

MINUTES OF THE NAFSA REGION VI
REGION UPDATE MEETING
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
MAY 28, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Team members introduced themselves.

Minutes from the Business Meeting in Lexington in November 2002 were distributed. Susan Carty motioned to approve the minutes. Nancy Bennett seconded the motion and it was approved.

A membership report was distributed (Attachment A). Since February, membership is up in all states by a total of 26.

The treasurer reported that the region is in a good position financially. All state meetings finished under budget. \$500 was awarded to the Destination Indiana project this year. A treasurer's report will be distributed on the listserv. A suggestion was made that this year the region give only \$500, rather than the usual \$1000, to NAFSA Central so that the difference can be used to support the 40th anniversary celebration. Don Nelson motioned to approve this suggestion. Jennifer Marinello seconded the motion and it was approved.

The following team goals were announced:

- Conduct outreach to various under-served constituencies
- Focus on media relations (Kathy Hammett will organize a day-long workshop on this topic)
- Demystify the team
- Focus on newcomers, students, emerging professionals, and experienced NAFSAns
- Develop a better job environment for team members
- Document the region's history
- Develop the region's website
- Refine financial strategies

Heidi Gregori-Gahan, Conference Planning Chair 2004, made a few announcements regarding the 2004 national conference in Baltimore, which will be held the week before Memorial Day. She encouraged the submission of session proposals. The call for proposals is in the current conference program and the deadline is August 1. She also encouraged the use of the on-line evaluation form for this year's conference.

Proposed changes to the By-Laws (Attachment B) were distributed. The changes are intended to clean up language related to the Chair stream and to denote the Chair-Elect as Conference Chair. In addition, the team positions of Registrar and Assistant Development Officer have been eliminated. Jenny Bowen motioned to approve the changes and Jennifer Marinello seconded the motion, which was approved.

A question was raised regarding why the amount of unbudgeted expenditures requiring approval of the Executive Committee was increased from \$150 to \$500. Elements of a NAFSA Central financial initiative were then explained. Expenditures of \$500 or more now require the signatures of both the Treasurer and the Chair. Periodic audits will be conducted of regional budgets. The Treasurer's term will be limited, and the Treasurer will attend the Washington Leadership Meeting and be trained. All regions are required to use Palisades for conference registration as well as to use a contractor chosen by NAFSA Central to negotiate all conference hotel contracts. Regions would still be able to choose their own hotels, including independent hotels. The hotel contractor's commission is to be split with the region, which is supposed to pay Palisades' charges. Discontent was expressed over this executive decision. In response it was explained that a team member from another region embezzled a significant amount of funds from that region. The Regional Council has appointed a committee to draft mandates for the hotel contractor. John Greisberger, NAFSA President-Elect, explained that because NAFSA membership and conference attendance have increased dramatically, the NAFSA Board of Directors is concerned about its fiduciary and legal responsibility at both the national and regional levels. Auditors have recommended that NAFSA centralize operations for liability reasons. The hotel contracting company selected has been used successfully by NAFSA for several years. Concerns were expressed that these issues and rationales had not been successfully communicated to regional leaders and to the membership.

Susan Carty was nominated as Incoming Chair-Elect. Suzanne Kifer motioned to accept the nomination, and Dru Simmons seconded the motion. The nomination was approved.

Region VI has been chosen as one of three pilot regions for the Academy for International Education. Applications are being accepted for trainers, mentors and participants. See the region's Academy representative, Amy Burrell, for information.

The 40th Anniversary Regional Conference will be held in Akron, Ohio, in November. See the appropriate sectional representative regarding session proposals. In addition, Dee Bunge is seeking artifacts pertaining to the anniversary. During the conference, a program is planned for secondary schools hosting F-1 students. The membership was asked to inform schools that may be interested. A colloquium is also planned which will be aimed at senior professionals.

Rhonda Hinkle, Local Arrangements Chair for the 2004 regional conference to be held in Evansville, Indiana, is seeking conference volunteers.

Voting for national NAFSA positions begins on Thursday, May 29.

New team members are needed for the following positions: CIPP-RR (Student and Non-student), CAFSS, COMSEC, Community College, and Indiana.

It was announced that Don Nelson will be awarded with Lifetime NAFSA Membership at the conference Business Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by Kay Gunyon

October 1, 2003