

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS

April 22, 2014

(approved May 27, 2014)

President Alicia Knoedler called the teleconference meeting of the Board of Directors, National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP) to order at 1:30 pm Central on Tuesday, April 22, 2014.

The Following Directors were present at the meeting: Jeff Anderson, Matthew Christian, Rachel Dresbeck, Alicia Knoedler, Jacob Levin, Ann McGuigan, Marjorie Piechowski, Jaine Place (joined later), David Stone, Peggy Sundermeyer, and Anne Windham. Absent: John Carfora.

Chris Gruber from Talley Management joined the call.

Approval of Draft March Board Meeting Minutes – Alicia Knoedler.

The minutes were reviewed and voted on, they were approved as written.

Discussion of Board Response to members, re Bylaws changes – Alicia Knoedler

The Board response was sent out to the listserv, and the longer explanation was posted on Sunday. No responses (yet) on the listserv. A Board member noted that we need to reiterate more succinctly (bullet points) the highlights of the response and share this with members, and also noted that we must as soon as possible define membership categories. It was suggested that this follow-up response should be incorporated into the Board's answer to a member's questions about the nomination process.

The Board agreed that Alicia would respond immediately to these question about the nomination process (will the Board consider all nominations/self-nominations, or only those that the NomCom recommends?) As was done last year, the Board will consider all the eligible nominations/self-nominations, not just those recommended by the NomCom. David Stone said that he had suggested to the NomCom that they rank nominations based on all of the criteria for nomination, as a step toward the eventual open election process, rather that provide a slate as they did last year.

Another listserv question from a NORDP member was about what criteria would be used for judging a candidate's nomination, particularly the "vision for NORDP." The Board thinks that in general the criteria for selection are clear, and that assessing a candidate's vision for NORDP is something we leave up to the discretion and interpretation of the individual members of the Nominating Committee, but that we consider it to be how the candidate thinks about the health and future of NORDP as an organization, and what a candidate would do to achieve this. The NORDP member also asked if the Nominating Committee would take diversity (gender, ethnicity, geographical location) into consideration. In keeping with our practice, the Board has again charged the Nominating Committee to consider diversity issues. The Board wants to encourage people to nominate or self-nominate, we cannot have diversity unless we have a broad pool of applicants from which to choose.

The question of eligibility was addressed next. Could we set a general definition for small non-profits now without specifying an actual number of employees for company size? The Board talked about using the Federal government's standard for SBIRs, but that is too high (500 employees). Is the size of the company really the issue, does this criterion meet our goal to eliminate conflict or perceived conflict of interest from the Board? The COI forms that Board members complete annually can handle some kinds of conflict—if a Board member consults for a sponsor, the Board member cannot vote on any issues related to that sponsor.

It was suggested that we share our membership data with members and underscore that NCURA makes distinctions between non-profit and for-profit members. One solution: we exclude large entities and any sponsors from serving on the Board. We could have a situation that there would be someone working for a large for-profit company, the company is not sponsoring NORDP, but the individual still has more access to membership than is appropriate.

It was asked, if a Board member serves as a consultant for a for-profit, can s/he be on the Board? Yes, s/he is not an employee of the for-profit. However, this Board member couldn't vote on anything related to the for-profit. Ann M. encouraged the Board to continue the discussion and deliberation and not make a decision today, although others argued for a decision.

2014 Conference updates – Rachel Dresbeck

Registration is at 305, compared to 274 last year. Talley will be on site at the conference on Monday and Tuesday, one staff member will be dealing with Memberclicks issues. Sponsorship is up to \$35k, compared to \$27.5k last year. We are getting an app for the conference program, and will be on Twitter (#NORDP2014). Rachel requested that Board members consider initiating a no-host dinner.

Committee reports

External Engagement – Jeff Anderson

Jeff reviewed NORDP's engagement with APLU and AAAS. The External Engagement Committee has proposed a NORDP liaison to these organizations and is coming up with a list of other organizations where it would be helpful to have NORDP liaisons. NORDP Liaisons will be expected to serve a minimum of 1 year (3 years for AAAS-related Liaisons) and will provide quarterly bulleted feedback to the External Engagement Committee who will compile this into a new publication to be shared on the NORDP listserv and webpage. NORDP Liaisons will become members of the External Engagement Committee, which will serve as a support group for this outreach activity through monthly committee teleconferences.

Effective Practices and Professional Development – Jaine Place

Jaine gave an update on the pre-conference workshops, both of which have robust registrations. The Team Science workshop is slightly larger than the Managing Up workshop. Jaine noted that new leadership is required for two of the subcommittees and EPPD leadership is hoping to get more members during the conference.

Membership Services – Jeff Anderson

Jeff will now be leading this committee and is building up a set of activities and goals for it.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted,

Anne Windham NORDP Secretary

Note: The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 18, 7 p.m. (dinner meeting at conference site). This will be when we ratify new Board members. We have a meet-and-greet for the Board with new Board members scheduled for Monday, May 19th, 4pm.