

**Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education (OAGE)
Board Retreat**

The Ohio State University College of Social Work, Stillman Hall, 1947 College Road
Columbus, Ohio
Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Minutes

Present: K. Anderson, G. Anetzberger, K. Cichy, K. Daniel, M. Deacon, R. Hornbostel, G. Ice, J. Kinney, D. Kubovcik, J. McKinnon, N. Ryan, G. Smith, H. Sterns, M. Teaford, D. Van Dussen.

Welcome and Introductions

Meg Teaford, President, opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. in a classroom in Stillman Hall in the College of Social Work, 1947 College Road, at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. She welcomed the new board members and asked that all board members introduce themselves and note their academic/professional affiliation and role on the OAGE board. Gillian Ice is Associate Professor in the Department of Social Medicine at Ohio University. Kelly Cichy is Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Kent State University. Kendra Daniel is a researcher at Cleveland State University.

Minutes

The minutes for March 2009 as recorded by Heather Menne were presented. No errors were noted. Daniel Van Vussen moved that the minutes be approved, Jennifer Kinney seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Jennifer Kinney, Treasurer, provided the members with financial report. A review of the Check Register for the period October 01, 2008 through June 9, 2009 provided the members with action by action of the OAGE finances. The balance as of June 09, 2009 was \$4,894.96. The OAGE savings account balance was \$8,539 as of March 31, 2009. The CD in the amount of \$12,264.23 reaches maturity by July 02, 2009. Discussion followed regarding potential actions for the CD since it is reaching maturity. Dan Van Dussen moved that Jennifer renew the CD for a six-month period or at the highest rate and use her discretion on the final selection. Greg Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jennifer will take the action and report to the board at the OAGE board meeting in September.

Meg Teaford reported that she did prepare and submit the paper work for the Ohio Department of Aging annual allocation. Roland Hornbostel stated that the amount for 2009-2010 is \$10,000 and the entire amount is restricted to 2010 conference. Georgia Anetzberger commended ODA on the allocation and recommended that a letter be written to Director Barbara Riley and the Ohio Department of Aging thanking her for the funding.

Jennifer reported that the next OAGE board meeting is slated for September 11-12, 2009 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Worthington. Moreover, she noted that the OAGE by Laws state that members are to be reimbursed for out of town expenses while attending the board meeting. However, members who live in Central Ohio chose not to be reimbursed.

2009 OAGE Conference Report

At the last meeting, Bob Applebaum reported on the 2009 conference held at Miami University. Thus, no additional report was provided.

Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) News

Roland Hornbostel reported that there was no specific news from ODA as the state budget process continued. Meg reported that she would report on the Area Agencies on Aging since Pam Matura was unable to be at this retreat. The OAAAA conference committee is in the midst of planning their upcoming annual conference. OAGE will again present a session at the O4A conference in Columbus September 14-15.

Regarding the state budget (which was under consideration at the date of this meeting), there are anticipated cuts to Long Term Care programs. Diana Kubovcik noted that the changes to aging services are so dramatic that Ohio cannot recover. Roland stated that loss of state dollars would jeopardize the Older Americans' Act funding. Meg stated that Bob Applebaum's research on nursing home populations has made an impact statewide and he continues to respond to legislators about the impact of budget cuts to aging.

Follow-up from retreat: Meg reviewed committees' plans and goals for the next two years. (See chart "OAGE 2008-2009 Goals, Progress and To Do Next") Harvey Sterns stated that the most important task is to reach into AAA agencies as a prime source for conference attendees. Harvey recommended that board members contact their area AAA office as advocates. Dan reiterated that working with local AAA staff would be beneficial.

- a. **Membership:** Jennifer inquired about OAGE membership and growing the organization. How can we make a difference? We need new and bold ideas. Georgia noted that, perhaps, the board could enroll AAA staff without the membership fees. The conference registrations have an "opt out" box if the individual chooses not to join OAGE. Students are encouraged to join at student members. Greg Smith inquired about institutional memberships. Harvey Sterns noted that such is good; however, OAGE needs to be at the personal level. Melinda Deacon stated that the board needs to reach nurses and social workers.
- b. **Educational training:** Meg recommended that the board offer educational sessions with continuing education in regional locations. Georgia noted that the board could do a two-hour high quality event in cooperation with other scheduled events. There are only twelve AAA offices in Ohio. Thus, discussion involved the development of joint educational programs for the AAAs. It was recommended that the exploration should be an ad hoc committee. Harvey noted that the membership committee could do "faculty swaps" where a faculty from one region could present an educational session in another AAA. Roland recalled that the original idea of board members working with their local AAA office was to develop twelve different training topics.

Roland stated that the three Akron and Cleveland AAAs are forming the Northeast Ohio AAAs. Greg noted that Kent State University and Miami University have the faculty exchange program called “The Prophets without Honors Program”.

