

MINUTES

Southern Association for College Admission Counseling For the Special Gathering of Members (COVID-19)

Monday, April 20, 2020 – 12:00 pm Eastern
(recorded via Zoom)

President Ryan Cassell started his remarks at 12:03 pm. 207 participants viewing. 8 panelists.

Welcome (Ryan Cassell)

- Brief opening remarks
- Approval of Louisville Membership Minutes - 274 proxy votes yes, 11 abstentions. Minutes are approved.
- Sharing of “Joy” words

Update on the 2020 Cancelled Conference (Anita Hua)

- Cancellation was a disappointment, but we were fortunate to be able to reschedule and not expose ourselves to a huge financial loss
 - 2023 SACAC Annual Conference – Hyatt Regency Jacksonville–Riverfront, April 23-25, 2023
- Thanks to the conference committee
- Thanks to those who had intended to sponsor and exhibit – look forward to future partnerships
- 2021 SACAC Annual Conference – Raleigh Convention Center; Marriott Raleigh Center, \$195 room rate, overflow is the Raleigh Sheridan; April 18-20, 2021

Update on Future Programming (Ryan Cassell)

- Sweet Tea Tour: Cancelled for 2020, will offer the same route in 2021
- Summer Seminar: status pending
- Dry Run: status pending
- Webinar series will be launched including several selected conference sessions; stay tuned for information
- Membership Meeting at NACAC: Thursday, September 24 in Minneapolis

NACAC Board Update (Ffiona Rees, UCLA, NACAC Board member, introduced by Jessica Sant)

- We're in this Together
 - Coronavirus & College Admission - keep checking COVID-19 resource page on NACAC site to encompass information from all across the country and world
- Looking Forward
 - CEPP – move to a best practices document rather than an enforcement document, did this with a lot of legal advice and consultation, will be looking for feedback
 - Conferences
 - Guiding the Way – continuing to monitor the situation, moving forward at this point, but will move online if necessary
 - Annual Conference – registration is now open for Minneapolis
 - College Fairs
 - Looking for ways to offer the cancelled fairs online
 - CEO search continues
- Commendation of the SACAC board and thanks, recognition of Ryan Cassell's presidential year

Treasurer's Report (Erin Chadwick)

- As of 4/17/20, the general checking account balance was \$256,912.58 & our reserve fund Raymond James investment accounts balance was \$519,243.30 which is over half a year of operating funds, as recommended.
- Thank you, members, for your generosity in donations and patience with event refunding. Continuing to assess profits and losses due to cancelled events. In a healthy financial position right now as we move forward.

Governance & Nominating Update (Connie Scrivens)

- Recognition of committee
- Thanks to those who submitted nominations. Plaques will be mailed to award winners.

SACAC Awards (Connie Scrivens)

- **Larry West Award for Leadership** – In recognition of longevity of service & dedication to SACAC, outstanding contributions to the admission counseling profession, leadership within the profession & dedication to the students we serve. *Ed Graf, Isidore Newman School, LA*
- **William Starling Award for Mentoring** – In recognition of significant mentorship of SACAC members by setting an example of integrity, seeing & shaping the best in colleagues & promoting professional standards through inspired action. *John Hawkins, Lausanne Collegiate School, TN*
- **Garrett Klein Award for Mid-Career Service** – In recognition of exemplary commitment to serving college-bound students, to lifelong learning & the development of others with a high degree of enthusiasm, energy & wit. *Jessica Freed, University of South Carolina*
- **Myron G Burney Award** – In recognition of significant contribution to the college counseling profession by promoting inclusion & access for underrepresented young people and by educating and inspiring many families and their children to realize their college dreams. *Erin Almond, KIPP Jacksonville Schools, FL*
- **President's Award for Excellence** – In recognition of outstanding contributions to the Southern Association for College Admission Counseling. *Djiara "DJ" Meehan, St John's School, PR & Bartley Sides, Christ Church Episcopal School, SC*
- **Rising Star Award** – In recognition of excellence & dedication as a new professional in the college counseling/admissions field to serving the needs of college-bound students. *Jade Domingue, Agnes Scott College, GA*

Announcement of Vote on SACAC Board of Directors (Connie Scrivens & Ryan Cassell)

- President-elect: Tyler Peterson, University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL,
- Treasurer-elect: Claudia Jolivert, Ransom Everglade School, FL
- SACAC Board of Directors:
 - Jazmane Brown, Xavier University of Louisiana
 - Emily Coffey, Mount ST Mary Academy, AR
 - Rachel Fried, College Access Strategies/Public School PS Readiness Initiative, NC
 - Myra Simpson, Oak Hall School, FL

-285 votes cast; 279 voted in the affirmative, 6 abstained; congrats to the new board members

Passing of the Gavel

- Remarks from Ryan Cassell
 - Congratulations to award recipients
 - Acknowledgement of departing board members
 - Lee Ann Backlund, Board Advisor, The University of the South, TN
 - Sara Bast, Admission Practices, West High School, TN
 - Amy Clines, Member Relations, Georgia Southern University, GA
 - Claudia Jolivert, Grants & Fiscal Oversight, Ransom Everglades School, FL
 - Arlene Outerbridge, Professional Development, The Master's Academy, FL
 - Jessica Sant, Past President, The Lovett School, GA

- Expressed thankfulness to membership
- Symbolic passing of the gavel & introduction of Jonathan Ferrell, 2020-2021 President, Pace Academy, GA
- Remarks from Jonathan Ferrell – “Every storm runs out of rain. Just keep living. This, too, shall pass.”
 - Items the Board will need focus on quickly:
 - Budget – adjust for loss of program revenue
 - Programming – summer programming – Will it happen? Will we alter current programs? Will we bring new programs online?
 - By-laws – Ryan Cassell will be heading the effort to make sure our By-laws are in compliance and our practices are up to date
 - Excited for new opportunities ahead
 - Thanks for support
 - A charge to you, members...you can be a leader without holding a leadership position in this association! Please share your thoughts and ideas. president@sacac.org
 - A promise to lead and make decisions with SACAC's best interests in mind.

Gathering concluded at 1:03 pm

Notes submitted by Diana McAfee, April 27, 2020