

Minutes from the SPE southeast regional meeting at the national conference  
Submitted by Michael Marshall, Vice Chair / Secretary  
Date: 3/24/06

John Scarlata, outgoing Chair of the Southeast Region,  
scarlataj@appstate.edu  
Mark Malloy, Chair elect, malloyml@appstate.edu  
Michael Marshall, Vice Chair/Secretary, michaeljmarshall@hotmail.com  
Silvia Lizama, Treasurer, slizama@mail.barry.edu  
Blake Praytor, Newsletter Editor, blake.praytor@gvltec.edu  
Joe Champagne, Website Editor, joechampagne@vic.edu

#### Welcome

John Scarlata opened the meeting introducing the regional officers, followed by introductions from each of the 37 members present at the meeting.

#### Newsletter

Blake Praytor is our current newsletter editor. The next newsletter will be sent out as an emailed pdf file in April. In August a hardcopy newsletter will be mailed to members. Please send information to Blake to be included in the newsletter including exhibition announcements, articles, competition call for entries, photographs etc. Send to blake.praytor@gvltec.edu

#### Website

Joe Champagne is the website editor. The site has been in desperate need of an update for several years. Joe is working on the update, and will have it up by the end of the semester. You can send website information to him at joechampagne@vic.edu

#### Thanks!

Thanks to Daniel Kariko and Scott Groeniger, co-chairs for the 2005 SE regional conference hosted by Florida State University. It was a grand conference with 270 attendees, excellent speakers, two fine exhibitions, and great energy.

#### Officer Elections

Chair – John Scarlata's three year term as chair of the southeast region comes to an end at the end of the national conference. Thank you John for three excellent years of service to this organization! Over the past year there have been calls for nominations for a new chair. There was only one nomination – Mark Malloy. A final call for nominees was opened to the floor. George Blakely was nominated, but declined. With no other nominees, a vote was taken as a show of confidence vote for Mark Malloy. With a unanimous vote of confidence Mark Malloy takes over the position of Chair as of the Monday following the national conference.

Treasurer – Silvia Lizama will be ending her extended five-year term as treasurer following the national conference in 2007. We are now accepting nominations for a new treasurer. Nominees should be comfortable working with Excel documents in order to manage the regions accounting. The nomination committee includes:

Michael Marshall (current officer): michaeljmarshall@hotmail.com

John Scarlata (former officer): scarlataj@appstate.edu

Cathy Crowell (member): crowellcathy@hotmail.com

Please contact any of these committee members with nominations for the Treasurer.

#### National News

Rebecca Cummins stopped in to the regional meeting to announce the upcoming National SPE conference in 2007 that is coming to the southeast region in Miami. The Regional Affairs committee is working to build support for the conference, especially the need for 150 student volunteers that help make the national conference a success. Please encourage students to support our region by volunteering.

#### Finances

Silvia Lizama distributed the treasurer's report, including the regional budget for the past year. The last regional conference cost a couple thousand dollars more than it made, but the region was easily able to cover this difference and the region is doing well. Silvia addressed the challenges of setting up a conference without knowing what attendance will be, and thus not knowing exactly what the budget income will be.

Concerns of the cost of the national conference were brought up. Steve Bliss, a national board member, addressed this concern saying that the national board is reviewing the situation. He summarized discussions from the national meetings, but also made note of the fact that the next national conference in Miami is not going to be much different.

A suggestion from the floor was made to have the region support a student by paying for his/her attendance to the national conference. A second suggestion was to do only partial support for several students, perhaps one from each state in the region. This comment received positive feedback, and the regional officers will take up this issue.

#### Advisory Committee

Upon review of the region's bylaws John Scarlata announced that the bylaws call for an advisory committee to the regional officers. John suggested that this committee be made up of members from each state in the region, to bring concerns from across to the region to the attention of the regional officers. By call of vote, the members supported the formation of such a

committee. Through call of volunteers the committee was formed including:

Shar Wolfe

John Pickle

Rebecca Sittler

Michelle Van Brass

Chuck Hemard

Student Representative: Caleb Smallwood (email: [cs60411@appstate.edu](mailto:cs60411@appstate.edu))

Look for these member's contact information on the website and contact them with your concerns.

#### Regional Conference 2006

John Scarlata and Mark Malloy will be hosting the 2006 regional conference in Boone, North Carolina, October 13-16. This is peak leaf season, an excellent time for a visit to the mountains. The conference will be held at the Broyhill Inn & Conference Center on the campus of Appalachian State University. Room cost will be \$67.50 per night for 2 people (\$5 each additional person). You can fly in to either Charlotte or Greensboro. There are 75 rooms reserved for the conference. An unexpected shift in the football schedule has made this a game weekend, and hotel rooms will be scarce. **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!!!**

Keynote speakers will include National Geographic photographer Sam Abell, and the documentary photo mosaics of Phil Moody. The honored educator will be Byron Baldwin, a founding member of The Light Factory, and a 30-year high school photography teacher.

The conference will also include image-makers, critiques, a panel on professional practices, a panel on distance learning, a presentation on classroom critiquing, an overview of many graduate programs from across the region and much more. Don't miss this great event!

Looking ahead, the 2007 regional conference will be hosted by Rebecca Nolan at the Savannah College of Art and Design, and the 2008 regional conference will be hosted by Crista Cammaroto and the Light Factory in Charlotte.