

To: ACHE Great Plains Regional Members
From: Charlee Lanis, Great Plains Region Secretary
Topic: Minutes from the Great Plains Region Meeting in Roanoke Virginia on October 28, 2007
Date: November 15, 2007
CC: Irene Barrineau

Eric Cunningham called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. and directed the participants to the agenda and the financial report that were distributed. Copies of the last meeting minutes were distributed to those who wanted them. Most members had received them by email.

The new name of our region was announced "Great Plains Region". No changes other than our name were made to our region (no states added or deleted).

Introductions were conducted and officer duties and election procedures explained.

Paula as chair elect will be moving to chair and Charlee as secretary will be moving to chair elect in February. For stability, Melba has agreed to serve as our treasurer and help manage our bank account. All positions except that of our treasurer are two year terms. Next year (2008) we will need someone to serve as secretary. Eric requested that we let him know of anyone interested in serving on this board in the future.

Treasurer's Report: Melba was not at the meeting to discuss the treasurer's report, but will be present at the regional conference. However, we have \$9,000 in the bank which puts us in pretty good shape to pay a couple of good speakers for the spring conference.

Future Conferences: Eric encouraged everyone to attend and bring their staff to the Great Plains regional conference scheduled at Park University in February of 2008. Carol Aslanian, Kay Albright and Tim McEleroy will be some of the presenters for the regional conference. Carol has done consultant work and as an impressive amount of knowledge to share. Kay has a deep understanding of human resources and has helped to develop H.R. degree programs. Tim will be sharing information about an online completion program.

Paula reminded everyone that we still need 2 to 3 more participants for the articulation agreement panel scheduled for the conference. Betty Stevens at K. State was mentioned as a possible panelist and Eric volunteered to email Betty to see if she would be interested. Members were encouraged by Eric to let Paula, Charlee or himself know of anyone else they may think would be good on this panel.

Eric's reply to Glenda's question on number of participants expected to attend is a cap of 90 participants. To accommodate this number, conference planners have reserved all the conference rooms in the "cave" (their underground facilities for this event and are working out hotel, restaurant and transportation issues since there is not a hotel in the

conference center. While there are several hotels in the area, Eric suggested using the Drury Hotel since he has experienced good success with them while hosting the regional conference at Columbia.

A conference title was discussed and Paula offered a prize (a bottle of something) to anyone who came up with the “winning” (or as Paula said “snappy”) name. Once a title has been chosen, the “save the date” information will be distributed.

Our conference last year had the best attendance ever and Eric encourages us all to keep up this momentum. Eric reminded the members that you do not have to be a member to attend the conference. Eric expressed that our region should be used as an “incubator” to get members to the national association. Glenda is getting the mail list from the past two regional conferences and will forward to Charlee and Paula who will ensure those on these lists are mailed information about the regional conference along with the ACHE members.

Eric reminded the members that this is an inexpensive conference and while the Great Plains region covers a huge geographic area, this conference has been set in a location that should make it easy for everyone to attend (Kansas City proper is not far from Park University).

Charles Hickox mentioned that he would like to see lots of “new timers” at this conference and there was some discussion on incentives for “new timers”. Incentive ideas were discussed to include “comping” the hotel room to those attending the first time. Eric suggested however, that this may be an administrative nightmare and instead gave the members permission to “waive” the registration fee if we knew of someone that might come if they didn’t have to pay this fee.

Since it has been nice to be ahead of the game on this conference, Eric encouraged everyone to let Paula and/or Charlee know of topic ideas for the next year (2009) conference scheduled to be held in Oklahoma. Eric also requested volunteers to host the 2010 conference acknowledging that the host institutions provided a great opportunity to recruit members to ACHE. While weather in February can be an issue of where to have the conference, the success from the conference comes from the fact that it is the first of the regional conferences in the year.

Having nothing further to add, Eric adjourned the meeting at 5:05 with a final request that we enjoy the rest of the conference in Roanoke.