Journal Editorial Board – October 5, 2012, Nashville, TN

Attending: Leigh Shaffer, Rich Robbins, Donna Menke, Shannon Burton, Peter Hagen, Ruth Darling, Ken Hughey, Susan Poch, Tom Grites, Janet Schulenberg, Wendy Troxel and Marsha Miller

Rich and Leigh thanked the retiring manuscript reviewers for their service. They also introduced the new members of the Editorial Board.

Rich distributed a sign-up sheet to present at 2013 NACADA regional conferences. Individual Editorial Board members should submit a proposal using the annual conference session abstract to their region conference and present using a version of the PowerPoint and handout used at this conference. The editorial board member is only responsible for discussing writing for the Journal; the Executive Office representative will talk about writing for other NACADA venues.

Rich reported that the number of manuscripts submitted has increased. As per the annual report, the overall percentage of original manuscripts published from 2002 through August 15, 2012 is 27.9%, with 20.4% of original submitted manuscripts being published between August 15, 2011 and August 15, 2012. This decrease in the overall percentage is likely due to the increased quantity (and not necessarily quality) of manuscripts submitted. Manuscripts for issue 32(2) are with Nancy Vesta, copy editor. Three manuscripts have already been identified for the first issue of 2013.

Tom Grites is working with Terry O’Banion to craft a piece for the “From the Editors” section for 32(2) acknowledging the 40th anniversary of O’Banion’s and Crookston’s seminal articles on developmental advising.

Marsha Miller provided statistics on the book reviews, acknowledging the significant work in this area by Damian Whitney, who has in fact been named co-editor for book reviews.

There was discussion regarding the relevance of continued publication of annotated bibliographies in the Journal. Points made included the ease with which document searches can be completed via today’s technology, the ability for electronic and hard copy inter-library access, the fact that there is so much being written in higher education areas relevant to academic advising that it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep up on all of the literature, and the fact that other professional journals do not include annotated bibliographies. Leigh offered the idea of providing the opportunity for a literature synthesis with implications for advising (a lit review of an area in a more advanced form) in place of the annotated bibliographies, which could be included as an additional scholarly article for each Journal issue. It was decided that annotated bibliographies will be published for the final time in the forthcoming 32(2) issue. As Jess Carduner is the current bibliography editor and has done such an excellent job for many years, Rich will discuss this with her and offer her a position on the Editorial Board as a regular reviewer as well as authorship of the first such literature synthesis for publication.
The remainder of the meeting involved a discussion of the open access of the Journal. There was agreement that open access would offer non-NACADA members access to the Journal articles with the result (hopefully) being that the published Journal literature would become more prominent across higher education publications. This discussion included the ways that “impact” of a Journal is calculated, and the fact that there is no current impact value for the Journal may result in authors not submitting manuscripts.

There was additional discussion regarding the Journal currently being considered a NACADA member benefit, and if it becomes open access, that takes away a benefit for people paying to be a member of the association. Many benefits were identified aside from the Journal, with a recommendation given that the NACADA Membership Committee to consider not only formal benefits but informal benefits, and to think beyond current benefits to develop new ones.

Several ideas were discussed regarding open access, including:
- The Journal totally open access
- The Journal and “anchor” articles in the Clearinghouse being open access
- Both being free to membership and open with a minor fee for non-members who wish to utilize one or both for research purposes
- Citations and abstracts open to non-member with a fee to access the complete article
- Open Journal access to the public with NACADA members receiving hard copies as well
- Open access of Journal up to current issue, with NACADA members having online and hard copy access to the later issue but the latest issue not being totally open access until the next issue is published
- Open access of the Journal with members having choice of not receiving hard copy for a reduced membership rate

Various combinations of these ideas were discussed as well, with no final decision made. Marsha will take the feedback on this matter to the NACADA Board of Directors on Sunday, October 7, 2012, for consideration.