

KENTUCKY WORLD LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Meeting September 17th Meeting Notes

- I. **Call to Order** President Lucas Gravitt called to order at 4:48 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call** Lucas Gravitt, President; Sara Merideth, Past-President; Emmanuel Anama-Green, President-Elect; Tanya Coffey, Treasurer; Lydia Kohler, AATF President; Gloria Newsome, AATSP; Xiaoyan Xie, KACLT; Jeanmarie Rouhier-Willoughby, Post-Secondary Liaison; Alfonso De Torres Núñez, KDE; Laura Roche Youngworth, FCPS Representative; Ben Hawkins, Awards Chair; Ben McMaine, Regional Rep Liaison; Jennifer Kennedy, NNELL KY Rep; Atsushi Hasegawa, KAJLT John Krueger, AATG President; Aggie Manion, Secretary.
- III. **Secretary's Report** Lucas Gravitt suggests August meeting minutes be tabled until October meeting where we will approve minutes from both this and that meeting. Jennifer Kennedy motioned, Tanya Coffey seconded the motion. Minutes tabled.
- IV. **New Officers:** Emmanuel "Bo" Anama-Green as our new President-Elect. Previous Regional Rep Liaison. Aggie Manion as our new Secretary. Former Regional Rep and co-director of Showcase. AATG John Krueger. AATJ President Atsushi Hasegawa. KCA has not yet sent a representative. Unsure of whether or not they have a position change. KACLT president Xiaoyan Xie. AATSP president Gloria "Gina" Newsome. Lydia Kohler as AATF President. Former KWLA Secretary, Treasurer, etc. Bo's Region (5) was vacated. Lucas makes the executive appointment of Chris Anama Green as the interim replacement. Aggie's Region (7) will be covered in the interim by Marie Stevens. Gloria's Region will be covered in the interim by Zenaida Smith. Bylaws state that if a position is vacated, it has to be voted on by the board to fill that position. It must technically come from the voting board. We asked for interested persons, then those stood outside while we deliberate as a board and voted to fill the Regional Rep Liaison position. Marie Stevens, Lisa Garner, Jill Susini, Zenaida Smith, and Ben McMaine all indicated they were interested. Sara Merideth made a motion to call a vote for a regional rep liaison. Lydia Kohler seconded the vote. Lucas Gravitt puts the vote to the board with Ben McMaine and Jill Susini as the Regional Rep Liaison. Motion passes and board has selected Ben McMaine as Regional Rep Liaison. Regional Reps were dismissed from the meeting after turning in signed contracts. Lucas Gravitt will email the meeting dates to the regional reps.
- V. **Treasurer's Report** Total balance with PayPal, checks to be deposited, we have \$28, 618. With rough numbers, we have \$23, 450 outstanding debt due mostly to POs that were used to pay for this conference registration and were not yet paid. All board members with single rooms need to get with Tanya Coffey for payment prior to leaving today to make arrangements.
- VI. **President's Report:** Welcome all new board members. Excited for the next few years. Refinement and new directions, forward movement. KWLA reads mission. Perhaps in the future we will revise our mission. President's goals are: 501c focus is necessary for financial longevity, Showcase needs revamping and we need to renew the organization's focus on the showcase. Seal of biliteracy is another focus of Lucas Gravitt's as president for the next 2 years. Laura Roche and Alfonso De Torres Núñez will be instrumental in pursuing next steps in this focus. One initial step is to ensure the website reflects the true status of KY as a state in the early stages of implementing this seal-it is currently listed as a state with no implementation at all. Tabled for further discussion at another meeting.

