

NSCLS Winter Business Meeting
Saturday January 17, 2009 Omaha NE

Present: Tracey Vrba, Roxanne Alter, Andrea Shank, Anita Smith, Melissa Gonzalez, Lucas Christensen, Karen Keller, Linsey Donner, Joyce Colombe, Amy Stanley
Connected via phone: Nicole Meier and Shana Jensen

1. President's Report: President Tracey Vrba and Roxanne Alter attended the Region VI meeting. The theme for NMLPW is "Lab People Get Results". In November 2008, there were 8250 members. If all members had renewed, there would be more than 11,000 members. Many students join but then do not renew the next year. ASCLS has a new award which is "Volunteer of the Year Award". Annual meeting sessions are going to go from 90 minutes to 60 minutes. There is an update of the Region VI manual. The Secretary/Treasurer position and Council Chair position have been changed to a Secretary and a Treasurer position. The Council Chair position has been removed. According to the Region VI manual, the State President needs to attend the President's Council, Board of Directors open session, and the Region VI caucus.

2. Secretary's Report: Joyce Colombe distributed a copy of the minutes from the Fall Business Meeting held on October 12, 2008. The minutes were approved as written. They will be sent to Courtney to be put in the Filter.

3. Treasurer's Report: Linsey Donner distributed a copy of the quarter report. No bill has been received for PACE yet. Ruth Ann Bartels had submitted funds for a scholarship memorial for Stephanie Gillespie.

4. Committee Reports:

A. Bylaws: Anita Smith reported that the bylaws are back on the website. She asked for any changes. There was a discussion of reimbursement for meetings if someone does not attend the appropriate meetings and what expenses are paid and what is not paid. NSCLS may want to change the name to ASCLS-NE. Anita reported that at one time the lawyers Ericksen and Sederstrom did pro-bono work for NSCLS. Anita needs to check if they still do this. To change the name would involve filing a document, going to court to get it filed, and changing it in all the by-laws. The Board can make a recommendation, members vote on it, and the National organization has to approve it. This can take a year or two. Anita recommended we get more information before we decide to do this.

B. Membership: Nicole Meier has sent a membership report to be put in the Filter. She reported nothing new at this time. Student membership looks good. We need to look at retaining student members as first year members. Some suggestions were a congratulations card from NSCLS to all graduates, a session at the Quad Meeting about ASCLS, a face book page, and emailing people to remind them to renew their membership. Whitney Gatz has started a face book page. Chelsea Dockins is helping with this. Another suggestion was to have continuing education sessions around the state.

C. PACE: Karen Keller has contacted the Region VI PACE chair from Iowa. We will use CE organizer. The brochure needs to go to National. Kim will contact Karen so people can do online PACE.

D. Leadership Development Chair. Melissa Gonzalez is in this position. It was suggested that she look at applicants for the leadership academy. The state can nominate people to go. NSCLS would be responsible for the cost of sending someone. Once someone completes the leadership academy, they would be better equipped to fill positions of leadership.

E. PAC/GAC: Andrea Shank would like to go to legislative days which are March 23 and 24. Tracey Vrba gave information on legislative days. Registration fees are \$195, rooms are \$199, plus there is the cost of the flight. NSCLS has budgeted for 3 people to go at a cost of \$1000 per person. Linsey Donner, Roxanne Alter, Lucus Christensen, and Tracey Vrba were interested in going. NSCLS could pay for 4 people to go. There is a great deal of information to learn. PAC is trying to raise money through donations. This fund helped defeat competitive bidding. Tracy gets emails from Elissa Passiment from the ASCLS National Office regarding PAC.

F. Student Forum: Linsey Donner reported that the student social on December 20 at Dave and Buster's had 26 students present from UNMC, Methodist and SCC. The MLT students from North Platte have started to participate. Linsey has contact the Hastings program but has not heard back from them. Student Forum may try to have a social out west. Student Forum has a link on the NSCLS website. They are currently selling T-shirts and polos shirts as a fund raiser. Courtney Else may be interested in taking over student forum. Barb Miller has been contacted regarding the NSCLS scholarship. Students can go to the NSCLS website for information. There was a discussion if there is money available at the graduate level for a scholarship and the student loans available through NSCLS. Students can apply for loans at a low interest. This money was donated by Frieda Oltmann. Whitney Gatz is writing a report regarding Student Forum for the Filter.

G. New Professionals: There is a new way to set up this committee with an adviser, new professional, first year professional and student forum president. Individuals could move up to the next position. We could give it a try and see if it works.

H. Filter: Courtney Olsen has picked 1/15, 4/15, 7/15, 10/15 as deadlines to get the Filter out. She has lost her account of who wants the Filter sent electronically.

I. Website: Martin Steinbeck continues to update the website. The awards information will be on the website.

J. Nominations: The President-Elect position is still open. The rest of the positions have been filled.

4. Quad State Meeting: Thursday night social is from 6 – 8 PM with Nebraska hosting. The state business meeting was scheduled for Thursday at 4:45 PM. It was suggested to move it to Friday early before the sessions start. Moderators are needed for the sessions. The awards are scheduled for Wednesday. Nebraska has usually had the awards on Friday. It may not be possible to change the awards day. It does not appear that there is any luncheon scheduled for Friday.

5. The 2010 NSCLS Spring Meeting will probably be in Omaha. CLMA and ASCP will need to be contacted to see if they want to be part of the Spring Meeting.

NSCLS Secretary,

Joyce Colombe