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Minutes of National Writing Centers Association Executive Board Meeting

March 23, 1992

CCCC: Cincinnati

Board Members Present: Pat Dyer, Lady Falls Brown, Nancy Grimm, Dave Healy, Sally Fitzgerald, Diana George, Steve Kucharik, Ed Lotto, Sally Crisp, Al DeCiccio, M. Clare Sweeney, Byron Stay, Rosemary O'Donoghue, Joe Saling.

Guests Present: Eric Hobson, Wilkie Leith, Alan Jackson, Michael Condon, Martha Marinara, Bob Child.

President Pat Dyer called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Bob Child represented the East Central Association in place of Lois Green, and Eric Hobson was filling in for Ray Wallace. The minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Nancy Grimm, executive secretary, reported that the treasury balance was \$3,798.05. New and renewed memberships brought in \$1010 since the last meeting. Expenses totaled \$131.98. Grimm reminded the members that nominations for one at-large representative will be accepted until May 1. A nomination form is available from her. Applications for the \$200 graduate student scholarship are due by April 15.

Old Business

Members discussed ways to promote the NWCA. Eric Hobson and Alan Jackson volunteered to design a new flyer. A motion setting a \$350 limit on the printing expense was passed. Members also discussed planning an information exchange table for national conferences, promoting NWCA with high school colleagues, and encouraging their university and college libraries to subscribe to *The Writing Center Journal*.

Reports

A. *Writing Lab Newsletter*. Members were reminded that Muriel Harris is interested in articles, particularly for the tutor's column. The *Writing Lab Newsletter* will also print announcements for conferences and the sale of proceedings.

The Writing Center Journal, Volume 13, Number 1, Fall 1992

B. *Writing Center Journal*. Diana George raised the issue of setting up a separate review board for the Journal instead of relying on the NWCA executive board. The purpose of this change would be to insure that manuscripts get a prompt and thorough review. After some discussion, the members of the board passed a motion made by George and seconded by Byron Stay and Al DeCiccio to allow the editors to establish an editorial review board. Sally Fitzgerald recommended that the editors ensure diversity on the board by taking in consideration geographical distribution, experience, race, gender, type of institutional affiliation, etc. The general membership is encouraged to submit names and qualifications to the editors for consideration.

C. Writing Center Directory. Copies are available from Pam Farrell. Make checks payable to McCallie School for \$15.

D. NCTE Workshop. About 60 people attended, mostly middle school and high school people.

E. CEL. Pat Dyer will ask Pam Farrell to keep this contact going.

Members discussed the importance of other coalitions. Wilkie Leigh will make contact with WPA and submit an article to Writing Lab Newsletter.

F. CCCC Presentation. Ray Wallace has asked for three speakers on the topic "Idea of a Writing Center Revisited: Reaching Out to New Populations." Members recommended a roundtable format to encourage interaction.

G. Special Interest Committee Reports.

Peer Tutor Committee: Grimm read a letter from Ellen Mohr, chair of the committee, indicating that three individuals have volunteered to serve as consultants on the peer tutor committee: Barbara Roswell at Goucher College in Towson, Maryland; Melinda Gunning at West Coast Christian College in Fresno, California; and Ted McFerrin at Collin County Community College, Spring Creek Campus, Dallas Texas. The committee is preparing a comprehensive bibliography that will be available to the organization. Members discussed ways to disseminate information such as this. Eric Hobson volunteered to look into options.

ESL Committee: Al DiCiccio volunteered to chair this committee in place of Lady Falls Brown.

Starting a Writing Center: Hobson volunteered to coordinate this committee.

Writing Center Administration: Wilkie Leigh volunteered to coordinate.

Computers: Claire Sweeney indicated she had received a couple dozen calls on computers in writing centers.

Research in the Writing Center: Dyer reported that she would look into ways to network those interested in this topic.

Assessment/Evaluation: Sally Crisp reported receiving calls from three people.

H. Regional Reports

The New England Conference will be held April 11 at Bristol Community College. The Mid-Atlantic Conference is scheduled for April 10 and 11 at Mount Saint Mary's College with Steve North as keynote speaker. The Rocky Mountain regional coordinates its conference with the Rocky Mountain MLA. Their conference is planned for October 15-17 in Ogden. East Central will host their conference on April 10 and 11 in Kalamazoo with Art Young as keynote speaker. The South Central fall conference was held at Texas Christian. They are planning to move to spring conferences. The Midwest Association plans their conference for Oct 2-3 in St. Paul with Steve North as keynote. The South-Eastern conference is planned for April 22-24 with Dr. Christopher Thaiss as keynote speaker.

Members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of publishing the proceedings of regional conferences and the possibility of developing archives. Healy pointed out that publishing proceedings indirectly encourages participants to read papers rather than engaging the audience in discussion.

New Business

1. Scholarship Award: Alice Gillam and Mickey Harris won the writing center scholarship award for 1992.
2. Members discussed the revision of the CCCC Principles and Standards Statement. Byron Stay will contact Jim Slevin to inquire about the status of the revision process and the possibility of input from the NWCA.

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.