VII. Committee Reports:

A. Lucas Gravitt on conference: Lots of positive feedback from previous presidents all the way to new attendees. Have not yet looked at the official forms for feedback. No major tragedies, internet was sufficient, facility was great and well-staffed. 347 projected conference attendees. Close to 350 attendees. 300 pre-registered and about 50 were predicted to register on site. It is neither the largest nor the smallest conference KWLA has seen. We want to continue aiming for this range of attendees. Jeanmarie Rouhier-Willoughby added that college students are unable to financially afford to attend the conference. She posed the question what is the balance between the need and the financial reality. Lucas Gravitt added that there could be some restructuring of the conference pricing to eliminate some costs associated with meals. Sara Merideth added that once we have 501c3 status, we will have no state sales tax that would give us the freedom to consider the restructuring of a student price. Laura Roche added that if we ran all workshops at one time and then did all sessions later. Sara Merideth added that it is frustrating for workshop presenters with pre-registered workshop participants who did not attend because of competition with sessions at the same time. Ben Hawkins added that as a presenter, this location was excellent for internet-based presentations. Ben McMaine added that registration worked very well with the location-there was no backup. Lucas Gravitt added that this hotel is already reserved for the next year and at some point in the future we will look at a 2018 reservation here. Alfonso De Torres Núñez added that this year's vendors were very nice. Welcoming, designated space, nice that some sessions were sponsored by vendors. People loved this venue. For next year, let's make sure that we can advertise this to all teachers from southern Indiana with more time to consider. 7 states were represented at this weekend's conference. It was truly a regional event. One suggestion for next year for Alfonso: Great idea that we chose Yo Azama, but this would have been a great year to invite the Commissioner of Education or a politician to gain further support for our organization. For next year, Lucas Gravitt and Sara Merideth are looking at even bigger names and faces for the Fall Conference.

B. Exhibits report: Laura Roche stepped in as an exhibitor liaison because Maureen Motsinger was unable to attend. Elena Kamenetzky worked along with the exhibitors all weekend. She reported that Confucius Institute never showed up. They were pleased with the location and loved that the wine and cheese event was moved to their space. We will continue with this next year. Several vendors complained about coffee being packed up within only 1 hour because that was such a draw to the exhibitor's hall. The price for coffee provided per hour was extraordinary so for next year perhaps we look for a sponsor for the cost of coffee. One exhibitor left because they felt that this was not the correct audience, they were aiming for higher ed and were not getting enough contacts to make their presence worth it. One exhibitor complained that another exhibitor was being flat-out rude and bad talking Kentucky and other exhibitors. We might create an exhibitor blacklist as a result of this experience.

C. Ben Hawkins on Awards Committee: Ben Hawkins will look at new award category for global educator with specifics to be created by and voted on by this board. We will advertise this on our website. The new AAT Presidents are welcomed, and our Outstanding Teacher Award is extremely important. Ben Hawkins requests that AAT presidents will stay behind and speak with him about moving forward with this.

VIII. New Business: We need to create two ad hoc committees: for bylaws and for 501c3. Lucas Gravitt appoints Sara Merideth as the chair of bylaws ad hoc committee and appoints Tanya Coffey as the

501c3 committee chair as Treasurer. They will be sending our information about getting help with those ad hoc committees.

- IX. Upcoming Events:** Board Meetings for the year (Full Board = also with Regional Reps) (Board Meetings = everyone present at today's meeting with the exception of Ben Hawkins and KCA rep) (Executive Committee = President, President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, Past President) 10/29 Board Meeting TLS, 11/17 ACTFL, Boston MA, 1/7-8, Winter Full Board Retreat (with reps) at TLS. If you need lodging, stay at the Red Roof Inn on Nicholasville Road. 3/4 at a location TBA focus on Showcase, 3/25 Full Board meeting at Showcase on UK campus. 5/13 Board Meeting, TLS (will be canceled if we have quorum at showcase meeting) Schedule conflicts arise but please send in a replacement for your position. Aggie asked if there was a set time for most board meetings (9 am Eastern Time- usually 12 pm. Sometimes a bit earlier or later as necessary) Sept 21-23 2017 are next year's Conference dates.
- X. Adjourn** Sara Merideth motions to adjourn at 5:36 seconded by Jeanmarie Rouhier-Willoughby. Meeting adjourned.