

Minutes, WRHC Business Meeting, April 10, 2016  
(Compiled by Anne Scott)

1. **Call to order** (9.02AM)
2. **Approval of minutes**, on the condition that 2 items be amended: the date "1017" should be changed to "2017" and it should be mentioned that *Scribendi* is now receiving \$7000 per year in support from the WRHC.
3. **Financial report** (Scott): the Council is healthy, financially speaking. Aside from a very small discrepancy in withdrawals made from the account, the bookkeeping matches that of the report generated by NAU PeopleSoft software. There are still approx. 30 pending deposits and/or withdrawals from the account, due to a number of dues payments being late, and due to a number of transactions needing to be completed after the current conference has been completed.
4. **Current conference report** (Cardullo): there were approximately 150 presentations (not including poster presentations?) that were accepted, and there was approximately an 87% acceptance rate. Conference planners would have hoped for a better attendance at the *Scribendi* reception; attendance at this reception has generally been good to very good. Future conference planners will try to fix this problem for next year. 56 institutions participated in this year's conference event. Future conference planners should also work, in a timely fashion, to notify presenters that their proposals were accepted so that institutions can get the cheapest air fares possible for that time of year.
5. **Upcoming (2017) conference update** (Mulliken): 3 out of 4 interns attended the business meeting. The Oregon governor may be the keynote speaker.
6. **Upcoming (2018) conference update** (Ashley Cossgrove, from Chapman): dates tentatively set for April 6-8; they have looked into a conference venue on their campus; they may do a Disney or "beach" theme but haven't decided on this yet; the location will be good for restaurants and shopping; and they plan on having performances by Honors students.
7. **Upcoming (2019) conference update** (Villanueva): the Montana State Univ. representative, Ilse-Marie Lee, could not attend.
8. **Secretariat transition** (Villanueva/Scott): this transition was approved by unanimous vote of all members present. Scott was presented with a plaque. Daniel will have a grad student assistant, and the complete transition will not take place until May, after the books have been completed by Scott over the next several weeks. Scott will assume the position of "past president" for one year and will consider other ways to stay active within the council, for the sake of institutional memory. Villanueva will complete the next two years of Scott's 3<sup>rd</sup> 3-year term as secretary, and then the secretary position will be discussed again. Perhaps the WRHC constitution/bylaws will need to be revisited in the event that a secretary might not be able or willing to complete a designated 3-year term.

9. **Discussion concerning President's Council** (Jacobsen and Scott): a brief history of the council was presented. It was stressed that the council is advisory in nature, and that business with the council often takes place in the lag time between the business meetings, which occur every 6 months.
10. **Discussion of WRHC Website** (Erin Edgington): the pros and cons of the WRHC website were discussed, with the help of a handout that spelled out its features. It was proposed that the website have its own branding and that there be places on the website to stress student accomplishments. Scott mentioned that such links already existed on the website earlier on, but that very few directors contributed information for the website that would have made those links useful. These issues will be addressed when the secretariat will move to UN Reno.
11. **FAQ document discussion** (Villanueva): Scott and Villanueva have created a "living" document that will help upcoming conference planners structure and time their conference/logistics appropriately. We invite WRHC members to read the document and to provide suggestions for material that we can add to the document.
12. **Scribendi discussion** (Ketcham): Ketcham made a solid proposal to have this journal moved to a national, not regional venue: the journal once was a national journal; the journal staff is often contacted by other Honors organizations for advice and for handouts and the syllabus that UNM uses for its *Scribendi* course; the journal is in its 30<sup>th</sup> year; the journal, in order to go national, will propose to have 50% regional content, 50% national content, with perhaps buy-in from the national contributors; it may also be possible to help defray costs through a subscription price and asking for NCHC sponsorship; the journal has been deemed "too Western" in its content and style to compete at the national level, which Ketcham would like to change, There was no dissent at the meeting for this possible move for the journal to the national level. The budget plan, which unfortunately was not yet reviewed by the President's Council, will be reviewed shortly so that the council can give advice to Ketcham and so that the journal can go forward.
13. **NCHC report** (Alana Geisemann): they are researching the NCHC's connections to regional councils and working on creating better avenues for the regional councils to become active at the national level. They have created surveys that they would like to distribute to regional councils to obtain suggestions and advice about the best ways to forge a connection between the national and regional councils. They are working on software that will allow regional councils to plug in numbers to help them plan budgets and to better understand enrollment issues, program/college financial concerns, etc. They will also have online offerings (did anyone catch what these were? She didn't say.) They also want to have a career fair and are happy with the Partners/Park collaboration.
14. **Report concerning the AZ Honors Council** (Ken Vorndran): pleased to announce that the Arizona Honors Council will be recognized by the NCHC as a strong state consortium of honors programs covering both 2-year and 4-year institutions. Vorndran and Scott stressed that these state-level honors



councils are extremely important and beneficial for all of the programs that they serve, and they encouraged other states to organize their own.

15. **Partners in the Park report** (Jayci Bash): Bash mentioned that Partners in the Park has been working with the national park system especially closely this year, due to the fact that the park system is now 50 years old.
16. **Report about the Honors Transfer Council** of California (Chris Sleeper): Sleeper was pleased to announce that UC Irvine now has an expansion to allow Honors transfer students from community colleges to complete their 4-year degrees at that institution. Sleeper is the Vice President of the Honors Transfer Council and he focuses "on production of the research conference held at Irvine every year (March usually). The council meets at various partner colleges and transfer universities each year (approximately 6-8 times)."
17. **Villanueva was honored** as now-past president of WRHC (a role that he will trade with Scott temporarily) and was given a plaque; Cardullo was honored as current president of the WRHC; and Ken Mulliken was honored as current vice president of the WRHC.
18. **Meeting adjourned** (10:00am)