

## IOWA ACADEMY OF EDUCATION

**Minutes****Fall Meeting, October 19, 2018**

Iowa State University

Campanile Room, Memorial Union

**Executive Council**

Don Yarbrough, Past President  
 Susan Etscheidt, President  
 Carla Petersen, President-Elect

Anne Foegen, Secretary  
 Jo Vaske, Treasurer/Executive Director  
 Deb Gallagher, At-Large Member  
 Mark Grey, At-Large Member

PRESENT: David Bills, Michele Devin, Susan Etscheidt, Anne Foegen, Mark Grey, Liz Hollingworth, Carla Peterson, Bob Reason, Marlene Strathe, Amanda Thein, Ann Thompson, Jennifer Waldron, Don Yarbrough

Also present: Jo Vaske

NOT PRESENT: Susan Assouline, Dan Clay, Chris Edginton, Deb Gallagher, Brian Hand, Won-Chan Lee

Guests: Dr. Katie Broton, Dr. Jihyun-Hwang, Yeajin (Jinny) Ham

**Morning Session:**

Susan Etscheidt, President, opened the meeting. Laura Jolly, Dean, College of Human Sciences, ISU, welcomed the Academy.

Susan Etscheidt provided opening remarks about the commitment and mission of the Iowa Academy of Education. Members introduced themselves, and each shared a policy issue he/she believes will be of importance in 2018-19.

David Bills introduced Dr. Katie Broton, Assistant Professor, University of Iowa, recipient of the Iowa Academy of Education's 2018 Thomas N. Urban Research Award. Dr. Broton presented on her research study titled *Going Without: An Exploration of Food and Housing Insecurity among Undergraduates*.

David Bills introduced Dr. Jihyun-Hwang, recipient of the 2018 Iowa Academy of Education Outstanding Dissertation Award. Dr. Hwang presented a summary of his dissertation, *Bridge the Gap between Cognitive Attributes and Mathematics Achievement: Which Cognitive Attributes for Mathematical Modeling Contribute to Better Learning in Mathematics?*

**Lunch** [Sponsored by the ISU College of Human Sciences]

During lunch, members reported on their recent research and scholarly activities:

Liz Hollingworth. Liz directs the Center for Evaluation and Assessment, College of Education, UI; she is working with school counseling doctoral students and area districts implementing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and before/after school programs.

Amanda Thein. Amanda is now Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Graduate Programs in the College of Education, UI; this administrative role takes up much of her time. Her research is on looking at how teachers in rural high schools are teaching multicultural literature.

Bob Reason. Bob is in his third week as Interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs; he is enjoying the work that builds upon student affairs background and academic interests; he is in the third year of five years working on a project with the University of Southern California studying a statewide comprehensive college transition program in Nebraska; he is working with ISU Extension to develop programs for college access and transitions to address these needs among rural and Latino students in Iowa.

Mark Grey. Mark is keeping up with new cultures and languages (180-200 in Iowa); he is helping prepare principals and superintendents to address the issues of “super-diversity;” his in-service work is on the new/latest incoming populations.

Marlene Strathe. Marlene is trying to retire! She just came from a meeting about shared services. There is angst among staff. Discussions were about how shared services is working in Iowa; it is NOT working, and Iowa hates it. There is no evidence to support the decision to implement it.

Carla Peterson. Carla, along with junior faculty in her department, is doing evaluation work with home visiting programs. Discussions involve integrating data sets. We know how many are born in Iowa each year and how many start kindergarten each year, but we have no way to connect these records. The goal is to be able to identify how many students who were born in Iowa start kindergarten here and vice versa.

Jennifer Waldron. Two months ago, Jennifer transitioned to an administrative position as Associate VP of Research and Innovation and Dean of the Graduate College at UNI. She is meeting with and learning from people around campus. She is finishing up a project with School Administrators of Iowa that addresses wellness programs for principals and superintendents. She is also writing a book chapter on peer to peer violence among youth athletes.

