Executive Council Pre-Conference Meeting
Sheraton Denver—Tech Center
Greenwood Village, CO 80112
October 5th, 2017

Attendants: Kevin Cloninger (Anthropedia Foundation) (President); Bradley Conrad (Capitol University); Dana Haraway (James Madison University); Todd Hodgkinson (Drake University) (Executive Secretary); Meg Jacobs (Cornell College); Kate Kauper (Cornell College); Megan Kennedy (Westfield State University); Drew Kemp (Augusta University); Paul Parkinson (University of Northern Florida); John Pecore (University of West Florida); Michelle Tenam-Zemach (Nova Southeastern University); William White (James Madison University; Jodie Wilson (Denver University) (2017 Conference Chair); Joseph Flynn (Northern Illinois University); Delane Ingalls Vanada (UNC Charlotte); Vicki Dea Ross (Northern Arizona University; AATC Historian).

• President Kevin Cloninger welcomed the council back.

• The council approved the minutes from

• Quick CTD update
  o 32 uninvited submissions; accepted 13
  o Acceptance rate 43%
  o Two Hunkins award winners:
    • Teaching:
      ▪ Kristina Valtierra
    • Curriculum:
      ▪ Sarah Barron
      ▪ Jason C. Immekus
      ▪ Juan Carlos Gonzalez
      ▪ Cathy K. Yun

• Alternate Conference Models (Bill White) (7:10 to 7:20)
  o Bill White presented his research on alternative conference models. The council the benefits/downsides of each model.

  o Option #1: Private conference center at a university
    ▪ No central location (more spread out).
• No hotel block
  
  o Option #2: Conference center at a university
    • Scheduling becomes an issue at the beginning of October, with Parents’ weekends, etc.
    • No central location (more spread out).
    • No hotel block.
  
  o Option #3: Conference at a hotel (w/ room block, food/bev minimums)
    • Have to meet minimums
    • Taxes are added to the total bill.
    • Smaller, less spread out.
  
  o Option #4: Conference at a hotel (a la carte)
    • May be an upcharge for individual items (food/bev, tables, etc.)
    • Little/no taxes.
    • Smaller, less spread out.

• Historian role at AATC:
  
  o Vicki Dea Ross presented on the current activity of AATC historians:
    • The historians are looking for a new space for the archives (currently housed at Baylor University).
    • They are also looking for more artifacts from current and former presidents (e.g., presidential addresses, photograph).
  
  o Michelle Tenam-Zemach asked if our archives could be digitized.
  
  o Paul Parkison asked if the historians will be putting together a program for AATC’s 25th anniversary.

• Public responsibility of AATC:
  
  o The council discussed our role and duties to as a non-profit organization.
  o Vicki Dea Ross agreed that there is a need for “intelligent discussion” on relevant topics (e.g., immigration).
  o Drew Kemp will be chairing a committee intended to highlight pertinent topics/issues upon which the organization would like to focus.
  o Michelle Tenam-Zemach asked if we could use our website to disseminate information.
• Bill White asked if we could connect the blogs/position pieces of various AATC members to our website.
• Drew Kemp asked about the vetting process for posting position pieces.
• The council discussed the possibility of instigating a peer-review process for the posting of articles, opinion-pieces, etc.
• Michelle Tenam-Zemach and Bill White emphasized the importance of staying true to our mission and our role as a scholarly organization.
• Brad Conrad asked about the role that social media could play in disseminating our positions.
• Joseph Flynn suggested that the organization identify our key values/principles and use those principles as a guide when posting position pieces.
• Kevin Cloninger and Michelle Tenam-Zemach wondered if we could frame this effort as a “public-pedagogy project” or effort to help the public understand issues from different perspectives.
• Drew Kemp and president elect John Pecore plan on meeting during the conference to discuss recruiting and engaging members to serve on the public responsibility committee.

• Other business:

  • Michelle Tenam-Zemach asked about how the council plans to retain new attendees/members (e.g., an at-large position for grad students on the Executive Council). The council will discuss this topic at the next meeting.
  • Bill White asked if the council would consider allocating funding to future presidents and program chairs) to give them more “authorship” over the conferences they are leading (e.g., money for speakers, grad student scholarships, book purchases, etc.) Kevin Cloninger agreed and recommended that the council take up this suggestion in the next Executive Council meeting.