

Minutes

IOWA ACADEMY OF EDUCATION

April 28, 2006, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

University of Northern Iowa
Curris Business Building

<u>Present:</u>	S. Alper, T. Andre, J. Blount, R. Brennan, N. Colangelo, J. Cornett, R. DeVries, D. Jepsen, E. Pascerella, J Schuh, J. Smith, G. Stefanich, P. Sitlington, J. Thomas, E. Whitt, members; and J. Vaske, Staff
<u>Absent:</u>	N. Davis, P. Hlebowitsh, N. Jackson, M. Kolen, D. Lohman,, A. Thompson, R. Yager
<u>Guest:</u>	Troyce Fisher

- I. President Jeff Cornett called meeting to order at 9:40 with a welcome and introductory comments about Ben Allen, new President of UNI. Cornett asked colleagues to describe President Allen’s previous work and background.
- II. John Schuh introduced Troyce Fisher, the invited speaker. Dr. Fisher is the former executive director of School Administrators of Iowa and is currently a faculty member at Iowa State University and Director for the State of Iowa for the Wallace Grant.
- III. Dr. Fisher presented on the topic, “Creating and Sustaining a Cohesive System of Leadership Development in Iowa – Implications for Research.” She discussed the Wallace Leadership Policy Grant that she is administering. This grant relates to a MCREL meta-analyses of research on principals and superintendents.

The grant focuses on a shift from managerial responsibilities to leadership ones. The goal is to create a continuum for leadership roles in the Prek-12 arena and a seamless system of leadership development. The grant promotes Iowa standards for school leaders. Issues discussed included: mentoring, leader preparation, rigorous professional development, coaching for leadership, and a leadership academy. The grant activities were described as well as some preliminary data on outcomes. Discussion of a variety of issues followed.

- IV. President Cornett asked Academy members to share their scholarly activities since the Fall, 2005 meeting of the IAE.

Greg Stefanich will move to the role of dissemination specialist at NSF. His focus will be individuals with disabilities and science learning. He begins September 1. In addition, he received a lifetime service award for his work.

Ernie Pascerella described the development of a Center for Research on Undergraduate Education at UI.

Jerry Thomas will be on sabbatical July 1-December 31. He will be a visiting scholar at the University of Western Australia (UWA) in Perth where he will make presentations to UWA faculty and conduct research with a UWA faculty member on physical activity in Aboriginal children. He completed a survey of doctoral programs and used this work to complete a paper for the Health and Human Performance National Academy. The fifth edition of his research methods book has been published and translated into Greek, Spanish, and four other languages.

Bob Brennan is involved with the Center for Advanced Studies in Measurement. He is Director of Research for the College Board.

Nick Colangelo received a large study acceleration grant. It focuses on the evidence needed by administrators to institute acceleration programs.

John Schuh is no longer involved in department administration. He is doing work on the role of sports in higher education. His daughter is in law school.

John Smith completed an article on the anthropology of educational research. He is chairing three departments at UNI.

David Jepsen retired from the University of Iowa. He received the American Counseling Association's Extended Research Award.

Rheta DeVries is involved in grant writing and is Director of Regent's Center for Early Development and Education. She is also directing a preschool and developing a business related to supporting the school. She is conducting workshops for teachers and has worked with Shanghai University doctoral students who will visit UNI this fall. She completed professional trips to Brazil and Japan doing presentations related to early childhood education. She is revising her book, *Moral Classrooms, Moral Children*.

Sandy Alper is writing a book on the process for developing curriculum for students with severe disabilities.

Pat Sitlington has been conducting a project for career preparation that involves working with the State and getting data on career success back into schools. She is now writing a paper on the results.

Liz Whitt is co-director (with Ernie Pascerella) of the newly-created Center for Research on Undergraduate Education (CRUE) at UI. She is looking at undergraduate education at

UI, interviewing first-year students and seniors. She co-authored a book (with John Schuh, et al.) that is being translated into Arabic.

Jackie Blount received a book award and is working on a biography of Ella Flagg Young, Superintendent of Chicago Schools from 1909-1915.

Tom Andre is involved in department administration and contributed to publications related to science learning.

Jeff Cornett participated in an international education conference in Jordan. He has been working in Hungary in social science education. He is involved in current research projects related to the First Amendment.

Jo Vaske will share a number of announcements later in the meeting. She thanked Jeff and UNI for hosting the spring meeting of the Academy. She distributed a roster and asked members to check for errors. She indicated that new members have been nominated and asked members to pick up materials related to the nominees.

Business Meeting

Chair Cornett called the business meeting to order.

- I. J. Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. E. Pascerella seconded. Motion to approve carried.
- II. E. Pascarella moved to note the high quality of the presentation by Dr. Troyce Fisher. The motion was approved.
- III. 2006 Urban Committee Report
In the absence of David Lohman, Chair of the Urban Selection Committee, Jo Vaske announced that there were still no Urban Award nominees for 2006. Individuals could still be nominated.

Afternoon session:

- IV. Discussion of the Future of the Iowa Academy of Education – facilitated by David Jepsen, IAE member and FINE Governing Board member

Much of the afternoon session consisted of a discussion of a future home of IAE. One of the possibilities discussed was having the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) host. A summary of the discussion follows.

