Minutes of the Meeting of the Research Committee  
NACADA Annual Conference – Salt Lake City, Utah  
October 6, 2013

Present:
Wendy Troxel, Chair, Illinois State University (2012-2014)  
Janet Schulenberg, Immediate Past Chair (2010-2012), Penn State University (2012-2014)  
Ryan Tomaszewicz, University of Illinois (2012-2014)  
Kathleen Smith, Florida State University (2013-2015)  
Bob Hurt, California State Polytechnic University-Pomona (2013-2015)  
Yung-Hwa Anna Chow, Washington State University (2012-2014)  
Jenny Bloom, University of South Carolina (2012-2014) (until her preconference started)  
Peter Hagen, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey (2013-2015)  
Shannon Burton, Michigan State University (2011-2013)  
Sarah Champlin Scharff, Harvard University (2012-2014)  
Marsha Miller, Executive Office Liaison  
Leigh Cunningham, Incoming Executive Office Liaison

Absent:  
Paulette Brower-Garrett, College of Staten Island / CUNY (2012-2014)  
Shajuana Payne, Virginia Commonwealth University (2011-2013)  
Leigh Shaffer, retired, West Chester University, NACADA Journal Co-editor (2012-2015)  
Julie Traxler, Rutgers State University-New Brunswick (2013-2015)  
Cornelius Gilbert, University of Wisconsin (2012-2014)  
Luiza Dreasher, Iowa State University (2011-2013)  
Gieselle Deng, Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley (2012-2014)  
Janice Williams, University of Texas at Austin (2012-2014)  
Sharon Aiken-Wisniewski, University of Utah (2012-2014)

DISCUSSION

• Discussion on potential new members; Bob Hurt suggested Jeanie Weststar (Salt Lake City Community College) and Kristan Venegas (University of Southern California) as potential committee members for the 2014-2016 term.  
• Wendy and the committee thanked Marsha for her service as EO liaison and welcomed Leigh as the new EO Liaison.  
• Wendy gave the Administrative Division report:  
  o Twice a year committees report to the Administrative Division. This year three major Research Committee (RC) accomplishments connected to NACADA strategic goals and how we measured success. Wendy walked through RC goals for the last year and how they connect to the association’s goals.  
  o The NACADA Board’s new mission, vision, and seven strategic goals are on front page of the conference program. Each committee is charged with identifying how their work contributes to the association’s strategic goals and report on that later in the meeting to better assist in the RC’s November report that highlights committee accomplishments in
2013. Example the Common Reading supports the goal to expand and communicate scholarly inquiry within the field.

- How can we better disseminate the scholarly work of members? (Strategic goal #1: Expand and communicate the scholarship of academic advising)
  - The community of scholars being built through RC efforts focuses on research. The questions become: How do we stay in touch with those researching? How do we make sure they write? How do we put expectations into the grant guidelines? Quarterly AdobeConnect session with grant winners and Symposium participants could tell us how their research is progressing. RC member connection to grant winners frequently would help. Possibly assign each grant recipient an RC mentor.
  - How do we encourage research presentations at conferences? Each set of conference readers is different. It was suggested that the RC chair, Conference advisory board chair, and Rhonda discuss how best to make this happen. The RC can encourage grant recipients to submit to commissions where the CIG chair is also a member of the RC. We could ask that CIG reading instructions include information regarding research grant; encourage proposal submitters to their abstract. Add “this study funded by NACADA research grant” to the submission box. RC mentors could help each grant recipient craft their presentation proposal.
  - Research agenda and listserv were combined but this effort did not get off the ground. Wendy encouraged an RC member to take ownership of this effort. Wendy will send Leigh a copy of the critical questions to advising developed by Wendy and Jenny for posting on the research resources site. Someone could ask a question a month on the research listserv. Monitor LinkedIn.
  - p. 4 of Wendy’s handout: the RC needs to develop a tracking system for NACADA members who participate in multiple activities related to scholarly inquiry. The RC could do a Blog; Word Press blogs can be posted automatically to LinkedIn. Bob volunteered to do that; house links to that in AAT and in the Research resources section of the website. RC needs to adopt the Research related resource section of the website and clean it up similar to what the CIGs have done with their sites. It was noted that the RC is the only committee with its own section on the NACADA website; as such, maintenance is key.
  - Wendy indicated that research grants are being uploaded now. That sub-committee needs to look at instructions for next round.
  - Guidelines for the student research awards were reworded so applicants now submit preliminary results. This action has added much of value to the submissions.
  - How does the RC connect to CIGs (e.g., the doctoral student group)? RC members were encouraged to attend that Interest Group’s meeting.

