

GCTE Executive Board Meeting
Date: June 12, 2004
Red Top Mountain Lodge

Members Present: Alan Perry, Diana Poore, Gwen McAlpine, Nancy Remler, Jean Copland, Adam Hathaway, Jim Cope, Freya Zipperer, Gerald Boyd, Merrill Davies, Carolyn Coleman, Cassandra Smith, Cawood Cornelius, Kathleen McKenzie

Alan Perry called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were changed to correct a mistake in the Treasurer's Report on page 2. The CDs total was \$52,736.30 instead of \$45,024.12. Motion to accept the minutes with the correction was made by Jean Copland and seconded by Nancy Remler. The minutes were unanimously accepted.

The Treasurer's report was given. The report was as follows:

Treasurer's Report for Feb. 18-May 31, 2004
(Fiscal Year is July 1 through June) CORRECTED

Income	Budgeted	Actual
Membership	6,000	6,118.50
Winter Conference	15,000	24,448.75
Mini Conference	1,000	170.00
Checking Account Interest	500	362.01
Ads	300	
Products	1,400	42.00
Miscellaneous	500	86.00
Special Projects	5,000	3,934.00
	29,200	36,161.26
Expenditures		
Executive Board		
Board Meetings	1,500	1,857.91
Communications & Postage	300	113.64
President's Expenses	200	26.75
Historian	200	
Publicity/Other	250	42.39
"In House" Recognitions	200	
	2,550	2,040.69
Membership		
Postage	500	330.54
Maintenance	500	79.18
Increase	500	177.28
	1,500	587.00

Programs and Awards		
Teacher of the Year	1,000	455.00
Future Teachers of Color	1,000	65.45
Louise Capen Award	100	60.43
Student Affiliate Member Scholarship	1,000	
Mini-Grants	5,000	993.75
W. Geiger Ellis Scholarship	1,000	1,000.00
National Board Certification	1,000	
Other Grants and Awards	5,000	147.23
Special Projects (Shout)	5,000	7,144.49
	20,100	9,866.35
Conferences		
Winter	15,000	11,275.55
4.3 Mini	2,000	

Nancy suggested the organizers receive the free memberships once the focus group materials are turned in. Gerald suggested we might want to look at RESA groups instead of districts. A motion was made by Nancy Remler, Gerald seconded that a three year membership granted after the results of the focus groups are in.

Director 4 (Conferences): Cawood Cornelius
Ann B. Ross has agreed to come for \$700. Tony Grooms has not officially accepted. Carol Jago will be coming. We will be paying only expenses. On Friday night, we will have a play. It will be held at the Bucanneer Resort. The sessions will be held at the convention center. We will have an English Teachers trivia session. Cawood and Alan has visited Columbus Ironworks.

Director 5 (Teacher/School Awards): Michael Moore (absent) Everything is going fine

Director 6 (Student Awards): Gwen McAlpine
More submissions have been made. She has an elementary editor with an assistant. She is receiving more manuscripts from out of state.

Mindscapes is going well. We each have a copy of Mindscapes. Gwen thanked Merrill. Merrill will try to get more submissions. Alan asked if there was enough money for direct mailings. Merrill felt there was enough money in the budget for this. She would like to include a membership application in the mailing. Kathleen asked if we thought if principals would be interested in their students publishing. We need to encourage this to increase membership. If more money is needed, contact the officers on the listserv for more monies.

Director 7 (Technology): Jim Cope
He has reworked the web site. He asked for any suggestions. He will be working with Carolyn to put information about the history. The cost of the web site would increase to

approximately \$25. Jim needs a new scanner.

First motion to increase the size of web site and the possible extra cost of the increased web site made by Jim, second by Gerald, passed unanimously. Second motion to buy scanner, seconded by Jean and Gerald. Gerald suggested that he buy a high end scanner. Passed unanimously.

Director 8 (College Relationships): Freya Zipperer
She wrote a thank you note to Magic Mark for his presentation.

NCTE Liaison Report: Merrill Davies
We discussed the report and information for the report.

GLAS / State Dept. Report: Gerald Boyd
GLAS is an organization of supervisors. There are fewer and fewer language arts coordinators in the state. He made a plea for assistance for implementing the new curriculum. The biggest challenge for the new curriculum is teacher buy-in. There needs to be state trainers for this project. There has been 9 awareness sessions. The staff development model is train the trainer because of budget constraints. There will be a request sent for trainers. Nancy urged Gerald to contact the Georgia Writing Project for aid. Each system will be encouraged to have a state trainer and the benefits of such.

SLATE Report: Pearl McHaney (absent)

Historian's Report: Carolyn Coleman
Carolyn requests that if you have materials, programs, pictures from previous conferences, please send these to her. Carolyn would like to purchase a good digital camera for the historian to use. Gerald said that he would give her the camera that he has. There is a plaque with our president's names. We need a new 21st century plaque. A motion was made that a plaque be made that represents the presidents for the 21st century. Freya seconded the motion. This passed unanimously. The file cabinet still needs to be retrieved from Dorothy.

Products Chair Report: Terri Washer (absent)

Public Relations Chair: (Adam Hathaway) If there is anything he can do, please let him know. If he needs to coordinate with other organizations, he would be glad to. We need to make sure we have links from organizations such as the Georgia Reading Association on our website.

Georgia Writing Project Liaison: (Nancy Remler)
Directors of the Georgia Writing Project sites met in October at the directors' retreat and again in Washington, D.C. at the National Writing Projects Spring meeting. At those two meetings, the directors present agreed to the following:
We will encourage Writing Project Teacher Consultants(TC's) to participate in GCTE by providing a year's membership to fellows upon completion of the Summer Institute.

We will continue to organize a Writing Project Strand at the GCTE annual conference. The Georgia Writing Project liaison will be responsible for organizing that strand. We encourage Writing Project sites, if their budgets allow, to fund travel and registration for our TC's presenting at the Writing Project Strand.

We will continue to nominate Writing Project TC's for GCTE awards.

Directors of Writing Project sites will also meet during the GCTE conference to discuss current Writing Project issues. The Georgia Writing Project liaison to the Executive Board will reserve the room for that meeting.

We will encourage our TC's and students to submit works to GCTE publications.

In addition to the above resolutions, Nancy proposed that the Georgia Writing Project directors elect a TC to serve on and an administrator at the GWP director's meetings. This administrator can set the agenda and take minutes of meetings of GWP directors.

At the NWP Spring Meeting in Washington last April, representatives from six Georgia Writing Project sites visited congressmen and senators to ask for continued funding of National Writing Project.

No Georgia congressmen or senators signed our dear colleague letter.

Not only did Max Burns refuse to support our letter, but he was especially disrespectful. The directors wish to remind GCTE that Burns is up for re-election. Please remember his position on election day.

The directors met and decided that a GCTE membership be given to each member. A strand at the GCTE conference by the Georgia Writing Project.

NCTE Promising Young Writers Chair: Anna Nero

The signings of Shout has gone well. Please see report from Jean Copland. We have 19 hardbacks left. We have 443 books. One of our goals was to give some our books away. We have not done this as of yet. Information is still on the web site. Adam has a report in the Valdosta newspaper. Jean wrote an article for the Pen Woman. Jean received a call from someone from SERVE. She had been investigating our website and asked about announcements in publications.

Old Business

English Expo is an annual student writing competition. Kathleen had information from other states who have sponsored expo's. It was her recommendation that we should have a GCTE member as implementing the new curriculum, the Georgia Performance Standards. The biggest challenge for the new curriculum is teacher buy-in. State trainers are needed for this project, and Gerald asked board members to let him know of any potential volunteers. There have been nine awareness sessions. The staff development model for GPS is the train-the-trainer model because of budget constraints. There will be a request sent for trainers. Nancy urged Gerald to contact the Georgia Writing Project for aid. Each system will be encouraged to have a state trainer.

SLATE Report: Pearl McHaney (absent).

Historian's Report: Carolyn Coleman. Carolyn requested that if anyone had materials such as conference programs and pictures from previous conferences, please send these to her. Carolyn reported that the camera that she received as historian had quit working and she asked permission to purchase a good digital camera. Gerald said that he would give her the camera that he received as Scribbles 'N Bits layout editor. Carolyn showed the board a plaque with the names of all of our Council's presidents. The plaque is filled, and she suggested that we need a new plaque to put the names of all of the 21st century presidents. A motion was made that a plaque be made that represents the presidents for the 21st century. Freya seconded the motion. This passed unanimously. The filing cabinet still needs to be retrieved from Dorothy.

Products Chair Report: Terri Washer (absent).

Public Relations Chair: (Adam Hathaway). Adam told the board that if there is anything he can do to further promote GCTE, please let him know. If he needs to coordinate with other organizations, he would be glad to. We need to make sure we have links from organizations such as the Georgia Reading Association on our website.

Georgia Writing Project Liaison: (Nancy Remler). Directors of the Georgia Writing Project sites met in October at the directors' retreat and again in Washington, D.C. at the National Writing Projects Spring meeting. At those two meetings, the directors present agreed to the following: They will encourage Writing Project Teacher Consultants (TC's) to participate in GCTE by providing a year's membership to fellows upon completion of the Summer Institute. They will continue to organize a Writing Project Strand at the GCTE annual conference. The Georgia Writing Project liaison will be responsible for organizing that strand. They will encourage Writing Project sites, if their budgets allow, to fund travel and registration for TC's presenting at the Writing Project Strand. They will continue to nominate Writing Project TC's for GCTE awards. Directors of Writing Project sites will also meet during the GCTE conference to discuss current Writing Project issues. The Georgia Writing Project liaison to the Executive Board will reserve the room for that meeting. They will encourage TC's and students to submit works to GCTE publications.

In addition to the above resolutions, Nancy proposed that the Georgia Writing Project directors elect a TC to serve on and an administrator at the GWP director's meetings. This administrator can set the agenda and take minutes of meetings of GWP directors.

At the NWP Spring Meeting in Washington last April, representatives from six Georgia Writing Project sites visited congressmen and senators to ask for continued funding of National Writing Project. No Georgia congressmen or senators signed their Dear Colleague letter. Not only did Max Burns refuse to support the letter, but he was especially disrespectful. The directors wish to remind GCTE that Burns is up for re-election. Nancy asked board members to please remember his position on election day.

NCTE Promising Young Writers Chair: Anna Nero (absent).

Special Projects (Shout): Jean Copland. The signings of Shout Them from the Mountaintops: Georgia Poems has gone well. We have 19 hardbacks left. We have 443 books. One of our goals was to give some our books away. We have not done this as of yet. Information is still on the web site. Adam has a report in the Valdosta newspaper. Jean wrote an article for the Pen Woman magazine. Jean received a call from someone from SERVE. She had been investigating our website and asked about announcements in publications.

Old Business

Kathleen McKenzie reported on her research into an English Expo, an annual student literary competition. Kathleen had information from other states that have sponsored Expos. It was her recommendation that students could only enter if they have a GCTE member as a sponsor and that registration should be limited to the first 1000 or even 500 students. She recommended that we host the first Expo at KSU. Schools would be competing against each other. Schools would pay a small fee to attend these competitions in order to receive feedback. Kathleen found almost 40 categories of competition in other NCTE affiliates' websites. Many organizations include in their Expos Debate and One Act Plays, but Gerald proposed that we not include debate because there are already many debate competitions held in the state. Alan suggested that we not include One-Act Plays, because they take too long, are complicated to set up with scenery and props, and most potential sites for Expos don't have adequate facilities. Some states also offer elementary competitions, and board members remarked that this might be a good way to encourage participation in GCTE by elementary teachers. Kathleen will post the categories of competition that she has identified on the GCTE listserv. Board members should vote on which categories we should sponsor. Kathleen, Jim, Diana, Gerald and Alan will be on the English Expo committee, and Kathleen will chair the committee.

Freya Zipperer brought to our attention concerns on the mini-grants. One recipient of a mini-grant was having a difficult time getting the money for her project from her administrator. Because these are grants, the money is supposed to be sent to the school or system. Freya suggested we may need to call the grant something else so that it does not have to go through the school systems. It is hard for teachers to retrieve this money on a timely basis. Alan suggested that we keep the name of mini-grant but change our guideline of sending the money to the school or school system. He said that we had built that safeguard into the grants in order to assure that the money was properly spent. However, he suggested that we now send the money directly to the recipient and that we require that the recipient send us the receipts and an accounting of the how the money was spent on the project. Kathleen suggested that if we do not get receipts or accounting from the grant recipients, that we then contact the school principal and ask that he or she insist upon the teacher's compliance with our guidelines. Freya made a motion that we change the way we disperse the money by sending the money to the individual instead of the school systems. Nancy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

The 5-year Strategic Plan was updated on the previous evening, and more revisions had been made prior to the Board meeting this morning. Alan asked that the Board accept the new Strategic Plan. A motion was made by Jim Cope that we accept this plan. Gerald seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Alan reported on a new President's Initiative for Membership that he started several months ago. He began garnering the names of English/language arts teachers from all over the states via the Department of Education's and individual school systems' and schools' websites. He wrote a letter and is sending the language arts teachers an informational invitation to join GCTE. Along with the letter, he sent color-coded membership forms and conference materials. He has sent 337 letters thus far, and we have had at least seven memberships as a result.

Kathleen suggested that we may want to consider sending schools attractive calendar posters promoting GCTE and our literary events. Kathleen will check on prices and post the information on the listserv for a vote.

Gwen suggested that we might want to work on membership through sending Mindscapes to non-GCTE members with applications.

Cawood spoke about the Georgia Peach Award for high school students. Students read 20 books and vote on these.

Alan received a letter about the Kindersite project (www.kindersite.org) asking for help. There are 173 participating schools involved. We will assist in bringing information to our members by adding a link to our website.

Alan had GCTE letterheads for those who needed them.

Merrill had received one application for National Board scholarship. The application came from a GCTE member who is working toward certification in media. This was not one of the four approved areas for our English/language arts scholarship. However, upon checking the last issue of Scribbles, we discovered that that guideline had not been published along with the application. Nancy motioned that we accept this application.