

MINUTES
GREAT PLAINS HONORS COUNCIL
Business Meeting
San Francisco, Calif. (As part of the NCHC Conference)
November 2, 1996

The meeting was called to order on Saturday, November 2 at 4:15 p.m. by President K. Anne Dempsey (St. Louis Community College - Florissant Valley).

Anne recognized Bob Spurrier (Oklahoma State University), chair of the Technology and Honors Committee, for the successful 1996 NCHC Satellite Seminar.

Anne asked if the GPHC membership had any concerns to bring before the NCHC Executive Committee. Earl Ramsey (University of Arkansas - Little Rock) expressed concerns for the high cost and reduction of services for the 1996 conference. Discussion followed.

Anne commended Susannah Finnell (Texas A&M University), NCHC President-Elect, for her work in planning the San Francisco conference.

Anne announced the upcoming NCHC elections. Gary Bell (Texas Tech University) is a candidate for Executive Committee, and Bob Spurrier is a candidate for Vice-President. She encouraged all members to be sure to vote.

Anne commended Virginia McCombs (Oklahoma City University), outgoing Executive Secretary/Treasurer, and Gary Wyatt, former director of the Honors Program at Emporia State University and host for the Spring 1996 GPHC conference, for their service to the organization. She also recognized Dennis Boe (East Central Oklahoma State University) for his work in expanding the format of the GPHC newsletter. Dennis will be bringing his ideas about the newsletter to the Spring meeting in San Marcos.

Virginia McCombs, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, reviewed the treasurer's report. GPHC awarded four grants of \$300 each to support students attending the NCHC Honors Semester and seven travel grants of \$400 each to support students who presented papers at the San Francisco conference. An additional grant of \$400 was given to Joelle Potter, GPHC Student Representative, to support her attendance at the conference. Virginia presented the recommendation of the GPHC Executive Committee that for all future NCHC conferences the GPHC Student Representative should receive a travel grant to assist him/her to attend the national conference. Earl Ramsey moved to accept this recommendation. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. Anne asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 1996 meeting. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Anne asked Gene Bourgeois, Honors Director at Southwest Texas State University, to describe the upcoming April 1997 GPHC conference. Conference dates are April 18-20, 1997. The conference theme is "LBJ's Hill Country and the Great Plains: Land Forms, Water, and Cultures." Sam Houston State University's Honors Program will be the co-host for the conference. Registration fee is \$49 per person coming from institutions that

have paid their 1997 GPHC dues. Deadline for paper proposals is February 10, and registration deadline is March 10. Kathyne McDorman invited directors and students traveling to the GPHC conference to stop over at Texas Christian University for the Honors Week Banquet on Thursday night.

Anne presented the motion that GPHC continue efforts to recruit new members by offering a reduced \$25 fee for the first year of membership. Dennis Boe has spearheaded this effort, and he will continue recruitment through mailings to college and university presidents in this region. Dennis will give a report on the effectiveness of this strategy at the San Marcos meeting. Gary Bell moved the recommendation. Bob Spurrier seconded and the motion carried by voice vote.

Virginia presented the report of the 1996 GPHC elections. Twenty-seven institutions returned ballots. Virginia McCombs was elected to the position of President-Elect. Dennis Boe is the 1997 Executive Secretary/Treasurer, and Kerry Schultz (Oklahoma City University) is the Student Representative.

Ann turned the meeting over to the new GPHC president, Chris Willerton (Abilene Christian University). Chris recognized Celeste Campbell (Oklahoma State University) for designing and maintaining the GPHC Homepage on the World Wide Web. He encouraged all institutions with web pages to link to the GPHC Homepage. He also recommended that state Honors organizations link to the GPHC Homepage. Chris encouraged directors to contribute to the GPHC newsletter.

Earl Ramsey asked those in attendance if they supported a joint regional meeting with the Southern Region in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1999. Matt Campbell (Johnson County Community College) moved that the GPHC support the idea of a joint meeting. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia McCombs
Executive Secretary-Treasurer