- Strategic Goal 2: Provide professional development opportunities that are responsive to the needs of advisor and advising administrators.
  - The Symposium addresses that.

- Strategic Goal 3: Promote the role of effective academic advising in student success to college and university decision makers
  - How do we get the information out to the decision makers in Higher Ed? What do they read? Chronicle. EO sends letters to administration when articles are posted. The current Gates Foundation and Complete College America efforts can bring presidents and provosts to the table.

- What else does the RC do to hit the other strategic goals?
• Look at the topics of submitted research grants.
• It was suggested that the annual conference add a question to conference evaluation on what participants learned from the research speaker. This year the RC measured the long-time impact of the Symposium.
• Bob’s blog; 200 words once a month.
• The sub-committee sign up list was circulated.
• Wendy shared a draft using the Levels of Experience from Assessment Institute, to help the RC identify levels of experience needed for participants (target groups) for each activity. The RC needs to identify terms to use in this effort and then put this on the Committee’s web site and attach to every RC effort.
• Sub-committee reports with evidence when successful:
  o Conference speaker: Ryan reported on this year’s process (it was challenging) and volunteered to chair that effort again. Connecting with the annual conference committee is imperative. Ryan is formalize the process. Terrel Straphorn (sense of belonging) is front runner for 2014; he is interested in the work of advising. Wendy will send the Committee the link to his presentations. The RC supports the effort to have him present as the research sponsored speaker in 2014. Gary Sanford, retired Dean at U of Wisconsin, could be a candidate for 2015 as could Tim White, U of California. The speaker budget is $5000 a year for both speakers, which is low. How can we stretch dollars? We could get someone from the NACADA research. The group talked about how to get more money for speakers and still keep the conference registration fee low. Discussed adding $3 to the conference registration fee to for speaker.
    ▪ The speaker deadline is November 1. The goal is to have speaker chosen the year before so each October the RC talks about possibilities for next year.
  o Common Reading: This year is Marc Lowenstein’s chapter in the approaches book; he helped with the questions. The Common Reading is Monday 5:30 and 7. Several RC members volunteered to facilitate.
  o Research workshops: Janet reported that 15 people have registered for this workshop targeted to people at the foundational level. The workshop’s goal is to have participants leave thinking they can do research. The workshop is the first part of the Research Symposium. Bob, Shannon, and Anna volunteered to help facilitate small groups.
    ▪ Bob reported that Region 9 is interested in instituting a Common Reading and Research preconference. Wendy and Shannon have a preconference PowerPoint and handouts for anyone wanting to do in their region. They have it down to 2 hours.
  o Kathleen reported on the Research Symposium this spring in Region 2 with Wendy, Janet, and Peter facilitating. Janet noted that having the Symposium after a conference is tough; participants are fried. The symposium (24 hours of research) now is six years old; the Symposium goal is to build a community of scholars. It has been a logistical challenge pairing it with regions.
    ▪ Region 1 was the plan for 2014 but that may not happen. The sub-committee is looking at trying the Symposium at the 2014 annual conference. Another possible venue is hosting it at a NACADA Winter Institute. Wendy is working on a proposal to try the Symposium as a full-day prior to annual conference with connect points for participants throughout the conference, and then a closing session during the hot topics on the conference’s last day. Having the Symposium at annual would help participants connect with researchers in their area. The fear is that in placing the Symposium within the conference participants would lose the overnight to reflect
on ideas. If Symposium goes to annual then RC would be encouraged to present a concurrent on research at their region.

- Research grant readers needed. Online system is working well. Changed “multi-year” to two year.
- The Executive Office has received requests to post sponsored survey data (not just results) to an open access website so other researchers can have access. A discussion regarding this will take place Tuesday prior to the Journal Editorial Board; Bob and Ryan will attend that and follow-up.

* Wendy indicated a need for sub-committee chairs; Wendy will put out a request when these notes are sent. She also noted that Research Chair nominations are due November 1 with the new RC electing the chair in February.

Marsha thanked the Committee for their efforts over the last eleven years. Meeting adjourned.