

**FIVE COLLEGES LEARNING IN RETIREMENT
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2010**

The regular monthly meeting of the 5CLIR Council was held on Thursday, October 14, 2010 at the offices of Five Colleges, Incorporated on Spring Street in Amherst, MA.

Present: Larry Ambs, Marybeth Bridegam, Dave Cramer, Laura Cranshaw, Peter Ferber, Mary Franks, Arnold Friedmann, Dorothy Gorra, Frieda Howards, Joan Laird, Sandy Muspratt, Callie Orszak, Dean Poli, Janet Price, Dorothy Rosenthal, James Scott, Joan Wofford, Michael Wolff, Sara Wright.

Call to Order: President Larry Ambs called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were corrected to indicate that the two guests were Bill Williams and Chuck Gillies. Also, the name of the location for the Moderators Meeting was corrected to read "Amherst Woman's Club." The minutes of the September meeting were approved as corrected.

Remarks by the President: Larry Ambs reported that he will be attending a meeting of the Association of Retired Organizations of Higher Education tomorrow. The UMass Psychology Department is looking for seniors to serve as subjects in a study of sleep and cognition. The UMass Arts Center is planning to put on some programs designed to appeal to seniors.

Callie said that she is pursuing the idea of hiring a student to help with the AV equipment for Great Decisions. If anyone has ideas for other projects that a student could help with, please contact a member of the Executive Committee. (See further information under the Office Manager's Report below.)

Report of the Vice-President: Joan Wofford praised the events calendar on the website. Janet Price pointed out that the calendar is in two forms: (1) a block form of the month's events, and (2) a list by date.

Finance Committee Report: Treasurer Sandy Muspratt reported that revenues from dues are about at the amount budgeted. However, the amount of money in the Membership Assistance Fund is less than the amount already paid out. (See attached report of Revenues and Expenses for details.)

Technology Committee Report: Janet Price asked for approval of a new committee member, James Perot. Council gave unanimous approval.

Curriculum Committee Report: Mary Franks reported that the committee has approved 18 seminars for the spring and is hoping for seven more by the deadline of October 29. The list is short on seminars in science, film, and art. She asked members of Council to encourage people to submit proposals.

Public Relations Committee Report: Dean Poli said that the committee has completed updating the Power Point presentation that can be used when speaking about 5CLIR to outside groups. The committee plans to design a poster to bring attention to the organization. He asked Council for approval of a new member, Patricia Wright. Counsel approved her appointment unanimously.

Summer/Winter Programs Report: No report at this time.

Membership Committee Report: Frieda Howards said that the committee is looking for hosts for the brunches to take place in April.

Special Programs Committee Report: Sara reported for Lise Armstrong, who was unable to attend the meeting. Sara said that things are going well, and that the committee is reviewing activities for the spring. She said that if anyone has ideas about possible activities, to contact someone on the committee. Dottie asked whether it would also be possible for the committee to generate some ideas and then ask for volunteers to organize those activities. After considerable discussion, Sara said that she would discuss this with the committee.

Office Manager's Report: Callie said that there are two types of programs under which students can be hired to work. Soft jobs can be short term whereas work-study jobs are for a semester. She will need an exact job description before she can post a position.

Great Decisions Committee Report: Dave said that the committee has received the list of eight topics approved by the Foreign Policy Association and that the committee is reviewing them and possible speakers. They will be selecting five topics and speakers sometime in the next two months. He reiterated that the committee hopes to have a student take over managing the AV equipment for the Great Decisions sessions.

Development Committee Report: Dave reported that the committee has developed a set of precepts to guide fund-raising activities. They will be making specific suggestions to Larry, who will consult with Five Colleges, Incorporated as to whether the proposals fit with FCI policy.

Old Business:

1. Scheduling – Larry proposed a revised schedule designed to achieve two goals:
 - a. Schedule seminars at Amherst College from 2-4 pm when parking may be more available.
 - b. Open up additional slots for the growing number of activities.

The proposal called for:

- a. All afternoon seminars to be held from 2-4 pm.
- b. Morning seminars to be from 9:30-11:30 am. Monday-Wednesday.
- c. Meetings now scheduled for Thursday afternoons be held on Thursday mornings. (See attached proposal.)

Jim Scott stated that the Curriculum Committee did not see a need for changing all afternoon seminars but were in favor of changing only those at Amherst College. He said that the committee would be willing to move its meetings to Thursday mornings if that would be helpful to the organization.

After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to leave the schedule as is but to hold all seminars at Amherst College from 2-4 pm. Larry will continue to explore ways of adding time slots to the monthly calendar.

Marybeth reminded Council that the Moderators Meeting on Oct. 28 conflicts with the Travel Interest Group meeting. Some suggestions were:

- a. Hold Moderators Meetings, on Friday afternoon or on a 5th Thursday, whenever possible.
- b. Address potential conflicts at the time the schedule is developed in the spring.
- c. Continue to explore scheduling changes to open up additional time slots.

2. Diversity – Postponed to a later date.

New Business:

1. Chairs and Facilitators – Sara distributed and reviewed guidelines for chairs and facilitators. The report was distributed and a copy is filed with these minutes.
2. Contributions to Local Organizations – Arnold Friedmann suggested that 5CLIR contribute to the Survival Centers and other worthy community organizations as other non-profits in the area do. After some discussion pro and con, the question was left undecided for the present.
3. EIN – Dottie recommended that Council members check the EIN website periodically for ideas that might be useful to our group and that we post information about our

activities on the site from time to time. She distributed an information sheet about EIN and its website (see documents filed with these minutes).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Dorothy Rosenthal, Secretary

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 11, 2010
*****2:30-4:30 PM*****
FIVE COLLEGES OFFICE**