**Iowa World Language Association**

Meeting of the Advisory council and Executive Board

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Des Moines Downtown Marriott/Cedar Rapids Meeting Room

-Call to Order – 8:17 PM

-Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting - Erik Ladner motion to approve, Tracy Dinesen seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report – Waiting on most recent savings acct statement. $24,121.89 savings balance. Checking account $38,982.85. This includes $13,270 from Bea in conference registration.

-Spent about $1000 for administration of web page to Wild Apricot.

-Looking at ways to continue to support teachers and still plan for the future and leaner years. Paid part of Keeka’s registration as a Central States board member. Willing to look at other opportunities to invest in projects.

-Biennial report was filed this year, prepared by Jason Dinesen. Liability insurance policies have been paid and updated. Ever year liability is paid, but every 3 years we pay the fraud policy. Ended the year over $6200 ahead.

-Proposed budget is included in treasurer’s report.

-Need to determine how we want to proceed as far as the website. We currently have 1000 contacts purchased. Need to decide if we want to stay with the highest membership. Need to get word out to people to sign up through a communications phase. Let people know how many messages are left on the e-mail blast and that they won’t get the blast anymore if they don’t sign up. Should have a paper reminder and set up a way for people to register here at the conference with a computer for next year. Grace would be happy to man a computer to do this. Will discuss within the executive board about how to move forward.

-Much credit goes to Stacy for her organization. Tracy Dinesen motion to approve Stacy’s report, Erik Ladner seconded. Motion carried.

Grants – Grace Valdez

4 grant applications were received. One was for $100 for a subscription to a website, funds for books in Spanish, a couple others with technology/cameras. Decided to split up the funds and distribute the funds fairly. Just need the executive board to act. $1600 in grant requests came in.

-Need to loosen up the reins on funds. We should be spending our money when we can do good things with it.

Registration – Bea Houston

318 registered as of Tuesday night. She estimates that we have about 325.

Exhibitors – Julie Wilhelm

-21 exhibitors, down 1 from last year. Contacted all the exhibitors who did not respond personally. Some have a rotation basis, every 3rd or 4th year, so they don’t come every year. For some the schedules just didn’t work. Technology related exhibitor is new. UNI did not come back.

Bulletin – Julie Wilhelm

-Julie had already sent advertising form to advertisers. Information had been sent in June. She already had checks. Julie put their logos on the website, but it isn’t the same as having a print ad. Need to look at our pricing so that it is fair. There should be a counter on the newsletter to see how many visitors there are. We should lower or raise the rate accordingly. Exhibitors already get an ad in the program.

-November 15 is the next deadline. Pictures of the next award winners, etc. July 1 is the new Fall Bulletin deadline. Anyone can submit articles, should include a note on the website.

-No indenting or bullets for submissions, don’t format in any way. 2 spaces between paragraphs. Attach as a Word document with nothing special. Pictures are fine. Word attached to e-mail, use JPG file formats. Identify who people are in pictures. Registration form when it has background and such is difficult to include.

Local Chair – Candi Sherwood

-New reception for presenters. Hospitality room for presenters (Waterloo Room) will have a note for that. Snacks and beverages will be included. Continental breakfast, beverage service will be included. Supplies and last minute needs can be addressed there.

Program Chair – Kerisa Baedke

-At a glance will be located at registration. In the afternoon, Davenport and Dubuque are combined. Ellen Schrager is presenting in ballrooms, so had additional spots opened. There is a lot of variety in the program that there may not be an issue with having rooms that aren’t big enough. Saturday, the rooms are not combined. FLES and Chinese teachers will be having meetings on Saturday during the blank spots.

- Great sessions were presented, and many of them are new. There were more sessions proposed than what there were spots. Appreciate teachers who have students present. One student presenter is back again to present. Students set things in early! Student sessions tend to be more language-specific and topic specific. May need to come up with a rubric as to how program is determined.

- Printing was done early and so stuffing was done early. Typically, folders are stuffed at the conference.

