

Western Regional Honors Council

Business Meeting Minutes

Spokane, WA

07 March 2009

9:00 A.M. Meeting called to order by President, Anne Scott

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Meeting minutes from San Antonio were approved.

3. Financial Report by Alison Primoza, Executive Secretary-Treasurer was given and accepted.

Expenses \$ 2,653.10

Balance \$ 16,209.98

4. President Scott raised issue of WRHC constitution. She reported that it needed updating and some minor revisions, which she had drafted and received feedback on from WRHC officers & colleagues. She proposed sending her suggested revisions to all WRHC members so that we could vote on them at the November NCHC meeting in Washington DC. Suggestion approved by acclamation.

5. Update by Duncan Harris on 2010 WRHC conference hosted by University of Wyoming in Jackson Hole, WY. To be held in early April at the Snow King Resort, room rates: \$80 - \$85. Skiing will still be plentiful. Conference event at the National Museum of Wildlife Art. Request made to repeat the Spokane policy of students from different universities sharing rooms. There is airport in Jackson. Next nearest airport SLC about 4 hour drive.

6. Update by AS on 2011 conference. ASU will not be able to host WRHC after all because of commitment to host NCHC conference. Utah was heralded as a great option for 2011. Madison Sowell of BYU will consult with the Utah Honors Consortium on hosting the 2011 conference. The possibility of University of New Mexico hosting the 2012 conference was raised.

7. AS brought up the issue of a new permanent home for the WRHC, which resides at the institution of the WRHC Executive Secretary / Treasurer. AS consulted w/ WRHC current and former officers on assuming the office of EST herself and moving the home of WRHC from San Diego Mesa College to Northern Arizona University. AS was nominated for WRHC EST and elected by acclamation.

8. AS suggested the formation of a committee of former WRHC presidents to help current WRHC President and VP on presidential and conference duties. And to promote service and international studies opportunities, more partnerships, etc.

9. Suggestions for improvements to the WRHC webpage made: live links to all active WRHC member programs and colleges, bulletin board.

10. AS raised the issue of the impact of the economic crisis on member school budgets. Suggestion was made to use WRHC funds to help more students attend the annual WRHC conference. AP made a motion to create a scholarship program to pay the registration fees of up to two student presenters per campus from schools who would not otherwise be financially able to bring students to the conference. Much discussion. Was decided that the newly created WRHC Presidents Council would work out the details. Motion passed.

11. 2009 WRHC Conference Report –incoming President, Libby Walker

Due to inadequate personnel had to hire conference planner, Linda Kildew who ferociously negotiated great rates at the Davenport Hotel. Heroic and successful effort to keep registration fee at last year's level due to unexpected / last minute expenses. Conference cost \$36,000, including \$11,000 for food & 30% tax rate. Negotiated speakers fee for half his normal fee. There were 216 attendees. Conference broke even.

LW was congratulated by all for an excellent conference in a beautiful venue.

12. James McKusick announced NCUR student research conference in Missoula, Montana, April 15 – 17, 2010. For more info contact him at james.mckusick@umontana.edu or Janie Spencer, Janie.spencer@mso.umt.edu.

13. Brian Schroeder of *Scribendi* and Robby Ortiz thanked the WRHC for hosting their reception and for *Scribendi* contest prize money. Reminder on the *Scribendi* student exchange program which offers WRHC students opportunity to attend UNM and serve on *Scribendi* Board.

LW thanked AS for her service as President of WRHC and presented her with a plaque. AS announced that LW was officially new President of WRCH and Duncan Harris is Vice President.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

Next meeting – at NCHC conference in Washington DC, October 28 – November 1, 2009 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel