Research Committee meeting October 2, 2011 Denver, Colorado

Attending Janet Schulenberg (chair), Sarah Champlin-Scharff, Wendy Troxel, Jenny Bloom, Peter Hagen, Shannon Burton, Bob Hurt, Kathleen Smith, Sharon Aiken-Wisniewski, Luiza Dresher, Tim Kirkner, Cornelius Gilbert, Josh Smith, guest Jennifer Wozab (U of Utah)

Janet thanked those rotating off the committee and welcomed the new members and guest.

Sub committee reports:

Committee charge/outcomes: Janet reported on review of the Committee’s charge and the outcomes written so we can meet that charge. The charge revision was submitted to administrative division and then to the Board for approval. The approved charge and outcomes framed the Committee’s end-of-year report which then serves as the outline for the committee’s upcoming work.

Committee members were asked to document their efforts towards meeting outcomes and send to Janet and Marsha. The Committee needs to be more systematic in its reporting e.g. two research grant recipients had participated in the Research Symposium. One way to do that would be to include outcomes measures on the Symposium evaluation.

Student research award: The Committee congratulated Shannon Burton on her recent award and welcomed her to the Committee.

Research grants: Marsha highlighted the grant report included with the agenda. The 2012 application has been revised and posted; the first round due date is November 1. Janet noted that several grant selection sub-committee members are rotating off the Committee. There was discussion of what reviewers look for when reading and an outline of the process and funding. The Committee thanked the Board for increasing available funds for 2011 funding year. A total of $ 23,000 in grant funds was distributed this year (note: this included year two funds of $5000 for a three year grant awarded last year).

Speaker committee: Sharon and Kathleen reported on the process used last October to select the research keynote speaker. The sub-committee brainstormed possible speakers, and looked at vitas. November 1 is the deadline for recommendations to Rhonda Baker, the annual conference event planner. Next year’s theme is “The power of students to author their own success.” Criteria: know advising, bring in research and demonstrate the connection between research and practice, and be an excellent speaker. Possibilities suggested were Peggy Kelly, Dean of Ed, Cal Poly, and Marcia Baxter Magolda.

Common Reading: Sharon reported on the selection process and thanked sub-committee members. The process starts in late April/early May and the group looked at keynote topics. It was noted that we must be able to have copyright release so the selected article can be posted on the NACADA website. The sub-committee submitted articles and the
sub-committee chair compiled these articles. The sub-committee then rated each article, listing their top three.

Sharon thanked all who volunteered to facilitate tables at this year’s discussion. The article shows how researchers engage in scholarship within a social justice theme. Rich Robbins will make comments at the end about the NACADA Journal. Marsha noted that lead author Sam Museus was a 2007 NACADA research grant recipient.

Research Symposium. Kathleen Smith reported on last year’s two Symposium sessions; Wendy, Josh, and Shannon commented on their experiences. Three themes emerged from 2008 Research Committee sponsored focus groups at regional conferences regarding research: need for time to focus on members’ research projects, mentorship of research and community of support for research. The Symposium allows participants to focus solely on their research over a 24 hour period. Two symposia sessions have been offered the last two years but the second Symposium in Tennessee was not well attended. Next year there will be one Symposium offered prior to the Region 9 conference in Las Vegas. Josh will facilitate this Symposium and Sharon was asked to help; Kathleen will be the back-up presenter if numbers warrant it. Wendy discussed the coordination need to plan the event. It was noted that the Symposium is held on a college campus if possible.

After this spring’s Symposium the sub-committee, facilitators, and EO liaisons will evaluate the Symposium. Questions to be included in the evaluation include: How do we measure the longitudinal effect of the Symposium? What is the feasibility of sponsoring a writing retreat either connected to the Symposium or to an established institute?

The Committee discussed logistics for a possible writing retreat. It was noted that if such a retreat were connect to a Summer Institute the hotel would already scheduled and some SI faculty could serve as writing retreat faculty to keep costs down. A writing retreat would not necessarily need a library if the hotel could provide online access. Faculty would serve as consultants, not presenters. A writing retreat could be connected other NACADA events. A writing retreat could be offered as an extended preconference at a region or could be a workshop at the annual conference. Wendy noted that FYE moved their assessment institute from prior to national conference because pulled too many people from their conference. The sub-committee should put together a proposal for Charlie after the Symposium evaluation.

Research Registry. Janet reported on the decreased use of the Research Registry. Marsha stated that most individuals contacting the executive office regarding research want to discuss their research with others. It was suggested that research might be an interest group candidate; Jenny noted that the doctoral student interest group might discuss expanding to include all interested in research, not just doctoral students. The Committee discussed possible structures for research conversations to connect researchers who share interests to create a dynamic community of researchers. Facebook and Twitter do not appear to lend themselves to these types of discussion. We might use a listserv or a LinkedIn group that would be accessible to all. If these are used then one
Committee member needs to post a question each month to stimulate dialogue. The research registry sub-committee should continue discussions on this topic.

**Research agenda.** A draft of a revised research agenda was sent to Committee and posted on the Committee’s website. Wendy talked about three issues that should be considered when revising the agenda: the impact of advising, the context of advising, and theoretical framework of advising. Jenny and Wendy are presenting a “critical questions in advising” session on Tuesday; they hope an agenda will emerge from this session.

The NACADA Research Agenda will impact future research. Members should send suggestions to Janet who will send a reminder and give a deadline for discussion.

**Other business:**

Research representation at regional conferences: Janet encouraged members to submit a common reading session to their region conferences. Common readings also are appropriate at the institutional level. Members were encouraged to propose a research workshop at regions; Janet and Kathleen have PowerPints they can share.

Members were asked to suggest possible new members for the Committee from diverse regions, with diverse interests, and who know different methodologies. The Committee could use three additional members.

Kathleen volunteered to represent the Committee at the “Getting Involved in NACADA” session on Tuesday.

Jenny thanked Josh, Peter, and Janet for their great work as Committee chairs since 2007, reminding the Committee how far we have come since that time.

Peter announced that Richard Stockton College had funded $5000 for research and professional development of their advisors.

Janet thanked conference planner Rhonda Baker for scheduling 1 ½ hours for the Committee meeting. The time was productively used.

Members volunteered for the following sub-committees for 2011-12:
- Speaker: Cornelius, Peter, Jenny, Sharon, Wendy (chair)
- Research grant: Sarah Champlin-Schraff, Julie, Peter, Shannon, Bob
- Assessment of outcomes: Bob Hurt, Tim with rest from last year’s group.
- Student research award: Bob Hurt, Jenny, Cornelius
- Agenda: Jenny, Wendy, plus last year’s group.
- Registry: Shannon, Sarah Naylor, Peter, Kathleen
- Common reading: Sharon, Tim, Cornelius, Luiza, Sarah Champlin-Schraff
- Symposium: Kathleen, Wendy, Luiza, Bob Hurt, Shannon

It should be noted that as chair, Janet serves on all sub-committees.