

President's Fall Semester Update

December 2013

Once again, the arrival of December and the approaching end of Fall semester has taken me by surprise. There are several important things I would like for you to consider before that actually happens.

I hope that each of you reading this letter will take a moment to consider these two requests for nominations. Serving on the Board is very rewarding and all of us know at least one person who has been a significant contributor to this Council.

Nominations

First, it is time once again to nominate individuals for election to two positions on the Executive Board; President-Elect and Treasurer. The President Elect will accede to the position of President in one year and serve in that role for a one-year term, and then serve as Past-President for one year. The President, serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Council, is the primary spokesperson for the Council, provides the major oversight of and communication with the Council's Executive Director and the Association Management Company, and has final authority for prioritizing work and administrative support of all contracted services of the Council consistent with directives of the Board of Directors.

The Treasurer will assure that the Board of Directors is in compliance with its fiduciary responsibilities to the membership, coordinate the maintenance of all routine bookkeeping, monthly statement reconciling, and necessary banking and accounting functions on behalf of the Council with the Council's Association Management Company, and oversee the Centralized Application Service in Communication Sciences (CSDCAS) Committee.

Please consider nominating yourself or someone you believe would be a good match for one of these positions. Names of nominees should be sent to the chair of the nominations committee, Linda Milosky, at Milosky@syr.edu Nominations are due by **January 5, 2014**.

Call for Honors and Awards

The Council annually honors those members and/or organizations who have given of their time and talents to better our organization. Now is the time for you to help us choose who those honorees should be. There are four specific awards that can be provided this coming April at our annual conference:

Award of Appreciation: Acknowledges the importance of an individual's current or recent activities (within the previous five years) that have supported the Council and its mission.

Award for Distinguished Contributions: Presented to individuals, committees, agencies, businesses, or organizations in recognition of significant and sustained contributions to the Council.

Diversity Award: Presented annually to the individual, individuals, or academic program making significant contributions to achieving diversity in the field of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Honors: Presented to an individual whose contributions to the Council and/or to graduate education in communication sciences and disorders has been of such magnitude that his/her impact on the Council - or on the education of scientists or clinicians in communication sciences and disorders - through clinical practice, teaching, research, administration, service, or legislative activity - is recognized throughout the professional community.

Please consider nominating a deserving individual, who is not currently serving on the Executive Board, please send his/her name to the chair of the Honors and Award committee, Ro Scudder, at rosalind.scudder@wichita.edu Nominations are due by **January 5, 2014**.

Earlier this semester, I wrote about changes in the Board's structure that were made to better achieve the initiatives we identified as priorities. One of the things the CAPCSD Board has spent a lot of time thinking and talking about in identifying those initiatives is how to spend the revenue that is being generated by CSDCAS to benefit the greatest number of member programs. There have been several ways in which we have already begun to do that, most of which have flown somewhat under the radar. For example, have you noticed that in the past 6 years, registration for our annual convention has not increased at all? Yet, the amount of food at meals and breaks, and thus the cost of those meetings, has significantly increased. In years past, we were dependent upon the convention to at the very least break even, and preferably to provide CAPCSD with enough income to meet the Council's operating expenses. However, for the past two years CSDCAS revenue has subsidized both the convention and operating expenses. In our many discussions about CAPCSD and money, we always returned to the simple fact that our annual convention is the heart and soul of CAPCSD. It is the one meeting that most of actually look forward to attending. And so, that meeting is one of the primary ways we plan to continue to use CSDCAS funds. The goal is to not only enhance the quality and diversity of leadership development, but to keep the cost at a rate that makes the meeting accessible to those of us on ever shrinking university budgets.

This goal drove one of the key changes made to the Board's composition, which was to increase the term of the VP for Professional Development from one to two years. In the past, this position was essentially that of the convention chair. Few of us have the time, energy, or folly to devote two years to a job that requires so much of the individual who leads that effort; however, we all thought that to

facilitate longer range planning of high quality professional development opportunities the term of that vice presidency needed to be lengthened. The chair of the convention committee will be responsible for the annual convention, but will no longer automatically move to the role VP for Professional Development the following year.

One of the first professional development initiatives being planned is in response to the *White Paper on Supervision*, which was presented in April at the 2013 convention. This involves the development of a curriculum to provide university personnel and practicing professionals who provide clinical education to graduate students with a series of continuing education opportunities (AAA and ASHA) at no cost to them. Clinic Directors will be invited to attend the training (at no additional cost beyond registration) and provided with materials with an understanding that they will go back to their institutions and provide instruction to clinical educators in their communities. The Council's role is to "train the trainers." The goal is to have modules developed and ready to implement for the 2015 meeting in Newport Beach. The committee, which includes both audiologists and speech language pathologists, has been selected and will begin meeting in early 2014. Although there are several other ideas regarding how to add value to our already *Priceless* annual meeting, this one is the most fully formed and ready to be reported. If you have ideas that you believe would enhance our annual convention please don't hesitate to share them with me, Lisa Scott the Vice President for Professional Development, or any of the current members of the Board of Directors.

I hope each of you has a safe and restful holiday....and don't forget to nominate a valued colleague as a special holiday gift to them!