



Fall Business Meeting Minutes October 19, 2009

Call to Order: President Rodney E. Adams called to order the 2009 Fall State Business Meeting of the South Carolina Council of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel at 2pm in Florence, SC at the annual SCCEOPP Fall Training Conference held at the SiMT Facility housed on the campus of Florence Darlington Technical College.

Review of the Minutes: Secretary Selena Blair informed the membership that the minutes from the 2009 Annual SCCEOPP/GASPP Spring Conference were not available at the present time; however, every effort will be made to obtain the minutes from her predecessor, Rhonda Cole. Upon receipt, they will be distributed via the ListServe and posted on SCCEOPP's website.

College Goal Sunday: Violette Hunter informed the membership that College Goal Sunday will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010. College Goal Sunday is a series of financial aid workshops conducted by financial aid administrators across the state. Three TRiO professionals – Gloria Ward (USCU), Sinitra Johnson (MTC), and herself will serve as site coordinators. Ms. Hunter encouraged other TRiO participants to get involved by assisting with workshops and make preparations to bring their students. Those families who attend the event will receive assistance with submitting their FAFSA online that day, so they will need to bring their tax information with them. Additional information will be sent via the ListServe.

Gamecock Guarantee: J. Harrison (SSS Academic Advisor @ USC Columbia) discussed the new initiative implemented by USC Columbia in 2008 called The Gamecock Guarantee. The purposed of the initiative is to make a college education affordable for those students who otherwise may not be able to attend the University. She referenced the eligibility criteria printed in the brochures that she previously distributed. Those participants who receive the Gamecock Guarantee can qualify for OSP at USC Columbia, if they have not already been accepted into the Honors College and for a tuition reduction. Ms. Harrison stressed the importance of adhering to the publicized deadlines.

Financial Report: Dr. Julia Williams informed the membership that we have currently awarded \$12000 in scholarships and \$10,000 has been paid to the recipients. To date, SCCEOPP has 113 paid members. She indicated that additional information will be posted on the ListServe.

SCCEOPP Constitution: E. Jim Oree informed the membership that a copy of our current constitution and a table of proposed changes were sent to each institution and via the ListServe for everyone to review prior to the start of this meeting. He emphasized that it was very that we followed these guidelines because the membership has to be given 30 days to review, so that we can discuss any changes and vote on them at our state meeting. Mr. Oree presented our options for voting on the constitution (i.e. whole document or each individual change). It was established that a quorum of paid members were present, so we could actually vote on the changes. Mr. Herm Allen served as the parliamentarian for this segment. When the discussion began, questions arose about the start date for the nomination and election process as well as casting ballots; however, that discussion was tabled as a result Sinitra Johnson made a motion to table all discussion and voting regarding the constitution, because some individuals did not have a copy in front of them. It was second; however after a vote, the membership decided to continue discussion and voting on the constitution by a vote of 20 – 22. Discussion took place and the membership voted by majority to accept the proposed changes with the exception of Article 4. Article 4 will be discussed further at SAEOPP.

Committee Reports:

WHBSLC (Quanda Sims/Selena Blair): It was stated that the leadership conference is scheduled for January 15-17, 2010 at the SpringMaid Beach Resort located in Myrtle Beach, SC. The membership was encouraged to adhere to the registration instructions and deadlines as specified in the packets.

SCUBYCCC (Leroy Lewis): This is a partnership with the US Census Bureau. SCCEOPP was the first to do this in the nation. Mr. Lewis mentioned upcoming meeting dates and the activities that will take place on the first night of WHBSLC. He informed the membership that there would be a poetry slam contest focusing on the importance of completing the census in which students could win a laptop computer, laptop notebook, and a digital camera. The U.S. Census Bureau will be funding these activities.

Scholarships (Chantal Fleming): The membership was reminded that in order to nominate applicants for SCCEOPP's scholarship, the program must be represented at the WHBSLC in January. She mentioned that applications need to be postmarked by the set deadline, completed in its entirety in black ink, all forms have the appropriate signatures, and that only one application per program can be submitted.

Spring Conference (Alfie Mincy): The 2010 Annual SCCEOPP/GASPP Spring Conference will be held in Columbia, SC for the first time. Dr. Lynda Byrd-Johnson and Celeste Brooks will attend the conference as well.

Upward Bound Director's and Scholar's Bowl (E. Jim Oree): Scholar's Bowl will be held at Horry Georgetown Technical College on January 16, 2010. Additional information will be disseminated at a later date.

SCTAA (Tara Holmon): Mrs. Holmon informed the membership that SCTAA was recognized by COE as the best Alumni Association in the nation. She encouraged alumni to join ASAP and discussed how SCTAA was given back to the state (i.e. sponsoring alum at policy seminar, donating on behalf of SC to Fairshare, and hosting the 1st Annual TRiO Alumni Day in Columbia, etc.)

Fairshare (E. Jim Oree and Dr. Williams): The membership was reminded of the purpose of Fairshare and informed that to date only 13 South Carolinians have signed up to participate in 10 for 10 campaign. It was said that there are three ways to contribute to Fairshare – institutional memberships, equality subscriptions, and personal contributions.

Presidential Remarks: Mr. Adams introduced the Policy Seminar Leaders and encouraged membership to contact these individuals to express an interest in attending. Policy Seminar is scheduled for March 20 – 24, 2010 in Washington, DC. He also notified the membership that during the COE conference in San Antonio, TX, the Council received awards for our initiatives relating to membership and SCTAA. The SCCEOPP newsletter which is issued twice a year is in need of an editor. All interested persons need to contact Secretary Blair or President Adams ASAP. President Adams announced that the next meeting will be held at the SAEOPP Conference in Mobile, AL. Meeting was adjourned at 3:28pm.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Selena Blair

Properly motioned and approved:

02/02/10

Date