited the issue of the scope and goals of the new journal: Is the new journal geared towards a practitioner audience or a policy audience. The Executive Committee tasked the publications committee with drafting a new proposal using three models as appropriate: Phi Delta Kappan, SRCD Briefs, and APS New Directions. The Executive Committee would like the publications committee to think through the pros and cons of each model and provide a rationale for the one they want to pursue. Who would be the best editor? Publisher? What would be the enthusiasm for having the journal?

It was noted during the meeting that the Executive Committee needed to update the Policies & Procedures manual to include policies for the transitions between editors. A motion was made to modify the Policies & Procedures manual to allow for simultaneous funding of outgoing and incoming EP editor during the transition period. The motion was unanimously approved. President Bergin will draft a blurb for the Policies & Procedures Manual for review and electronic vote of Executive Committee.

Regarding the Classroom Insights series (published by Corwin and edited by Deb Meyer and Barbara McCombs), the Executive Committee reviewed the status of the current books under contract. Jacque Eccles recommended soliciting our emeriti faculty to see if they are interested in writing a volume. A previous successful volume was on diversity in the classroom, but there is no current volume on diversity. Eccles also recommended contacting the Center at Michigan on Education and Diversity regarding potential authors.

Regarding the Handbook of Educational Psychology, Lyn Corno had reported that she and Eric Anderman are working on crafting procedures for soliciting authors and reviews. In November they scheduled a conference call with editor Lane Akers. The goal is to finalize the contract. They have already crafted a list of advisory board members to invite and a letter to send them requesting their assistance. She reported the editors are under pressure to publish to sooner, but the Executive Committee is in agreement that the volume should not come out any earlier than 10 years after the previous volume. Member at Large Jacque Eccles noted there did not appear to be any chapter devoted to social equity issues. She argued this should be covered in all chapters, but is an important enough topic to warrant its own chapter.

The Executive Committee also addressed the issue of pursuing a new book series. Past President Mandinach worked with the publications committee to develop a proposal for Springer; however, the Executive Committee decided not to pursue a book series given the breadth of current publications commitments, the change in executive committee membership, and the current status of the field and the time.

Regarding outreach, the Executive Committee voted to support efforts to connect with other organizations with shared interests. A motion was made to approve up to \$2000 dollars in funds to support outreach efforts to AERA SIGS such as Adolescent and Youth Development, Classroom Assessment, Informal Learning Environments, Motivation, Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, Queer Studies, and Teaching Educational Psychology.

Regarding strategic financial planning, Council Representative Michael Martinez questioned whether allocation of our budget is in alignment with our strategic initiatives. He noted that the Division does not currently have a strategic plan. He argued that consistent with APA, the Division should follow suit and ensure that our

strategic plan aligns with our budgeting. For example, how does the Annual Conference at APA align with our goals? It was noted that other Divisions in APA do not necessarily consider the APA conference as their primary meeting. For example, Jacque Eccles noted that Division 9:SPSSI sees their participation at APA as a way to *inform* APA of what SPSSI does. However, the APA conference is not the primary forum for members to interact with each other. Their own conference serves as the primary intellectual forum. She also offered that Division 7 operated in a very different way, with SRCD being their primary conference. The Executive Committee set a distal goal to develop a strategic plan and to align budget allocations with that plan.

Lastly, there were several small updates made to the Policies and Procedures Manual regarding updating the term of Educational Psychologists term and wording of the Pintrich Dissertation Award.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather A. Davis

