

Chillin' at the 'Cuse...
...We're not used to this cold!



SAACURH Report
Semi-Annual
Meeting for the NBD
Jan. 3-8, 2005

Report/Summary of the last regional conference

1. Conference Staff

The advisor was a major leader in the efforts of the conference, as the former chair dropped out of school completely.

The University of Louisville had more volunteers than I'd ever seen at a conference. Props to them for that

The conference advisor had the following concern with the add-on fee, as they were running close to going over budget (and I quote):

"On a side note the other issue with the way this policy is set up is that most hosts of the conference get everything " tax exempt" under the "university's name." However, tax exempt also implies that you are hosting a break even/ not for profit conference. The huge \$10.00 per person add-on fee is a profit for SAACURH so it is unethical for things to be tax exempt. I may be looking at this the wrong way since this is my first large conference but just some side thoughts for future conference planners and the SEC to look at."

2. Breaking traditions

U of L did some things differently than had been done in the past.

- They broke registration up by states (which worked well)
- They did the conference as a collaboration with the entire state of Kentucky! A different school took on programming. A different school took on entertainment. A different school took on T-shirts. It was cool, and I wouldn't be surprised if it happened again.

The SEC attempted to do some things differently

- We took the NCCs aside before the boardroom started and trained them on how to read a bid and how to give quality feedback. We called the session "NCC Navigation."
- We emphasized programming so much that we hosted an **ONLINE PROGRAMMING CHAT** before the programming deadline to facilitate ideas to assure we were getting some quality programming.
- We had a discussion with **STATE DIRECTORS** about their status in our region. More to come on that later in the report.

3. Boardroom

I think it went well. A couple of people didn't quite get the pro/con and compare/contrast being FACTS ONLY, but Andrew and I need to brush up on calling that out.

We had a fairly civilized boardroom. Legislation:

1. Passed about having the NRHH Advisor being elected by NRHH people in the region (before it was NCCs).
2. NOT passed about having the AD-NRHH being elected in the NRHH boardroom.
3. Passed about being able to alter bids that don't meet limits (pages and letters of support)

No bid for SAACURH 2005. We have a couple of schools interested as of now. Be on the lookout for that.

We appointed a Regional Auditor to look after Andrew's books.

We talked about changing the listserv, but the NCCs weren't feeling it. And that's cool! Thanks to Matt Pollock for making that document.

4. National Folks

~ Execs: We had Ryan. He made some really useful statements as we talked about the ADA requirements coming in NACURH. He offered some constructive feedback about our boardroom. It was welcomed, as he was VERY positive about everything. SHOUT OUT TO RYAN!

~ NIC: We had Cindy (never been to a conference before, but you could never tell), and SHE WAS GREAT! She was VERY flexible and NICE to the schools. Her hard work was shown by Andrew giving her a Golden Louie (the regional pin given by the SEC)

~ NRHH: CULLEN! I mean, how amazing can you get? He was prepared and helped a lot. He's just great to be around.

I felt like the National folks were a part of the SEC! The cohesion was apparent for many people at the conference.

5. Corporate folks

≥ OCM: Amazing as usual! They made a good presentation in the boardroom that kept everyone engaged! They talked to schools and answered questions.

≥ USA TODAY: I think they're still trying to understand how they fit in. But, our ladt set up a table in a high traffic area, and that was GREAT for her! She enjoyed herself, came to Roll Call, and I think was overwhelmed for the most part.

≥ CRANIUM: Even though they're not a corporate partner, they came and fit in. They sponsored a Hospitality Room and gave away a lot of free stuff. They also presented a program on how to work it into building community in the building! It was cool.

No Frills 2005

Winthrop University
Rock Hill, SC

Theme: Roll the D.I.C.E. (Diversity in Community Education)

Phone Numbers:

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SAACURH: The New Look

○ SAACURH EVALUATIONS

In order to make sure that people are getting something out of the regional conference, we want to do an online chat that would evaluate the conference from multiple perspectives:

1. Advisors
2. First-time delegates
3. NCCs
4. Presidents
5. Experienced delegates

We plan to invite all of these groups to participate in the chat and have a critique of the conference. We wanted to wait until after the break to let people take a small break from regional business before bombarding them with evaluations to get maximum response.

○ EXAMINING THE BIDDING PROCESS

We want to make sure that the bidding process is the most efficient it can be. In order to do this, we plan on talking about this at summer summit.

The one aspect that we started to change gave the Director the power to remove pages from bids that flagrantly did not meet guidelines of bidding (Legislation passed at SAACURH).

