

10/16/05

SPESE regional members meeting

Minutes:

Welcome from John Scarlata – regional chair

Thank you to Daniel Kariko (conference co-chair), Scott Groeniger (conference co-chair), George Blakely (exhibition curator and host extraordinaire), and Silvia Lizama (regional treasurer) for their hard work in making this year's regional conference a great success.

#### BUDGET

Our current SPESE account balance is about \$5730. This year's conference spent about \$3500 more than it brought in. The step up in programming and lectures at this year's conference was acknowledged as a step in the right direction. At the same time, continuing to run a negative balance on conferences would deplete the regions bank account and make subsequent conference preparation impossible. In addition the bank balance is used to fund web site development, newsletters and other regional expenses.

Balances from the last three conferences were presented:

2004: \$0 (broke even)

2003: -\$1400

2002: +\$3000

There was a good bit of discussion surrounding the balance between quality of programming and cost for the regional conference. Higher quality programming would hopefully engage more attendance and inspire more students and professionals to begin or renew membership, thus increasing the funds available to continue to build programming. This forward thinking approach needs to be balanced with the necessity to keep a significant surplus in the regions bank account.

#### EMAIL/LISTSERV

There was a great deal of discussion throughout the meeting regarding a need for a regional email list or listserv to promote communication. Daniel and Scott have developed a fairly up-to-date list of functioning emails for regional members. The national

office may be able to add to this list although there was some question as to which list was the most current. For the past four years there has been discussion of a regional listserv at this business meeting and it has yet to happen exclaimed one member. This needs to be a higher priority. No one seemed to know what was needed to set up a listserv. Representatives from the national office said that they would not be able to support such a service. Daniel Kariko said that he would look into it.

#### NEWSLETTER

Blake Praytor has agreed to be the new editor of the southeast regional newsletter. Watch for an online version of the newsletter this spring, also available as a PDF. An online and mailed version will be sent each fall.

There was discussion about expanding the content of the newsletter to make it more appealing for readers. This content will only happen if we make it. Blake's job will be to collect and distribute the content, not generate it. So gather your latest news and send it to Blake - [blake.praytor@gvltec.edu](mailto:blake.praytor@gvltec.edu)

#### UPCOMING CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

2006 - Boone, NC - hosted by John Scarlata and Appalachian State University

2007 - Savannah, GA - hosted by Rebecca Nolan and Savannah College of Art & Design

2008 - Charlotte, NC - hosted by Crista Cammaroto and The Light Factory

2009 - (your name could be here - it's not too soon to offer to host and start planning)

Watch for open submission opportunities.

#### REGIONAL OFFICER NOMINATIONS:

Regional Chair: A new Chair election was scheduled for this fall. Due to an insufficient call for nominations we are postponing this election until next year. John Scarlata will continue to serve as chair until the post is filled. This position will begin at the end of the national conference in 2007 and will extend for two years. John has offered to continue his service in this position if no one else is nominated. Please submit nominations.

Treasurer: The position of regional Treasurer is due for re-election this year. This position will begin at the end of the national conference in 2007 and extend for three years. Daniel Kariko was nominated to run for this position. Please submit any additional nominations.

The nomination committee is made up of Crista Cammaroto (ccammaroto@lightfactory.org), Patrick Keough (pjk@carteret.edu), and Michael Marshall (michaelmarshall@hotmail.com). Please send nominations to the committee. Nominations will be accepted through the end of the national conference in March. The spring newsletter will contain bio's and statements of the nominees. Ballots will be mailed next fall.

#### NATIONAL NEWS

Steve Bliss gave an update from the national office. He exclaimed, "the southeast region is doing very well." The national executive committee has been meeting three times per year and is making great strides. He suggested the region might consider more regular dialogue to build on discussions started at this meeting.

Regional budget allocations are under consideration for a change from 20% of the region's membership dues to 17%, with 1% being held by the national office for financing expenses, and 2% being held by the national office to allocate to regions in distress.

The rolls of both the women's caucus and the multicultural caucus are under discussion.

#### EDUCATOR'S RETREAT

Crista Cammaroto from the Light Factory in Charlotte, NC will be hosting this year's Photo Educators Retreat, February 17 & 18th, 2006. It will be an opportunity to share work, discuss educational concerns, and provide a mid-year planning time for regional issues and conference planning. Watch for upcoming information and plan to attend.