

NNER Governing Council Meeting
AACTE, Tampa, FL
March 4, 2017, 9-11 AM, Meeting Room 5-6
Tampa Marriott Waterside

Present: Present: Vi Florez, Greg Bernhardt, April Bedford, Deb Shanley, Joe Keferl, Jim Tomlin, Jennie Rakestraw, Jeanne Gerlach, John Smith, Margo Jackson, Ann Sebald, Louise Jennings, Francisco Rios, Sara Hartman, Jean Eagle, Tamara Lucas, Mary Laffey, Ann Foster, Mascheal Schappe (Audrey Kleinsasser via phone)

1. Welcome and Introductions – Vi Florez (Chairperson)

2. Report on Strategic Action Plan – Vi Florez

Vi discussed the planning symposium in summer 2016 in Albuquerque, NM. The plan was discussed at the 2016 conference and feedback solicited during and after the conference. Then a draft of the plan was shared with the Executive Board at the December meeting, and it then went out to the Governing Council membership for feedback. The plan now includes names of individuals and groups that volunteered to work in the various goal areas. At this time the plan is now posted on the NNER website and is a working document to serve as a roadmap for guiding the NNER's actions and goals.

3. Search for Executive Director – John Smith (search chair)

Ann Foster and Greg Bernhardt have expressed a desire to step down as co-executive directors. The Executive Board appointed a committee (John Smith, Jennifer Robinson, Vi Florez, Nick Michelli) to lead the search effort and a position announcement was distributed to NNER membership. Three applications are under consideration and the interviewing process will occur in the next few weeks. The search committee will then make a recommendation to the Executive Board. The new director should be in place by the summer symposium to provide a time for shadowing.

4. Reports on TPC Chairpersons

No reports at this time from the tripartite groups. Ann noted that Audrey and Teresa Wilson have been working to have extended teacher participation in the next annual conference.

5. Sustainable Funding Project: Bank Street College-NNER Affiliate Application
Karen DeMoss shared the work of the SFP at Bank Street College to the NNER Executive Board and at the fall conference. Karen approached Ann about partnering to submit a proposal for a USDOE grant (former TIP). Ten NNER member sites are now part of this initiative. Karen reported to the Executive Committee yesterday to describe some of the changes in the grant guidelines. The grant involves \$12 million a year for 5 years. The ten institutions include the University of South Carolina, Winthrop, CUNY, Colorado State, Maryville, Montclair State, Western Washing, University of Wyoming, Connecticut, University of New Mexico.

6. NNER Position Letter on Secretary DeVos, USDOE

A position statement was developed by the committee, led by Joe Keferl and April Bedford, and a copy of the statement was distributed. Ann said that many organizations were contacted and NNER's position statement was shared with them. To answer a question about our contact with AACTE's legislative director, it was noted that AACTE's stance is to stand ready to assist on this matter. Based on suggestions for making an impact by Tamera Lucas individual NNER members are encouraged to be active on this topic.

7. Report from Equity, Diversity and Social Justice Standing Committee

There is no current report but the committee has been working with the 2017 conference planning committee.

Actions related to the focus of this committee are included in the strategic plan and Vi will contact Wayne Reed to advance this work.

8. Discussion and Vote on Central Connecticut State University Application to become an Affiliate Member.

The application from CCSU was distributed to Governing Board members for review prior to the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the application. After brief discussion, the motion was approved.

9. NNER Annual Report Process and Formatting

Discussion had occurred earlier to redesign the annual report and allow for online submission. Also, in the planning process, a suggestion has been made to make the annual report due at the end of the academic year versus the calendar year. Ann led discussion on this topic. We need the connectivity, the background, and share what each other is doing through a viable annual reporting process, but we need to consider how to use technology to support these things. Now that we have the technology infrastructure to do this, we want to move forward with a revised format that is technology-enhanced. Jennie Rakestraw described a new format to consider as a starting point for developing such an annual report, and Deb Shanley noted that she can share how this is being done in New York and with Great City Schools. Discussion included how prompts might change to align better with member institution efforts, use categories/topics of work for formatting and allowing ease in sharing, connecting member sites on specific projects, etc. Jim Tomlin discussed a desire to investigate Sensemaker software to support the Arts and Sciences tripartite work and research and the annual reports could be a source of cross-setting research. Jim was asked to submit something on this to place in the next NNER newsletter. Ann noted that we could capture the different voices by informally videotaping teachers, faculty, our candidates, etc. at local events and share those with NNER for posting on our website as one example of making the web page more interactive. Jeanne Gerlach suggested that we develop an article for the back of the Chronicle of Higher Education; she will be meeting with the editor to discuss the possibility. A set of bullet points will first be developed and then Jeannie will create a draft that can then be further developed for submission. Other ideas

were generated on how NNER can publish pieces (i.e. essays, articles) in other key venues that will raise awareness of NNER's mission that is highly relevant today. Also there are organizations, such as Education Deans for Justice and Equity, that we could connect with. Members were encouraged to share relevant articles, links, etc. to her and post on GoogleDocs so those can be shared and used in our ongoing work. Vi noted that these resources can be posted on our website, and she noted how frequently our website is being referenced.