- Poster sessions, conversation groups, could be a possibility. Set a time when they need to be in an area to look at posters and ask questions. Takes away fear and pressure of presenting. Need easels available. Some people do 2-3 sessions, have people set a preference.

-There aren’t any share sessions, but none were submitted on time. All-Stars idea was new.

-Great job Keeka, the group trusts her to use her best judgment for program decisions.

AATF – Elizabeth Zwanziger Page

-She and Anne Lair are co-presidents. Have new Facebook, need more Likers, go to their page and like them. Jason Noble is working on a website for AATF Iowa based on WI. Want to know about new French teachers in the state and get to know them well. French contest, oral contest at UNI April 28, Tete a Tete at UNI is April 21st. AATF in Chicago this year.

AATG – Susan Sandholm-Peterson

-Spring meeting at Central College. Also have a Facebook page. Urbandale has reinstated the German program they were going to cut. Waukee seems to be very strong. Have good connections with colleagues at other schools and universities.

AATSP – Maggie Voy

-Has met 3-4 times since IWLA. Planning a retreat perhaps to Chicago. As time goes on, switch to Kansas City, Omaha, Minneapolis. Hook into city cultural fairs, etc. that are going on. Perhaps offer some college credit for those that need recertification. Have a survey out for people to give feedback for dates. Jason Noble is going to do another technology workshop, and perhaps another in the spring. Free to all members, nominal fee for non-members. Café Latinos still going on throughout the state. Looking to start some informal social gatherings, chat sessions just to speak the target language. Mentors program (padrinos/madrinas) hope to get it going more, not just for newer teachers, but for veteran teachers. If responsibilities, texts change, it would be a good idea. Website has connected to all the major universities for the padrinos/madrinos program. Informal gathering, dinner at a Mexican restaurant, speaking the language.

AMICI – John Gruber-Miller

-International conference at U of I at the end of October 27th to 30th. Recreation musical events, movie screenings, public lectures and a conference as part of that event. The power of music in Greek and Roman myth to move man and promotion of classical antiquity from the middle ages all the way through the present. People coming from all over the world. Information can be added to IWLA website as there may be others interested.

ACTFL – Elizabeth Zwanziger Page

-November 18th – 20th. Chen is speaker. 6000 people expect and 600 sessions. Mandarin and Chinese are about 80% of presentations, half of the remainder are Spanish. Late September, Appropriations Committee, zeroes out all of the funding for FLAP grants. No funding for new FLAP programs and may discontinue the current funds.

NNELL – Shannon Shreffler

-Focus on K-8. She has been in touch with Pamela Wesley at U of Iowa to get a list of those who teach FLES in Eastern Iowa. 5-6 Iowa NNELL members. They also have a Facebook page – Iowa NNELL. Please come and Like it. 3:10-4:00 PM is the NNELL meeting. West Des Moines currently has FLAP grants, may be end of this year. Tammy Dann has the numbers.

Middle School – Susan Sandholm Peterson

-Has tried to gather numbers. She has a Wiki page, and nothing seems to resonate. Susan has stickers. If people teaching at Middle School level, Susan is going to give them a sticker for their nametags so that people can at least know each other.

Central States – Kat Dierking

-Could not attend meeting, but will be presenting tomorrow on Central States.

Private Colleges – Coralie Turner

-Wants to encourage more private college people to come to IWLA. Went to Council on Independent Colleges meeting in the spring. Sign language is the fastest-growing language in the liberal arts area, important especially with parents-to-be. Schools are not only preparing people to attend the public universities. Amazed how many there are in the state, but not represented here. Finding out about it at national conferences—lots of private colleges don’t have the money. Grand View needs a full-time person who has a PhD in Spanish who wants to teach. Plenty of Iowa teachers have gone to ACTFL, but don’t come to IWLA. May help to encourage people to nominate students for the TOP award. May need to encourage younger students and colleagues to present. Private college representation has gotten better on the board. Great community college representation too.

Public Universities – Terri Gebel

- Has been in contact with dept chairs at ISU and U of I. April 21st is the Tete a Tete at UNI. Dr. Diane Birckbichler from Ohio State will be presenting. Current director of the foreign language center, past president of ACTFL. IWLA is glad to continue promoting event. UNI’s department is now combined with TESOL-English and the head of the department is the head of the English department. No more institutes abroad. Only summer courses available.

-Pam Wesley from U of I will be a great outreach person. Iowa State will have a table, always has been active. Dept. Head, Mark Rectanus, sent a letter that will be given out tomorrow. U of I does not have a table. U of I faculty do not get reimbursed to attend in-state conferences. At U of I, College of Education people are not connected to the Department of Modern Languages. Terri has a huge enrollment of teachers in methods classes. Language numbers are dropping and are now maybe considering connection with education.

-Russell Gammon Director of Division of World Languages and Cultures, wants to know what he can do for outreach to language teachers. Plans to reach out to IWLA however possible. For Iowa, teachers are his number one source. Can earn credits to count toward general education if students have taken 4 years of a foreign language. Guidance counselors don’t always get to pass it on. Iowa has very strong program in teaching methodology. If there is anything we would like Terri to talk to him about, she is glad to do so.

Historian – Juan Trujillo

-Planning to retire at the end of this school year. This may be his last year. His daughter is a senior at UNI this year. He will stay until a suitable replacement is found. Presentation is ready for tomorrow during lunch. Music in the background too. Pictures at General session, but especially during awards session would be great. No one knows yet who the first person was to do IFLA. Jacques duBois or Lowell Hoeft may have been or know how it was. Would like to know what year IFLA officially began. Sandy Nyhuis or Barb Maintland may know.

Erik Ladner – Awards

-Awarding secondary and postsecondary teachers of the year.

Advocacy – Karla Jensen

-Karla just spoke to Linda Fandel recently. Karla was asking how foreign language was going to be included in reform. Only a small part includes world languages, but don’t know yet what it will look like. They are not ready to make a statement at this time. Karla will be in touch with her and will reach out soon again.

-She is working with Marcia Rosenbusch on the FLAP issue and are working with legislators. She will keep us informed on progress. Any individuals need to contact legislators, especially if they haven’t contacted them before. Karla following up with Jason Glass. She attended the Education Summit this summer, very general, though the importance of FLs was mentioned, but seemed to focus on math, science, and technology. Wade and Jason Noble attended the Boone town hall meeting.

Old Business – Relaunch of IWLA website – lots of hours and help involved. It is an improvement and there are more people who are able to make updates and such. The site looks really good. Board will be talking about untapped features. One of them is with online registration for future conferences. People can use Paypal. Board will decide on how to proceed on this front.

New Business – Michael Oates Teacher of Promise Award – We were missing a gap in our awards in order to recognize younger and student teachers. Supervising teachers and college professors can nominate. Some perks have been tied to this award, want to keep good people out there. Will get cash for school supplies, coming to conference for free the next year. Need to do all we can to keep people in Iowa. Student teachers and first or 2nd year teachers eligible. Wade will send out information to get the word out. We may award up to 3 per year, depending on applications. Maureen or Kathy could maybe come to present the first award. The family was really touched.

Being on the executive board is getting bigger and bigger. Advocacy related topics, new website, we’re working really hard. It has become a lot more work than it used to be. We have taken more on our plates as a board. Level of commitment has increased. Presidents of colleges are very concerned about people coming to lead colleges in the future as many students are not wanting to take leadership roles.

Board has been contacted to host Central States. 1983 was the last time we did that. Our organization needs to consider if this is in our future or not. Des Moines has a lot to offer, but a lot of volunteers, etc. are needed. It was a great year when we hosted last, Nile Vernon was president. They bring in staff. It does support advocacy. At the 1983 conference, Terry Branstad was given a special award for leadership, task force etc.

Reminders

-Advisory Council and Exec Board need to help pick up ballots and lunch tickets. Doors open at 11:45 for lunch if people can help out.

-Post-conference wrap-up – 11:30-12:20.

-December 1st is conference wrap-up goal. Want reports, money, checks, reimbursements all submitted.

Adjournment - Erik Ladner motion to adjourn, Terri Gebel seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Morris