

**The Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies
Board Meeting
Saturday, October 15, 2011**

Special Note: This meeting of the Board did not have a quorum and thus no action requiring a vote was conducted. Additionally, the threat of street closures connected to a protest (connected to Occupy Wall Street) march impacted the duration of the meeting.

Board and Officers Present:

- David Trevaskis, Immediate Past President
- Nicole Roper, Board Member 2010-2013
- Kim Kochanski, Board Member 2009-2012
- Keith Bellinger, Board Member 2008-2011
- Mark Previte, President 2009-2011
- Don Imler, Executive Secretary
- Joseph Labant, President Elect
- Sharon Franklin-Rahkonen, Archivist
- Georgette Hackman, Board Member 2011-2014
- Leo West, Editor News and Views
- Marc Brasof, Board Member 2011-2014
- Jill Beccaris-Pescatore, Board Member
- Jodi Borenstein, Board Member 2009-2012
- Keith Bailey, Board Member 2009-2012
- Ira Hiberman, Recording Secretary

Confirmation of 2012 and 2013 Conference Sites

The 2012 conference will be held at the Best Western Plus Hotel and Conference Center in Bethlehem from Thursday, October 11-13, 2012. The cost for sleeping rooms will be \$79 per night and parking is complimentary.

With regard to the 2013 conference, it appears that Gettysburg will be too expensive given the calendar point of the projected conference. Other possible sites under discussion include Indiana, Johnstown, Williamsport, Wilkes-Bare/Scranton, Freedom's Foundation, Cranberry, and York/Harrisburg Area.

Report on 2012 Mini Events

The Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies, in conjunction with the American Institute for History Education, will be sponsoring a series of seminars on the topic "Political Campaigns, Elections and Technology" to be held on January 30, 2012 at Marywood University, Scranton, PA; February 29, 2012, Elizabethtown University, Elizabethtown, PA, and March 26, 2012 at the Indiana University of Pa, Indiana PA. We are inviting current secondary student teachers, their cooperating teachers, methods professors and pre service students to attend this event. There was some discussion regarding the possibility of offering Saturday sessions based on the fact that some school districts are not releasing teachers from classroom duties to attend conferences. The idea of a pilot that would involve offering one of the mini sessions on a Saturday was briefly considered.

Financial Report

Don Imler is projecting that we will have approximately \$2800 left in the bank after conference expenses have been paid. No further financial information was provided.

Membership Report

Don Imler reported that membership numbers are down as a result of low membership renewal, some of which is connected to reduced conference attendance. There is some thought that we might be able to build membership with grant access through AIHE.

PCSS/AIHE Report

AIHE was able to assist us with e-mail blasts related to the conference. We should consider how to further use this feature to promote our events. Our relationship with AIHE is building over time. It was suggested that we use the services of AIHE to initiate a Facebook Connection. Georgette Hackman volunteered to work on this initiative.

2011 Conference Report

There were approximately 135 in attendance with the majority of that number being made up of preservice and student teachers. The Holocaust training had 88 registrants and was well received. The AIHE Clinic was well attended.

Middle States Council Report

There was some discussion regarding the uncertainty of the “health” of the Middle States Council. We need to appoint a liaison, but no action was taken at this time. Their conference is scheduled for March 8-10, 2012 in Baltimore and the theme is “Relevancy and Rigor.”

CUFA

Mark Previte will use e-mail blasts to methods professors to encourage them to take advantage of PCSS programs.

Outgoing President’s Farewell Message

Outgoing President Mark Previte made a few brief remarks regarding his administration and presented a gavel to incoming President Joseph Labant.

Passing of the Gavel

Dr. Labant accepted the gavel and shared his vision for the organization which included:

- Continuation of current initiatives
- Establishing a membership drive
- Using IU’s as a springboard for ideas
- Promoting social studies student affiliations
- Use of technology
- Communication

Welcome New Board Members

New Board Members Marc Brasof and Georgette Hackman were introduced and Keith Bellinger retired from the Board.

2012 Action Items

No items were presented for action at this time.

Operation Checklist for PCSS

Outgoing President Mark Previte will send out a draft checklist for review and reaction.

2012 Conference

No Discussion took place regarding Policies, Partnerships, Credit, and Actions

PCSS Publications

News and Views (See attachment)

Social Studies Journal

Dr. Jodi Bornstein announced that we will be moving to a themed online journal. The journal theme will mirror the conference theme. Thus, the next issue will have a focus on literacy within the context of social studies. The deadline for submission will be January 15, 2012 for a projected spring publication date. We are fortunate to have a graduate assistant working with the editor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.

DRAFT