

# Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English

## March Board Meeting

Friday, March 9, 2012 Delafield Arts Center, Delafield

(Humbly submitted by Emily Tymus Ihrke)

Attendees: Linda Barrington, Kathy Nelson, John Pruitt, Tom Scott, Erin Schwane, Jess Gallo, Kathy Bay, Jacki Martindale, John Zbikowski, Lynn Aprill, Jacki Mabon, Mary Ann Potter, Lynn Frick, David Rolloff, Tamara Maxwell, Emily Tymus Ihrke

7:00 p.m. Welcome / Introductions/ PD sharing

Meeting called to order at 7:22 p.m. by President Kathy Nelson.

- I. Approval of Fall Board Meeting Minutes  
**Motion: Minutes approved.** Motion: Linda B. Second: Jess G. Motion passed.
- II. Approval of Agenda  
**Motion: Agenda approved.** Motion: David R. Second: Jess G. Motion passed.
- III. Treasurer's and Membership Reports – Tom Scott  
Written report offered. Our money comes in from conventions; it is not from our membership. The fact that our publications have gone online has been good for our bottom line. Checking balance of 1/31/12 was \$14,818.75. Our net worth (NW) has gone down due to our not having had a 2011 convention; 7/20/11 NW was \$52K; 1/31/12 it was \$48K. We currently have 84 members of WCTE; it's low, in part, due to our not having had a convention in 2011. If we added those who expired in the last two years, we'd have upwards of 300 members; we need to lure them back. A pre-convention conference makes us money, by the way.  
**Motion: Treasurer's Report approved.** Motion: Jacki M. Second: Jess G. Motion passed.
- IV. DPI Liaison – Tamara Maxwell (Written memo offered)

(--TOM SCOTT: BIG ISSUES IN TEACHER LICENSURE. TPA (Teacher Performance Assessment), from UCal & Pearson in California; this will be in addition to the Praxis; it involves candidates making a number of videos of themselves, those videos will be sent to outside evaluators. *This is a privatization of licensure in the state.* Many questions remain. (e.g. If you're getting a K8 license, do you need to do a portfolio?) Schools of Ed Teacher Ed programs will be evaluated on the performance of their students on this assessment. Teacher Ed programs, such as those at UWM, are making adjustments, like lengthening their programs, etc.)  
--Tamara will look into this situation (the TPA) and write an article for the Update.  
--We need to be tuned-in and hold our legislators accountable. Towards that end, Tamara wants to create a portal of information relevant and empowering to English teachers. Tamara wants to coordinate this new portal with the existing listserv.  
--Smarter Balanced wants our input by March 16.

- Common Core: Grammar, a project that improves writers; Writing Instruction project— Tamara is looking for teachers to offer content, expertise, etc. Maybe putting together a show-for-the-road?
- RtI—We are now in a standards-based world. RtI is happening in classrooms. RtI-squared (Instruction & Intervention)
- Governor Walker's Read to Lead Task Force (Readwisconsin.net is Emilie's/DPI's ; Gov. Walker's is also up & running and it has nice pictures.)

V. Reports (Committee Reports and Officers' Reports)

1. Immediate Past President- Lynn Aprill— Decree: "We should never ever again not have a fall convention." (echoed by Tom Scott)
2. District Directors - Jacki Martindale—The importance of the work of WCTE & District Directors needs to be made clear to administrators. This summer, the DDs could create this. Or, Tom Scott suggests that the President write a letter to administrators, articulating how critical the work of WCTE is.
3. Intellectual Freedom – John Pruitt—Burress Award nominations are due March 31<sup>st</sup>. Literacy Advocacy Day is approaching (4/19).
4. Second Vice President - Jess Gallo—October 11 & 12 (or 18 & 19) in Madison. Location TBD. Getting a proposal from Monona Terrace. Worked w/ Marriott West for quite a while. Maybe the Crowne Plaza? Peter Johnston will likely be the speaker for the Thursday workshop day. A tie w/ one or more of the (NWP) WI Writing Projects? Could we attach a WI Writing Project Day to the convention? "You have our blessing," said Tom Scott. G. L. Billings might be our keynote on Friday. Theme: Literacy, Diversity, and Reflection. Jess is working on CFP; it will be disseminated via the Update. Save-the-date postcards will go out this spring, to all 300-level license holders.
5. Update – Linda Barrington—Who won these awards? Did we give them anything? We did nothing. We had no convention. We need to get award winners to the October convention & award them belatedly. Jacki Mabon is our new awards coordinator, by the way. (She is learning the ropes.) Mary Ann Potter will be featured in the next Update, and Emily I. will write something.
6. President – Kathy Nelson— We will send \$500 to Carol Jago as an honorarium. Kohl, Williamson will get thank-you notes, handwritten by the President. **Motion: We pay people, including expenses.** Motion: Jacki Martindale. Second: Jacki Mabon. Motion passed.

VI. Adjournment. **Motion: Meeting to adjourn.** Motion: Jacki M. Second: Lynn F. Motion passed. 8:40 p.m.