

NCME Board Meeting
April 4, 2002
Minutes
(New Orleans)

Board Members in Attendance: Douglas Becker, Wayne Camara, Linda Crocker, LeAnn Gamache, Suzanne Lane, Mark Reckase, Sharif Shakrani, and Rebecca Zwick.

Others in Attendance: Lane Akers, John Fremer, Felice, Levine, Jerry Sroufe.

Linda Crocker called the meeting to order at 4:15 and introduced Felice Levine, the new Executive Director of NCME, who described some of her interests and plans for working with NCME.

The first item of business was to set a date for the next Board meeting. October 7-8, 2002, was established as the date and the site will be in Washington D.C.

Rebecca Zwick summarized the report of the Publications Committee. Regarding editorships, she announced that:

- (a) Susan Brookhart has been approved as the Newsletter Editor ;
- (b) Deborah Harris has been approved as ITEMS Editor through December 2005;
- (c) Nominations are now being solicited for the editorship of *Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice* for Volumes 23-25 (2004-2006).

In addition, NCME has contracted with an organization called River Watcher to maintain its Website for an annual fee of \$800. The Committee recommends that NCME explore electronic distribution of its publications via its Website, including past journal issues, and that this might be handled inhouse rather than by contracting with a commercial company. Del Harnisch and Brad Hanson (current and incoming Website Editors) will work with Felice Levine to prepare a proposal and budget for making selected NCME publications available on the Website. Other items that are being considered include making the newsletter an email-able PDF, with an emailed announcement that a new issue of the newsletter is available, and email broadcasts of tables of contents of newsletter and journals. It was noted that we do not have “good” email addresses for approximately 1/3 of the membership so this problem would need to be addressed. Finally, membership application forms will be available online for downloading from the Website while working toward a password-controlled online membership system.

Suzanne Lane led discussion on reports from the Recruitment of Measurement Specialists Committee. She requested feedback on the recruitment brochure within three weeks. The project to create biographies of individuals who have recently entered the profession is progressing and the committee will develop a common format for suggested length and structure. A summary of the recent results of a survey completed by this committee will be prepared for inclusion in a future issue of the newsletter. The new chair of this

committee will be Ethan Arenson and Daria Ellis will continue as the graduate student representative.

The Outreach and Partnerships Committee has discussed initiating a project to investigate how measurement practitioners, educators and legislators are informed about testing issues through efforts of formal organizations (e.g., CRESST, Michigan Testing Conference, regional and state research associations, etc.). They are also considering a project for identifying members of NCME who are willing to speak to the press on various measurement issues. The Board also discussed, but did not approve, a request to establish a program for supporting student travel to state or national assessment meetings with a mentor. Finally, Suzanne noted that the Board must reach a decision at its October meeting about continuation of the Classroom Assessment Awards Program, since Rick Stiggins will no longer be available to serve as permanent chair of the committee. . Board members recognized that the past success of this program has been largely due to his enthusiasm and capable leadership.

Don Yarborough, NCME's representative to Joint Committee on Standards for Educational Evaluation, reported on the Student Evaluation Standards Project. A session describing field test data from this program was presented at this meeting; these results will be published as a book by Courier Press in Fall, 2002. The committee invites suggestions on how to disseminate information about this project and its publications.

Linda Crocker then introduced Lane Akers, a representative from Lawrence Erlbaum Publishers, who described plans to publish a major measurement handbook. He expressed an interest in working with NCME if such a venture would be appropriate . This was followed by a general discussion of the possibility of NCME participation with the American Council on Education in creation of a 4th edition of *Educational Measurement*. The Board approved a motion charging Linda Crocker, on behalf of NCME, (a) to approach the American Council on Education about continuing our past collaboration on creation of a new edition and (b) to initiate discussion with that group about making earlier editions, or select chapters, available from the current publisher or possibly online as a resource to the profession. The Board acknowledged the appropriateness of a proposal to have past-presidents of NCME serve as advisors to the 4th edition project.

John Fremer then invited Board member reactions to the most recent draft of the Code of Fair Testing Practices, which is being developed by the Joint Committee on Testing Practices (JCTP), of which NCME is a participant. He noted that the next draft will be a final draft that will be presented to NCME for endorsement. Suggestions from Board members included the following: (1) that the meaning of fairness be clarified, and (2) that, if possible, the document should be shortened to ease dissemination. A motion to approve the Code was tabled, with the understanding that it would be reconsidered at the fall Board meeting.

There was a discussion of potential sources of revenue for the Council. Among the ideas introduced were: (1) income from the Webpage; (2) increased membership fees; (3) rate

increase for publications. Linda Crocker indicated that time would be provided for brainstorming about sources of revenue at the fall Board of Directors meeting.

The Board expressed its appreciation to outgoing President H.D. Hoover and best wishes for a timely recovery.

The meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m..