Bible College Section

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at
Asbury University, Wilmore, KY, June 12, 2018

Respectfully submitted by Carol Reid


Regret – unable to attend: Tiffany Hudson (Southwestern Assemblies of God University), BCS Website/ LibGuide Coordinator.
Presiding Officer: Pradeep Das, Chairman, BCS

Opening prayer and Introduction of BCS Committee members: Pradeep Das, Chairman, welcomed all members and the visitors of the Bible College Section and opened the meeting with a prayer. He then asked the BCS Committee members: James Mancuso (Vice-Chairman), Carol Reid (Secretary), Deborah McConkey (Mentoring Coordinator), Nancy Olson (Liaison to ABHE), Jennifer Ewing (Liaison to TRACS) and Leslie Starasta (Liaison to ACL Board) to introduce themselves.

Approval of the BCS 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes: A motion was moved to approve the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes as posted on the ACL website and it was approved unanimously.

New Business:
1. Nomination & Election of new BCS Committee Members for the next 3 yrs. term (2018 -21). Nancy Olson, at the Chairman’s request asked for the nominations for two vacant Committee positions: (i) Jon Jones was nominated for the Member-at-Large and (ii) Erinn Huebner was nominated for the Secretary. Since there was no other names for the nominations, both were elected unanimously.

2. Update Report – BCS Library Guidelines for the ABHE Colleges and Universities: Nancy Olson presented an updated report about these Guidelines. She reported that she and Carol Reid, represented ACL at the ABHE Annual Conference at Orlando in February 2018. Together they presented 3 workshops and staffed the ACL exhibit. They made a lot of good contacts with ABHE officials and representatives from various member institutions attending this Conference. The joint project, the Library Guidelines for the ABHE Colleges and Universities – a handbook that addresses the best practices in line with the ABHE standards, has been approved. Yet it needs some updates and appendices addressing information literacy, extension sites, essential documents, and online learning. For this a “task force” comprising, Nancy, Carol and Jim will work and hopefully, it will be completed this year and be available to the BCS members.

3. Update Report – BCS Library Guidelines for the TRACS Colleges and Universities: Jennifer Ewing reported that the BCS Library Guidelines for TRACS Institutions has been prepared to reflect the TRACS accreditation standards by a committee that includes Nancy Draper, Dale Solberg and herself. When it was ready for the approval, TRACS changed its standards in the Spring of 2018. Now, she is waiting to see if this new change will have any big impact on the BCS Guidelines already prepared. If it does, she will try to re-align the Guidelines with TRACS new standards. When this is finalized, it will go to TRACS for its approval and once approved, this will be posted on the BCS website for the benefits of all.

At present, the goal of Jennifer and her team is to raise awareness of ACL in TRACS-accredited institutions. TRACS has offered ACL an exhibit spot in their annual conference in October 2018 at Dallas, TX.
4. **Update Report – BCS Leadership Manual (Handbook):** In the absence of Paul Roberts (who has prepared this Manual), Pradeep reported that it expected to go through some more revisions and be finalized by the BCS Committee very soon. Then it will be presented to the ACL Board for the approval. Once approved, it will be posted on BCS website for the benefits of all.


6. **Any other Business:** Pradeep opened the floor for comments and suggestions from the members present. There were some questions and answers.

   (i) What is the relationship between TRACS and ABHE? Both are completely separate Christian Accrediting agencies operating in USA and overseas. Both are recognized by CHEA (Council for Higher Education) and the Department of Education (DOE) in Washington. Therefore, BCS is preparing the *Library Guidelines* which are applicable to both TRACS and ABHE.

   (ii) One of the Appendices related to the *Library Guidelines* for the ABHE will address “Library Staffing”. Members present agreed to an informal poll to indicate their staffing levels and the FTE.

   (iii) The members present applauded Leslie for her excellent presentation. Suggestions for next year’s presentations were welcomed.

**Carol Reid and her contributions:** Since this is Carol’s last year as the Secretary for the BCS, she was given a very warm farewell. Pradeep thanked her for her dedication and hard work, and wished her all the best for the future.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm with a closing prayer by Leslie Starasta.