Ann Thompson. As a retiree, Ann appreciates the opportunity to remain involved with the Academy. She is currently writing a history of distance education in the College of Engineering and at ISU. CoE has been involved in distance education for a long time. She has learned that ISU has been doing distance education for a long time as evidenced by a photo taken in 1905 of the Seed Corn Gospel Train. For this project she travels around Iowa with professors who teach farmers about agriculture. She is conducting interviews and talking to people about distance education and making recommendations for the future.

Anne Foegen. Anne continues to work with teachers in Iowa and around the country as well as with Area Education Agency staff on the implementation of algebra progress monitoring measures. She currently serves as Interim Associate Director of the School of Education following Bob Reason’s move to Interim Associate Dean.

Don Yarbrough. Don is discovering there is life after administration. This semester he will be finishing a project (NSF funded) on the characteristics of good science education and evaluation. Across disciplines, different standards for evidence exist, but with policy makers, only emotionally-laden arguments are valid. He is currently looking at the relationship between observed scores and reported scores. These are proprietary, so no one is able to know. He is finding that these might be obscured on purpose.

David Bills. David is working on a paper with a sociologist in Belgium who is editing a book on new directions in sociology in education. He has latitude to choose the topic he will write about. He is discovering that when people from other disciplines think about education (or another discipline), they are critiquing the fields as they existed a decade ago. He is thinking about what would happen if each discipline would take the other’s work seriously (and not make assumptions).

David Bill's cross-disciplinary work prompted discussion among Academy members. There is pressure on faculty members to drop cross-listings of education courses with other disciplines. They are being told this is due to efficiencies and generation of student credit hours. Academy members also raised questions related to syllabus templates and requirements. There is concern that current revenue models will disincentivize students' efforts to explore other fields/courses.

### **Business Meeting**

1. In the absence of President Susan Etscheidt who left the meeting early, President-Elect Carla Peterson called the meeting to order at 1:00.
2. Don Y moved to approve the minutes of the Spring Meeting. Second by Bob R. No corrections or additions were made. The motion passed.
3. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Jo Vaske. Jo thanked those members (Carla, Don, David, and Susan E.) who were involved in obtaining the 2018 institutional gifts to the Academy. Checks, in the amount of \$3,000, have been received from all three Regents' institutions. Jo explained how the money flows in and out for the Thomas N. Urban Research Award. When there is a recipient, Mr. Urban sends a check to the Academy (for tax purposes). The Academy, in turn, writes a check to the recipient. This year, Mr. Urban, on his own initiative, increased the amount of the gift (from \$2,000 to \$3,000). Costs per year for IAE are about \$7,200. We are well within budget. Our financial advisor from BDF is scheduled to meet with the Executive Council after today's business meeting. One item he has been asked to address is the amount of cash we have on hand. Is it too much? Should we be investing some of the cash? Jo described the outstanding expenses for the year (see the Treasurer's Report for detail). She is paid salary/expenses one time per year; she submits her expenses after the spring meeting.  
Marlene moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ann T seconded. Motion passed.
4. Jo Vaske shared the Executive Director's Report. One correction is needed. Under *Follow-up Activities after Spring Meeting*, Jo sent a thank you note to Dean Gaetane Jean-Marie, College of Education, UNI (not to Dean Laura Jolly, at ISU) for hosting the Spring Meeting and sponsoring lunch for the meeting. Jo will make the correction and send it to members.  
Don Y moved to accept the report with great appreciation and thanks. Mark G seconded. Motion passed.
5. Committee Reports:
  - a. Bob Reason, on behalf of Deb Gallagher, reported on the activities of the Membership Committee. This year one nomination was received, reviewed, and voted upon. Saba Rasheed Ali, UI, will join the Academy in the spring (she was unable to attend today's meeting). She is currently Associate Dean for Research and Department Chair of Psychological and Quantitative Foundations. She is conducting research in and around Columbus Junction with MS students around careers.  
The Academy currently has 19 active members. According to the Constitution, we can have up to 30 members. Jo encouraged us to build the ranks with additional nominations. Carla reminded the group that members from non-Regent institutions and individuals from state agencies are eligible for nomination. We should think creatively about expanding membership.
  - b. Marlene Strathe, chair, Urban Award Committee reported that there were two submissions this year. The committee reviewed the nominations and held a conference call to make decisions. Dr. Katie Broton, University of Iowa, was selected as the 2018 awardee. She presented a summary of

her study to the Academy this morning. Carla acknowledged David for nominating the 2018 awardee. Academy members are encouraged to nominate their own students.