- J Thomas: Regents (Diana Gonzales) are very open to the proposal to provosts' council for having IAE housed in Board of Regents. There is not much space there, but not much space is needed. Staff time is an issue. Thomas discussed possibility of rotating IAE home between 3 Regents institutions, but Gonzales described examples of centers located at one of the institutions, but being affiliated with all three. There was some good interest in the Regents for hosting the Academy. A remaining issue involved whether FINE could provide some money for an endowment that would generate some operating expense money.
- D Jepsen: The FINE Foundation will vote on how money will be disbursed. The FINE

Foundation wants to know the wishes of the Academy for future sponsorship, maybe a rank order of options. The FINE Foundation does want to be sure that there is some seed money that follows the placement of FINE Foundation entities. A plan for making a decision is really what is needed today, not final decision. The FINE board will meet next during summer (it meets quarterly). The FINE board may also recommend something like 100k gift to IAE.

- R DeVries: Expressed concerned about maintaining separate identity, autonomy from another entity.
- P Sitlington and J Cornett: Expressed concern about being beholden to the politics of a larger organization.
- There was a discussion of role of IASB Foundation: IASB Foundation seems to be pretty flexible, and its goals seem compatible with those of IAE. Jo was asked how the IASB Foundation is funded. The IASB Foundation is raising money and hopes to be solvent within a year.
- J Smith asked if IASB Foundation endorses candidates. B Brennan indicated that IASB does, but that the foundation is unlikely to.
- J. Cornett again emphasized need to for IAE to remain free of political attachments and possible conflicts in purpose. Therefore, J Cornett would prefer to see an attachment to the Regents or to a similar organization. John Smith raised issue that there may be organizations such as ISEA that have very different agendas, and purposes from the IASB.
- S Alper: The main concern is autonomy, so it could be problem being associated with Board of Regents.
- J Thomas: Raised the issue that the Regents would have to approve wherever we are placed. S Alper: Why? Is that necessary? B Brennan: The Regents may not need to approve. Regents do need to approve centers, but eventually, Regents probably will need to approve.
- J Thomas: If there is an endowment, then that money goes to that institution. That institution will have to take around 5 percent off to pay overhead. Wonders what IASB foundation would charge to manage money.
- J Schuh: If we go someplace with money, IAE needs to be sure money is not commingled or lost. There is a need to maintain the right to disaffiliate and go somewhere else.
- R Devries: Worried about the effect if larger organization we are affiliated with would take positions IAE would find objectionable.
- N Colangelo: Asked if the Regents approved FINE? Jo: No. Then the FINE name hopefully will be retained. Use of the FINE name would need to be agreed upon by sponsoring organization.
- N Colangelo: He likes being affiliated with Regents. What rotates is where we meet. No problem with IAE being housed at just one institution. The money needed really is not that great. He did not perceive the autonomy threat from Regents to be that great at all. The real question for us is where are we headed? We haven't done anything controversial yet, but that could change. We should take more stands and move beyond being a discussion group. Any host group needs to know this is a possibility. Universities are used to idea of discourse. He likes idea of going with the universities.
- J Thomas: Thomas agrees, but if we want group that will promote what we do, IASB

could really do that. They may disagree on other issues.

- J Cornett: Wants us to pursue Academy sponsorship with other presidents or deans.
- D Jepsen: Any reason to be concerned about being affiliated with Regents?
- One IAE member indicated that there would be more political freedom with school board association than with Regents.
- J Thomas: Thomas indicated he was not saying we should go with Regents. Instead, we should go with one of the three institutions.
- J Cornett: Cornett noted that Cheryl [ed. note: Dean Cheryl Achterberg, College of Human Sciences, ISU] is not in education per se. He suggested the connection might be cleaner to be associated with college that was not strictly education.
- J Schuh: Schuh indicated that this possibility did cross his mind. It is a real concern that faculty are likely to want to have role in selection of presidents which would be contrary to position of current Board of Regents.
- A member of the IAE indicated that Regents' foundations might not necessarily be right place to safely store IAE funds.
- J Thomas: Thinks no problem protecting money, but we would have to pay a fee.
- N Colangelo: What is our time frame?
- D Jepsen: Jepsen provided a summary of the time frame. The time limits are not definite. The FINE board meets next month. It will be a crossroads meeting. The meeting will decide whether FINE will end at finite time or when all programs can be transferred to new sponsors. It will probably take 3-4 months to make a decision.
- D Jepsen: Jepsen stated there seems to be some agreement among IAE members that having IAE at one of the three institutions is good, and the group not too concerned about which one. He asked if this perception were accurate.
- B Brennan: Brennan indicated there is still the issue of needing a staff person. There is a need for a commitment to having such a person. So, there needs to be continuity of institutional host.
- J Cornett suggested ISU or UI because of resources. UNI is pretty much stripped of support personnel. B Brennan thinks staff are crucial. N Colangelo: Do we need half-time person?
- D Jepsen: The work necessary is not constant and could be absorbed by a current administrative assistant. Sporadic work.
- J Thomas: We won't be able to get someone like Jo who provides leadership. Instead, we can only hope for person who can handle clerical stuff. Thomas suggested that maybe we choose an emeritus member of IAE who provides continuing leadership and who operates out of his/her own house.
- J Thomas: We'd need donated time for leadership. Maybe one of our deans could find some clerical time to donate. Maybe Dean Achterberg could do this. J Cornett indicated that this is a good idea. He asked Jerry to talk with Dean Achterberg. D Jepsen asked if Dean D'Amico would be similarly receptive at UI. N. Colangelo guessed Dean D'Amico would be very receptive. B Brennan indicated that if we are to survive, one of our 3 institutions needs to make long-term commitment.
- S Alper: How about asking all 3 institutions to chip in money to support a staff person. J Cornett indicated that was not possible because the budget situation is too dire.
- J Cornett: To move forward, let's get on with asking our deans to host IAE. N

