

Minutes of Officers Meeting

Liberal Arts Section, ACL

Sunday, June 10, 2007

Members Present: Steve Baker, Rodney Burch, Ruth Kinnersley, Lori Thornton, Lindsay Van Sicklen, and Jennifer Walz

Members Absent: Paul Nixon, Brent Etzel

Lori updated the section officers on her meeting with the ACL Board. The Board is moving to a new policy governance model. The implications for LAS involve a new system of reporting that gives one of the ACL Board Members-at-Large responsibility to relate to the LAS for communication. The LAS Officers will now make formal reports to the ACL Board in August and October in addition to the previous Annual Report. Furthermore, the process of ACL funding for the section is being reestablished.

The officers discussed preparations for the section meeting scheduled for 3:45 p.m. Tuesday. Rodney has the ballots for the election of the new Vice-Chair. Lindsay has three mentees prepared to share their experience in the new mentoring program. Jennifer passed out the agenda for the meeting. She also questioned the set-up of the room for the meeting and will look into it. Brent will need to read the minutes of last year's meeting for approval.

Lori reviewed the Annual Report that she submitted to the ACL Board. This included the goals for 2006-07 of reviewing the section purpose, developing a faith integration bibliography, and implementing the mentoring program. A member survey was conducted to assist with the review of the purpose. The integration bibliography was dropped when it was discovered that other organizations are already doing this effectively. The mentoring program got under way with several mentor/mentee matches made in the spring of 2007. Goals for 2007-08 will be to evaluate the mentoring program, develop a video presentation including the comments of current mentees, explore the possibility of creating an online clearinghouse of resources for members, and entertaining the possibilities of other future projects.

Steve reported on the findings of the member survey. The primary findings were that members were interested in more effective communication, interaction, and collaboration particularly for the sharing of practical resources of assistance on policy or task assignments. This led to the establishing this as a goal for next year. Other areas of significant interest in the survey responses were having the section sponsor more conference activities on particular topics. This led to some discussion of how best to support such activities beyond the current section meeting. Options included sponsoring workshops on particular subject of interest to members or the possibility of creating a liberal arts track during conference.

Other ideas generated during the meeting had to do with how to implement the clearinghouse of resources. This may require more support than the current ACL office can provide to create and maintain an effective tool. The current ACL members only directory might be developed to assist people to sort by task, geography, etc. with the idea that people needing assistance could more easily identify persons who might help.

Lori passed out the current LAS purpose statement for review. It was agreed that it needed to be updated and more work will be done on this at a later meeting or by e-mail communication.

The end of conference meeting was set for 3:30 p.m. Thursday.

There being no further business Lori adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Baker