- c. David Bills, Chair, Dissertation Award Committee, reported there were five nominations; a conference call was held to make decisions. Dr. Jihyun-Hwang, recipient of the 2018 award, presented a summary of his dissertation to the Academy this morning. David reminded the Academy that there is no requirement that the dissertation come from the College of Education or that the study focuses on education. Jo asked members to review the list of contacts at their institutions who receive the announcement of the award – so that the list will be up-to date.

Jo noted that this year we had three different deadlines for nominations: June 1 for Membership; July 1 for the Urban Award; and July 15 for Outstanding Dissertation. She asked if having three different deadlines was helpful or not. It was suggested that for 2019, there would be one deadline - July 1 – for all three committees. This will be a hard deadline, with no extensions. The Academy, by consensus, agreed to try this approach for the upcoming year.

- 6. Nomination and Election of Officers:
  - a. At-large members of the Executive Council. The Constitution states that two at-large member will be elected by a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting. Each at-large member shall serve a two-year term with the terms staggered. Currently Deb G and Mark G are serving as at-large members, but both were elected during the Annual Meeting, 2017. To resolve the problem of staggered terms, Mark agreed to serve a three-year term. Thus Deb’s term will end after the 2019 Annual Meeting, and Mark’s term will end after the 2020 Annual Meeting.
  - b. Nomination and election of President-Elect. According to the rotation system in place, this year this position needs to be filled by a member from UI. Liz nominated Amanda Thein. Don Y moved to close nominations. David seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.
- 7. Appointments of 2018 Committee Chairs and Members. Prior to the meeting, President Susan Etscheidt invited the following individuals to serve as chair or members of committees. All accepted the designated roles:
  - a. Membership Committee
    - i. Chair: Bob Reason, ISU
    - ii. Members: Liz Hollingworth, UI, and Mark Grey, UNI
  - b. Urban Award Committee
    - i. Chair: Marlene Strathe, ISU
    - ii. Members: Won-Chan Lee, UI, and Jennifer Waldron, UNI
  - c. Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award Committee
    - i. Chair: David Bills, UI
    - ii. Members: Michele Devlin, UNI, and Ann Thompson, ISU
- 8. Themed Discussion:
 

Prior to the meeting, Susan E. asked members to bring an educational policy-related idea to the meeting. After all members had made suggestions, the two most prevalent themes that emerged were Special Education/mental health and funding. Members divided into three groups to discuss these themes.

Group 1 talked a lot about funding. The group circled back to the belief that education is no longer a public priority. Funding is dropping; education is not seen as a desirable career. Factors spin together. Members talked about pushing for a program for paying student loan debt for students who stay in Iowa to teach for five years (minimum). Regarding funding, the group stated that we need to be careful not to pit educational groups (K-12, Community Colleges, and Higher Education) against one another. We need to go beyond preaching to the choir and talking only with like-minded people. The targeted audience needs to be political people with power in the state. Do legislatures want to talk with IHE representatives? How do we construct a conference that would be attractive? We need to figure out a way for business, political, and industry leadership to “do good”.

Group 2 talked about higher education finance and the shift away from funding *a public good* to funding *a private investment*. This represents a fundamental shift – education is more about maximizing income than about making a better society. The group created a title for the current need: *Reclaiming Education as a Public Good*. The group also discussed how to pull people together to engage in that conversation in a meaningful way. Who should be involved and what forum might be most effective? The consensus: the groups would include ourselves, national experts, and legislators. The forum might be a half-day symposium.