Colangelo will ask Dean D'Amico. D Jepsen asked Jerry to check with Dean Achterberg. J Cornett wants to tie Ben Allen in.

- D Jepsen provided a summary. The plan is negotiation with the three Regents institutions. The first preference is affiliation with the Regents Universities; the backup plan is affiliation with the IASB foundation. Jepsen will not recommend FINE take up any further initiatives until after these options with ISU, UI and UNI have been explored with Deans D'Amico and Achterberg and with Ben Allen. Hopefully that will be done in next couple of weeks. Then D Jepsen will talk to the FINE board.
- S Alper: Asked what portion of Jo's time goes to IAE. Jo says it varies.
- J Cornett: Let's move on because there is a press conference at 3 pm.

V. Membership Committee Report

R Devries, Chair, Membership Committee, reported that there were four nominations for membership. N. Davis, E. Pascarella, and R. Devries served as the Membership Committee. The Committee discussed three candidates. Through an error, Laura Rendon's nomination was not reviewed. The membership decided that we will need to write Laura Rendon's name on ballot. A comment was made that members, when voting, should consider how actively involved in education the candidate is and in what stage of her or his career the person is. A fourth set of nomination papers (Rendon's) was distributed. The ballots are due by May 12 to Jo. E Pascarella wondered if a Membership Committee is really needed. We know each other and who is likely to be nominated. The membership will discuss this issue later.

VI. The Occasional Paper Series

J Vaske asked about the occasional paper series. She asked if there was interest in having Troyce do an occasional paper? The group decided against this at this point in time.

VII. Policy-Related Paper Series

The IAE had asked Kathi Thomas to generate a policy paper on school nutrition and health. Dr. Thomas can't do this until next version of her book is done. This policy paper fits in FINE newsletter. Is there room in the newsletter? The decision was made to table this issue for now given that the fate of newsletter is uncertain.

VIII. Report from the FINE Foundation – David Jepsen, Jo Vaske

D Jepsen provided a summary of issues before the FINE Foundation board. Decisions about the termination time and dollars are yet to be made. When these decisions are made, then FINE can find good fit for the four programs that need homes. The FINE conference in the Fall will focus on education and employment. Another issue is the annual FINE Recognition ceremony in the state capitol. Ongoing conversations at the FINE board level include: location of web site and newsletter to an archive. [History: FINE Foundation started by legislature in 1984. FINE is a combined private and public partnership and is one of a kind. It is closing its doors.] The FINE Board is floating the idea of an RFP to see if an historian of education might do a history of this organization;

e.g., What brought FINE into existence and what led to its termination? D Jepsen thought the RFP would pay for the effort. The idea is that the paper could be published in *Educational Researcher*. One theory is that FINE never had enough money to mount a really big study that would find out what Iowa really needs. What can be learned here? R Devries suggested discussing how to get this paper launched at the next IAE meeting. N Colangelo suggested Jepsen has quite a bit of history with this whole project and perhaps he could conduct this study. D Jepsen indicated that he will think about it, but his involvement might be suspect since he serves on the FINE Board. Many indicated that all perspectives might be suspect.

Fall FINE Conference Plans

J Vaske provided an overview of the planning for the Fall FINE Conference. These are the working ideas. The conference will be Oct 22-24. It will focus on smoothing the transition from preK-12 to postsecondary education experiences. The plan is to have interest areas that will attract clusters of participants. Issues: What are the community business and policy interests that impact education, how do we develop and support educators as students transition to careers, how can we help parents and students prepare for careers, how do we recruit and retain most talented educators, and how can we help policymakers in this effort? All IAE members were invited to consider participating in the conference. There was a request for members to nominate colleagues. Following the conference, a monograph, including participants' position papers, will be published. This publication could influence policy in Iowa. The position papers need to be submitted at least a couple of weeks prior to the conference. The location and keynote speakers are to be announced.

- IX. Other Business
- Other items: none.

- X. Fall Meeting

J Vaske will send out possible meeting dates for a fall meeting in the Des Moines area. The meeting will coincide with Urban Award if there is an awardee.

Meeting adjourned.

Reported by Tom Andre (AM) and Jackie Blount (PM)