- c. **Student involvement:** Meg inquired about how to increase student membership and involvement. The conferences provide excellent opportunities for board members to recruit students as members; however, the question becomes one of sustainability of these members. Dan Van Dussen stated that the board members should collaborate with O4A regarding employment in aging. Harvey stated that the board could utilize individuals already in positions in the aging field who could speak to students in a conference session. This would be adding to OAGE’s assets. Gillian Ice noted that OAGE has a mentoring program. The board could use this as an opportunity to match students with OAGE board members. Meg recommended that a committee be formed for mentorship.

Greg recommended that the board broaden the awards for students to include a “Service Award”.

As part of the Aging Matters project, Jennifer stated that the board could sponsor a competition with “bold ideas” which could be a poster session at the OAGE conference. She indicated that the board could award a prize for the outstanding “bold idea” poster.

Committees met over lunch to set goals for next two years. The following reports are from each of the committees.

Policy Committee

Dan Van Dussen reported that the committee is evaluating advocacy efforts. The members want to support the Ohio Department of Aging with their efforts. The committee made the following suggestions for the coming year:

- The OAGE board needs an emergency e-mail alert developed, similar to the O4A’s Emergency Alerts on funding issues.
- OAGE has been part of the Ohio Aging Leadership group and should continue to participate.
- The committee will study proposed Senate Bill 22 regarding moving prisoners to nursing homes.
- The committee will contact the newly established Legislative Committee on Aging and Disabilities and ask to present background research to them this autumn.

Ohio Senior Civic Engagement Council

Harvey and Meg are members of the Governor’s Senior Civic Engagement Council. Harvey serves on the workforce committee that dealt with general issues. Meg serves on the Life Long Learning committee. It was agreed that OAGE would help the Department of Aging with the Council’s work if necessary. The Council will be making recommendations to the Governor and to the Board of Regents in November.

Membership Committee

Harvey reported on the Membership Committee. There had been earlier discussion on this topic. It was agreed that we need to focus on this issue in the coming year. Membership materials are available and forms are located on the OAGE website.

Electronic Communications Committee

Norma Ryan noted that Rich Haubner was on vacation, but the other committee members -Diana Kubovcik, Gillian Ice, and Jennifer Kinney-met to discuss goals for the coming year.

- The first goal includes the development of new electronic avenues of reaching out to membership. This might be accomplished through the creation of a Facebook page for OAGE with a blog. The Board might send monthly e-mails to members to keep contact and provide up-to-date information.
- The second goal is to provide information about aging issues to members, especially student members. Perhaps, we might develop “Ask the Expert” to provide information to members and others on topics in aging. Diana agreed to have e-mails in the “Ask the Expert” come to her. She will respond to the inquiry or send it on to others.
- The third goal is to develop and maintain a mentorship program to link students with OAGE members working in the field. This will be accomplished by establishing a contact point on the website for those seeking mentors.

Conference Committee

Greg Smith, 2010 Conference Chair, reported that the conference would be held at the Kent State University on March 26, 2010. The committee was able to lock in the 2009 rates for the campus’ rooms, and other conference needs. The committee is searching for keynote speakers and will update the members at the next board meeting.

- The conference theme is “Bridging Gerontological Research and Practice: The State of Translational Research in Ohio.”
- Senator Capri Cafaro from Youngstown has been invited to participate and has accepted.
- The Kent State University will do the conference registration at no cost to OAGE.. There will be a “flash light” or Survey Monkey for registration.
- The Call for Papers will be available by Labor Day and the deadline will be January 15, 2010.

Preconference workshops conducted by board members were discussed. One topic could be distance learning and on-line learning. Another possibility may include dance therapists or healthy ideas. It was suggested that sessions could be placed on iPods for those who are unable to attend the conference.

Aging Matters and Roadside Café

Jennifer Kinney updated the board on The “Harvest”, which was conducted March 27th at the closing session of the OAGE conference. Jennifer challenged the board members to determine what roles they should plan in moving “Aging Matters” forward. Drafts of “Aging Matters: Voices across Ohio” newsletter were distributed. Meg foresees a coalition of graduates interested in advocacy being linked to older adults. The goal for this process is to keep students engaged. Greg noted that he has an intergenerational education class and would be willing to change the

content of the class. Kendra recommended another Roadside Café at the end of the conference for 2010. Georgia and Meg agreed to collaborate with Jennifer and the Board discussed what OAGE's commitment should be to the project.

Next Meeting

Meg stated that the next OAGE board meeting would be held Saturday, September 12, 2009 at the Double Tree Hotel in Worthington. Friday evening, September 11th will be utilized for committee meetings. Dinner plans will be forthcoming. With no further business, Meg adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma J. Ryan

Norma J. Ryan, PhD, RN, CHES
Acting Secretary