○ WEBSITE REFORM

We want to make sure the SAACURH webpage is usable to help schools. We are looking into having **constitutions** on the website and anything else that can help schools. We will discuss this at Winter Summit.

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Regional Goals and Progress

1. Increase quality of programming and refocus conferences
 - a. Regional programming chat
 - b. Creation of President's track for programming
 - c. Offered 8 programming tracks in all:
 - d. President , Graduate Assistants, Resident Advisors/Assistants, Chapter Development, Advocacy/Campus Issues/Diversity, Leadership/Ethics, Programs for Residence Halls, Personal Development/Well Being

2. Create more of a national presence
 - a. Participation on the NACURH Forum
 - b. Committee work
 - c. Chat participation

3. Improve the bidding process
 - a. Will be discussed at Winter Summit
4. Respond quickly to e-mail (goal is 48 hours)
 - a. Most people followed this rule, especially with regard to SAACURH 2004
5. Act professionally and realize that we represent SAACURH at all times; realize that we do not represent our schools or our states
 - a. Ordered polo shirts to wear as a board
 - b. Constant conversations in SEC chats and in-person meetings about role-modeling
 - c. Conversations with the state directors
6. Keeping in mind that everything we do has a purpose—servant leadership
 - a. Acting selflessly with regional monies
 - b. Interacting with schools using buddy school system and face-to-face interactions with NCCs at SAACURH
7. Finding host sites for SAACURH 2005 and No Frills 2006
 - a. I have been working closely with Clemson University about a SAACURH 2005 bid that will be worked with over the break
 - b. No Frills 2006 is still up in the air—having conversations with schools about this
8. Keeping up-to-date resources that are useful
 - a. Website reform measures
 - b. SAACURH Impact publications
 - c. This goal has not been as accomplished as we would like
9. Following up with schools about conference impact
 - a. Online chat after winter break to assure it was useful

Retention Efforts

- Communicating with schools about affiliation process via evaluations about the entire affiliations process
- Buddy school communication
- NRHH buddy system: Each NRHH Chapter is paired with the AD-NRHH
- State conference presence which increases communication efforts between regional and state officers
- Programming track for Presidents given NCC feedback from past conference needs. We want to fulfill expectations from everyone attending conferences.
- SEAHO to get professional support for RHA building

New member schools recruitment plans and progress

- Attending state conferences—networking
- Affiliations website
- Oxford College, Vanderbilt University, Bellarmine College, Emory University, Longwood University, Spalding University, Christopher Newport University, Clark Atlanta University, Spellman College, Emory & Henry College, Lakeview College

Special projects or other regional information you would like the NBD to know about

○ MEMBERSHIP IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

In order to make sure our member schools are satisfied with membership and suggest changes to membership benefits, we want to form a membership improvement committee.

1. One member from each state
2. Will work with the Regional Development Coordinator and the Regional Affiliations Coordinator
3. Self-directed workgroup that will suggest changes to the region as needed

○ STATE DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

At our conference, we explored uncharted territory by having a conversation between the SEC and state directors. We gave the director a letter of suggestions to start the year off on the right foot. Some state directors took this the wrong way, and a conversation was needed. Some things came out of this talk:

1. E-mail communication can be misconstrued which is what happened in this scenario
2. They understood our national perspective and the conflicts that we encounter with state associations
3. Agreed that these discussions should happen more often to open the communication lines
4. Talked about staying focused on the state perspective while talking in the boardroom—this is key!

These conversations got semi-intense, but the storming was necessary.

Something your region does that you feel the rest of NACURH can benefit from

- Attempting to work with the state associations/sub-regions in your region to work toward more schools being affiliated in your region. These can be a threat, but if they are handled constructively, they can work toward membership increases.
- **REGIONAL PROGRAMMING CHAT:** This was addressed earlier in the report, but it worked pretty well for the region. People came to brainstorm ideas for the conference programming tracks. This could happen for the NACURH conference potentially.

Regional issues for the NBD to address

○ *SWACURH Schools coming to SAACURH conference*

U of Arkansas to go to SAACURH events because of the president of the university
LSU coming to SAACURH for past 2 years
Should there be a line drawn for this happening?

○ *Break-even point for regional conferences*

In years past, the break-even point must be based on 80% of past conference attendees. This tends to be VERY low for us, and we end up with large conference excess checks (for some years in a row...not this year).

We plan to bring legislation forward to address this concern.

○ *NRHH Advisor's role at conferences*

We were just having conversations about the NRHH Advisor going to the RAD conference...what their role would be. I have talked to Cullen about this, and it is something he's trying to deal with at the RAD conference this January