



**Annual Business Meeting
October 18, 2008
Vancouver**

Minutes

Linda Paulson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. She introduced the Board: Executive: Linda Paulson, president; Jim Pappas, vice president; Mary Rockcastle, secretary/treasurer; members-at-large: David Arant, Debrah Bokowski, Steve Duguid, Kathleen Forbes, Kris Rabberman, Bob Smither, *ex officio* members: Ken Smith, editor, *Confluence, The Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies*; Jerry Jerman, managing editor, *Confluence, The Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies*; and national office administrative manager Ellen Levine.

1. Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Minutes

The motion was made to approve the 2007 business meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

3. President's Report

Linda reported on the state of the association during her tenure as president:

- the association is on solid financial footing, due to the decision to raise dues modestly a couple of years ago.
- membership is stable, and we hope for continued stability notwithstanding the economic uncertainties ahead.
- we have had excellent conferences, effectively tied to place, with music and civil rights in Memphis and the environment here in Vancouver. She noted that it is gratifying to have so many students present.
- our pre-conference workshops have addressed difficult issues, both practical and conceptual.
- after a year of work, we will offer to the membership a long-overdue revision to the Constitution.
- thanks to the efforts begun by past president Donna Zapf, and under the guidance of editor Ken Smith and managing editor Jerry Jerman, *Confluence* has become a strong forum for excellent written work. The membership is showing strong support, with a record 26 sponsors, up from just a half dozen a few years ago.
- we have devoted a good deal of work to the membership survey, which we continue to work on, to make it both manageable and comprehensive. We hope to get it out soon.

- we awarded the Outstanding Contribution award last year to Barry Levis, the founding editor of *The Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies*, and we continue to honor exceptional faculty with the National Faculty Award. This year's award will be given at tonight's banquet. At the banquet, we will be announcing a new award to recognize student writing.
- a personal note: the West Coast Student Symposium, which she began last year with Martin Anderson of Dominican University, had grown dramatically this year: 150 attendees, 54 presentations, 8 programs from the West Coast and Netherlands. They will do it again next year. While this is not AGLSP-sponsored, she will be pleased to share what they have learned, in terms of planning, calendars, budgets, etc.
- thanks to every member of this Board and the Boards she's been on in the past, and their programs and institutions. A special thanks to Indiana University South Bend and University of Oklahoma for their support of Ken Smith and Jerry Jerman re *Confluence*, to Duke University for their support of the national office, and to Stanford University for supporting her in her presidency and Board membership.
- a special thanks to Steve Duguid and Joanna Kocswarski for this excellent conference and to keynote speakers Rod Nash, Andrew Dobson, and Carolyn Merchant for sharing their wisdom and practical ways to move forward. This conference has been our first attempt at being green, and a great beginning.
- and finally, a thank you to Ellen Levine, for her management of the national office and support of the Board.

Dick Wertime offered a collective thanks of appreciation to Linda for her leadership.

4. Treasurer's Report – Mary Rockcastle

- Mary reviewed the financials and budget by line item, noting that we are providing greater detail to the membership in response to a request at last year's business meeting. Mary emphasized the importance of membership dues, the primary source of revenue, along with *Confluence* sponsorships and conference fees
- Regarding the expense line item of *Confluence* competition, proposed at \$250 cash prize and \$125 conference expense (total of \$375), Donna Zapf moved that the budget be amended to increase the line item to \$625 (\$500 cash prize and \$125 conference expense), further suggesting that the income could be made up by a single sponsorship or the purchase of a few class sets. Jim Pappas noted that the amendment to increase the line item to \$625 will create a deficit budget. Donna suggested that the membership leave it up to the Board to come up with a balanced budget. Motion to approve the budget as amended (\$625 for *Confluence* competition) was seconded and passed.
- Mary proposed that the AGLSP budget \$10,000 out of capital for the development of a new Web site, that will offer a more usable look and feel, better navigation, added functionality (online payments, password access to documents and services), to provide better service to members. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to support the development of a new Web site with \$10,000 from reserve funds.

5. Committee Reports

a. Nominations Committee, Jim Pappas, chair

Jim introduced the slate of officers: David Gitomer (DePaul University) for vice president, Stephen Duguid (Simon Fraser University) for treasurer, and JoEllen Lundblad

(University of Minnesota) for board member. The slate was offered as a made motion and was passed. He noted that Barbara Amen (Reed College) has been appointed to fill Steve Duguid's unexpired term (2 years), and that David Arant (University of Memphis) would be leaving the Board and that an appointment would be made to fill his unexpired term (1 year).

b. Membership Committee, Kris Rabberman

Kris thanked members who have paid their dues on time and noted that she will follow up with those who have not. She also noted that there are several full member applications in process.

c. Publications Committee, Mary Rockcastle, chair

Mary announced the publication of two new *Curriculum Guides* (Volume I: Core Courses and Volume II: Interdisciplinary Courses) now available. She thanked the membership for the great response to the call for syllabi, and noted that this is just the beginning of new, updated material. She further noted that the Board is now looking to update/revise "Integrating Knowledge and Action."

6. Constitution revision

Linda offered an overview of the rationale for the revision and the general changes that were made: last revised in 1999 and no longer representative of the mature organization we have become, eliminated operational practices, eliminated redundancies, better written and organized. It was requested that it would have been beneficial to have been provided an annotated old constitution, so members could easily identify changes. Debrah Bokowski, who took primary editing responsibility for the revision, noted that the revision was so extensive, with a total reorganization and replacement of language, that an easily understood annotated version would have been difficult. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the revised constitution.

Dick Wertime again suggested the Board revisit a student membership, modeled on the success of the AWP. He would like it on the agenda for Board deliberation in this coming year.

7. 2009 Conference

Bob Smither (Rollins College) announced the 2009 conference to be held October 22-24, in Orlando at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. The theme is "Imagination in an Age of Instant Information."

8. New Business

Michelle Bennett suggested the association continue with green conferences. Donna Zapf thanked Steve and Joanna for their work on making this conference green, and joined the call for green conferences going forward. The following motion was made, seconded, and passed: "It shall be the intent of future conference hosts to make the AGLSP Annual Conference green."

Jim Pappas, incoming president, thanked the outgoing board members with gifts of appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectively submitted,
Ellen Levine
Administrative Manager
10/22/08