Don said that dealing with student debt is also part of this. Education used to be a way out of poverty, but now is not. Carla identified some resources for this topic (for example *Whither Opportunity: Rising Inequality, Schools, and Children's Life Chances* edited by Greg Duncan and Richard Murnane). Greg grew up in Ames; he likes to talk about economic issues. Another individual who is working on this topic is Sean Reardon, Endowed Professor of Poverty and Inequality in Education, Stanford Graduate School of Education, and a member of the Steering Committee of the Center for Education Policy Analysis. Harold Yashakawa, a developmental psychologist who works on immigration issues, is another potential speaker. Carla said he is a good speaker and would engage well with a diverse audience.

Group 3 also talked about funding issues and how it is affecting teacher longevity both in K-12 and Higher Education (losing faculty to other public universities).

Carla can check with ISU Extension about legislative information sessions but is unsure whether there is sufficient organization to draw a lot of legislators to the session. One of the key components of the state STEM initiative was that dollars were allocated to PR/communications to get the messages out to build awareness of the initiative. There may be potential to link workforce needs into an argument about education as a public good. Public education. Public good.

Most of the energy was around ideas about advocating for funding for public education and developing a forum (with an expert speaker) to address these issues with legislators, other policy folks, and state department leaders.

Ann T suggested we need to crystalize the idea about *Reclaiming Education as a Common Good*. We need to firm up the message from the start. Mark stated that there is a bi-partisan State Board of Education that holds yearly retreats. He wondered if the Academy could we get on their agenda for an

hour. He has spoken to them about demographic change, and they were very receptive. The Board of Directors is boss for Ryan Wise and has a lot of pull.

Don suggested that *reclaiming* may not be the word to use. *Reclaim* suggests that lost privilege is being sought. *Re-creating, re-building, re-establishing* may be other possibilities. The title needs to demonstrate that we recognize that change is needed across levels.

Jo asked about existing research showing support for public education. Don added: Should we do what we do best and go back to the literature to see what we find that could support the arguments?

Jo encouraged the group not to begin with concerns about funding for this initiative. Instead, she encouraged the Academy to explore and develop their ideas. Later we can talk about obtaining additional financial support, if needed, for the actions we want to pursue. Don suggested the National Education Policy Center (out of Colorado), <https://nepc.colorado.edu/>, as one option.

Carla suggested that the next steps are (a) to think about language for statement/motto, (b) gather suggestions for potential speakers, (c) consider sponsoring a public forum in a year or 18 months.

Ann T suggested that someone would write a paragraph about this idea that captures our thinking for the rest of the group. (David Bills was nominated and agreed to take on the task.)

9. Set Spring Meeting date

The Spring Meeting date was set for **Friday, April 26, in Iowa City**. Liz will make arrangements for the meeting.

10. Financial Advisor, Ryan Brooks

Carla introduced IAE's financial advisor, Ryan Brooks, BDF Investments, West Des Moines. He shared brief remarks with Academy members.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. Carla adjourned the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Foegen, Secretary.

**Addendum:****Executive Council Meeting**

Following the IAE Business Meeting, Ryan Brooks, financial advisor, met with the Executive Council. Discussion resulted in the following decisions:

- First step is converting the account to a Fiduciary account. This will allow the selling and buying of stocks, bonds and CD's to have no commission and the account will be on a fee basis. The total account fee will be 0.75% and that is applied on a monthly basis. (Ryan will send a follow up email that will be for electronic signatures to convert the account or Jo will stop by the office and fill it out).
- Sell Transamerica Bond Fund ITAAX and purchase three-month CD's with those dollars. (Commission on the selling and purchasing of CD's will NOT apply as we are moving to Fiduciary account as mentioned above.)
- Reallocate \$30,000 of cash into three-month CD's which are yielding around 2%.
- Goals of this account stated at the meeting were to stay ahead of inflation and maintain the original principal amount of \$100,000.