A lively discussion ensued about the attack on university-based teacher preparation with an increasing number of alternative providers and a lack of understanding and regard for what we do. Impact on P-12 students, cost of teacher turnover, funding formulas, etc. were discussed as well as possible initiatives that NNER might be able to address related to this, such as working together to develop quality university-based alternative programs and serving communities of color.

10. Updates:

- Operating budget and financials – Greg Bernhardt
A budget handout was distributed. Greg listed the current membership and noted that we will probably be losing the University of Washington. If we know of any institutions that might be interested in NNER, please let Ann or Greg know. The budget report shows that approximately \$164,000 is the overall balance of the 2016 fiscal year. The 2016 budget exceeded the income from membership and reserve funds had to cover that gap. Although expenses exceeded income last year, the Governing Council had approved that we would use reserve funds to cover costs of the summer planning session. However, last year the annual conference had a deficit by about \$15,000. Greg stated that we will reduce the annual budget for 2017, trying to keep expenses within income amount yearly. Increased membership will help resolve this issue. The summer symposium is planned to be revenue neutral (registration income pays all expenses); the annual conference should work similarly, if sufficient registrations come in. The six-year budget comparison shows that reserve funds have diminished, but that has occurred by design. Ideas were discussed such as requesting host institutions to help financially sponsor the conference, restructuring the annual conference for a larger audience, reaching out to the business community for conference sponsorship, promoting individual memberships, collectively focusing on institutional membership recruitment. A responsibility of the new executive director, along with the Board chair, and Governing Council members, will need to focus on budget issues and soliciting new membership. A motion to approve the budget was made and seconded with a unanimous vote to approve.
- Website/technology improvements – Vi Florez
UNM has now assumed responsibility for the NNER website. The old website is still in place for now and the new website is being created

and content is being placed on it. The hosting and domain registrations for NNERPartnerships.org and NNERAnnualConference.org websites have moved from an insecure hosting environment at Globat to a more modern and secure environment at Media Temple (mt). One of the benefits of the new (mt) hosting will be an addition of SSL Certificates which encrypts data transmission during visitors' use of the site just like is done for banking and large enterprise websites. This will be most important when processing paid registrations for conferences and applications for memberships online. Email addresses have been moved from Globat to (mt). Website updates to NNERPartnerships.org have continued during this transition. Now the NNER Strategic Action Plan is published on that site. The survey that went out identified how much the website is used, and the new website will be a much better "face" of NNER. Ann thanked Vi and her staff members, Smith Frederick and John Kofonow for getting this valuable work accomplished. This is a major investment for NNER and UNM, but we believe this will move NNER into the 21st century, be much more interactive, and will provide excellent support for NNER's ongoing work.

- Marketing plan update
No report at this point
- Clark Partner School Award and Michelli Award for Social Justice
Vi encouraged nominations to be made. The calls for nominations will be distributed soon.
- NNER Journal 2017 issue – Rene Roselle/UCONN colleagues
We are looking for a new host institution since this is the last year for UCONN as host. The new host will not have to reinvent how the journal is done due to structures now in place at UCONN.
- League of Democratic Schools – Audrey Kleinsasser (by phone)
They are looking at affiliation with NAPDS and remain as a group. They expect to stay connected to NNER and members of the League will attend NNER's summer symposium and the fall conference.

11. Fall Conference October 12-14, 2017, St. Louis, MO – Carol Hall-Whittier, Catherine Bear co chairs, reported by Mascheal Schappe

The planning is well underway. Call for proposals went out in February and is on the NNER website. A superintendents' forum and town hall meeting will be held on Thursday night and (what organization) has moved its annual meeting to October to connect with NNER for this conference. Special events are being planned that address social justice and social issues such as the Ferguson shooting. Ann suggested that video clips be produced at the conference.

12. Summer Symposium July 17-20, 2017, NYC – Deb Shanley

The symposium will be in New York City and hosted by Lehman College/CUNY and Montclair State University settings. Hampton Inn in Yonkers, just 10 minutes away from the Lehman campus, has provided excellent rates. Deb described the special experiences that will be provided with the symposium focus on introducing participants to the NNER mission and how to implement it in practice.

13. Other Business

Deb distributed a handout on the *Working Together* book that just came out with contributions from Winthrop and Montclair as Council of Great City Schools award recipients.

Those involved in the Bank Street/NNER TIP grant remained behind for a meeting with Bank Street leaders.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM