

**SACAC General Membership Meeting
Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA
Monday, April 16, 2018**

President Connie Scrivens called the meeting to order and expressed thankfulness for everyone's attendance in New Orleans. We have almost 300 First Timers here and over 900 attendees total. Nancy Beane as Past President of NACAC was recognized, as well as all members who serve on a NACAC national committee and all SACAC members who have served as a volunteer/chair for SACAC. A video presentation of this past year's events was shown; thank you to all who have volunteered!

Our last General Membership Meeting was held during the NACAC conference in Boston in September of 2017. The membership made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, and they were seconded and approved.

Treasurer Ryan Cassell made a report on our fiscal health. We currently have \$330,843.02 in our checking account and \$492,819.76 in our Raymond James investment accounts (as of April 10, 2018).

Past President Susan McCarter introduced NACAC President-Elect Stefanie Niles who gave an update from NACAC. Stefanie first thanked us for the warm welcome and recognized Conference Chair Jonathan Ferrell and President-Elect Jessica Sant for their hard work in planning the conference. Connie Scrivens was recognized and thanked for her service as SACAC President this year.

Current NACAC initiatives focus on the four strategic plan objectives of (1) advocacy for access, diversity, and inclusion; (2) rigorous professional standards; (3) professional development, research, and knowledge; and (4) organizational effectiveness. The US Department of Justice is still investigating NACAC's code of ethics, and NACAC is cooperating fully. NACAC remains confident in its mission and code of ethics. Late last year, NACAC established an ad hoc committee to recommend a new governance model that takes into consideration the roles of the affiliate Presidents Council, NACAC's Board of Directors, and Assembly. More easily understood membership categories and fees will be sought. NACAC will implement a new e-learning course series, with Financial Aid 101 as the first session. Stefanie hopes to see great SACAC representation in Salt Lake City for the 2018 NACAC conference. Stefanie mentioned that she had professional ties with both Larry West and Stephanie Balmer, past presidents of SACAC who have passed away. In the spirit of these wonderful two professionals, Stefanie challenged us to find our inner Larry Wests and Stephanie Balmers.

Conference chair Jonathan Ferrell recognized his co-chairs: Anita Alston, registration chair; Sherry Brouillette and Kerri Caruso, local counselors; Glad Alexander and Max Beilke, exhibits chairs; Courtney Vaughn and Cory Bailey, networking fair; Owen Knight and Shannon Barrilleaux, conference social; Zaire McCoy and Carina Lindsay, sponsorships; Tela Thigpen, mobile app; Elizabeth Merritt, SACAC's executive assistant; and the Marriott team onsite. Jonathan gave some logistical directions regarding the rest of the conference.

Lauren Sefton, Chair of the Governance & Nominating Committee, presented SACAC's 2018 awards. Lauren thanked her committee members for their hard work this year. The winners are:

- Rising Star Award: Julia Hodge, University of South Carolina
- William Starling Award for Mentorship: Lien Linero, St. Thomas Aquinas High School
- Garrett Klein Award for Mid-level Service: TJ Walker, Get2College Center/Woodward Hines Education Foundation
- Myron Burney Award for Inclusion and Access: Tela Thigpen, Sugar Creek Charter School
- President's Award for Excellence: Marie Bigham, Isidore Newman School
- Larry West Award for Leadership: Tommy Griffin, NC State University.

Nominations for 2019 Awards and Board positions will begin in November; please consider nominating and applying. We had a record number of applications this year, and Lauren was excited to present the slate of officers for this year:

- Ryan Cassell (President-Elect), University of the South
- Sarah Bast, West High School
- Amy Clines, College of Coastal Georgia
- Jessica Hardy, St. George's Independent School
- Sean Kennedy, Ravenscroft School
- Ebonee Todman, KIPP Through College Atlanta
- Maria Ornelas, Vanderbilt University
- LaSean Price, Georgia State University
- Ryan Riggs. Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

President Connie Scrivens asked for a motion to approve the list of nominees, and the motion was seconded and approved. Connie then recognized those Board members who are completing their service this year:

- Catherine Box
- Ryan Cassell
- Nicole Cook
- Katie Elsasser
- Sonya Fleck
- Susan McCarter
- Zaire McCoy
- Warren Quirett
- Julianna Staples.

Thank you for your years of service to SACAC!

Connie thanked SACAC members for generous contributions to past president Bill Dingledine and family as he recovers from a spinal cord injury. Donations can still be made at youcaring.com/helpbilldingledine.

Connie expressed gratitude to her colleagues at USC who have allowed her to serve SACAC in the presidential cycle. Connie asked if there was any new business. Past president Brandi Smith came forward to recognize Elizabeth Merritt for her 10 years of service to SACAC.

Connie officially passed the gavel to President-Elect Jessica Sant. Jessica experienced SACAC for the first time eleven years ago, at the time of the Virginia Tech shooting. Jessica

asked the same question Nikki Giovanni asked at the time: “Who are we?” In SACAC, who are we as counselors, as educators, as the greater collective? Your voice in SACAC matters. Please seek out opportunities within the organization; we are constantly looking to increase engagement. A inspirational video highlighting those we serve—the students—was shown, and a motion was made and seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Merritt, SACAC Executive Assistant