

Missouri Association on Higher Education and Disability Meeting at Tall Oaks Conference April 11, 2008

Present: Jan Eudaley-Immediate Past President, Jennifer Argo-Newsletter Editor, Suelaine Matthews-Transition Co-Chair, Guidebook Coordinator, Conference Co-Chair, Julie Bunch-Legislative and Transition Co-Chair, Kim Fernandes-Conference Co-Chair, Lindy Mullins-Historian/Secretary, Amy Frieling-Treasurer and Membership Chair, Maureen Ottenlips-Conference Details, Deborah Carter, Ed Derr, Amy Thomas, Paul Lampe, Scott Laurent, Sundaye Harrison, Lisa Leftridge, Trixie Braden, Barbara Mayfield, Laurence Anderson, Mary Wagner, Sharon Depperschmidt

Not Present: Adam Meyer-President

Jan Eudaley, Immediate Past President, led the meeting.

➤ **Report on the past year's activities**

○ **E-Text Conference**

- Approximately 15 people attended this last conference in February. This conference and the one presented in the fall were both considered to be useful and appreciated.

○ **Transition Training**

- It is estimated that about 400 people have participated in the various transition trainings that have been offered over the last year.
- Suelaine Matthews displayed a PowerPoint grid listing all the transition trainings. Julie Bunch, Amy Frieling, Maureen Ottenlips and Suelaine Matthews have done most of these.
- The various workshops target high school students, high school personnel, administrators and parents. Each member present was provided with a CD version of the Transition Training for Parents.
- Special requests for the transition trainings:
 - Administrators asked that transition trainings be available for the South-East Lead Administrators of Special Education.
 - DESE has also asked that Julie and Suelaine present the transition training to special educators at the next Transition Institute and summer conference this July.

○ **MO-AHEAD Website**

- Nearly all members present indicated that they have viewed this website.

- Transition Training for Parents is available on the website.
 - There were questions about using the Transition Training for Parents.
 - There were comments about the message for parents about how the role of the parent will be changing.
 - There was a suggestion that the connection to the transition training via the MO-AHEAD website be given to various admissions officers.
- **Development of the MO-AHEAD Website**
 - Tabitha Haynes from Missouri State has been the person who has done a wonderful job in developing this MO-AHEAD website.
 - Previously, the MO-AHEAD information was a link to the National AHEAD website.
 - For some time, there had been difficulties with this connection to the National AHEAD site.
 - Now that we have our own link, information is current and our desired changes are completed in a timely manner.
 - The group expresses thanks to Tabitha for her efforts and use of skills.
- **Website Contents**
 - Many useful items are on the MO-AHEAD website; these include the Missouri Guidebook, parent transition, and much more.
 - It is the intention of the Tall Oaks Conference co-chairs to link information about this Tall Oaks Conference to the MO-AHEAD website. This may include photos as well as handouts.
- **MO-AHEAD Membership**
 - Amy Frieling reported that at the current time there are approximately 70 members of Mo-AHEAD.
 - The membership list is available for review.
 - Please check on the details for your entry and check to see that dues are paid.
 - There was a suggestion to put the list of members on the website. Some of the information is of course in the Missouri Guidebook. The executive board members will consider this.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - There is currently about \$15,000 in the account.
 - There will be a number of bills to be paid that will include Tall Oaks expenses: speaker fees, use of the conference center, meals, etc.
- **Vacant Positions on the Board**
 - Two positions are vacant
 - Vice President and Secretary

- Vice President Nominations – The person who takes this position is involved in going to the National AHEAD conference. When there is a responsibility for Tall Oaks, it is the VP who organizes and leads the selected committee. The VP then becomes the President.
 - Nominations are opened; Amy Frieling was nominated.
 - The nomination period will continue through April 16.
 - Secretary Nominations
 - There had been an email received nominating Tabitha Haynes.
 - There was a nomination of Paul Lampe
 - The nomination period will conclude on April 16, 2008.
 - Members were encouraged to continue the consideration of possible nominations for both positions.

➤ **Miscellaneous**

- **Benefits of working with the board**
 - include becoming involved with recognized initiatives, professional development meetings are held 4 times per year (one meeting is at Tall Oaks, some meetings are “drive in” and some meetings are over night)
- **Affiliate Grant**
 - In previous years, MO-AHEAD has applied for and received a grant from National AHEAD. Members are encouraged to provide ideas for the next application for this grant.
- **Tall Oaks Conference**
 - There was a brief discussion about our “vision for the future” of this conference. The brief discussion included: slight reduction in attendance, suggestions for the time of year (spring, early summer, fall), the history – traditionally, this conference has been the “mental health” for DDS workers, other locations, suggestion to include more information about Tall Oaks Conference Center in the conference literature.
- **Drive-in Workshops**
 - There was some interest in adding “drive in” workshops. These would be held in the center of the state. Columbia was mentioned as a location.
 - Topics mentioned: LD, Aspergers, Autism, Veterans (same presenters as at this Tall Oaks Conference), community college focus, Assistive Technology Project from Rockhurst, Speech to Text software, iPods in the classroom.
- **Closing**
 - Members were thanked for their participation in this meeting.