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General Meeting: December 14, 2001

The DaVinci Institute

Abstract

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**The DaVinci Institute
General Meeting
December 14, 2001
Minutes**

A general meeting of The DaVinci Institute was held Friday, December 14, 2001, 3:10-5:00 p.m. at the Oklahoma Educational television Network. Members in attendance were:

Linda Tiller, OU; Chris von Rosenvinge, OU; Bob Palmer, UCO; Manuel Prestamo, OKCCC; Lee Neibert, St. Gregory's; Marvin Lamb, OU; Nancy Barry, OU; Chris Markwood, UCO; Mark Parker, OCU; JoBeth Moad, OCU; Aarone Corwin, Oklahoma Alliance of Arts Educators; John Clinton, OKLAHOMA A+ Schools; Susan McCalmont, Kirkpatrick Foundation; Terri Collins, Barthelmes Foundation

Bob Palmer, Vice President, welcomed participants and asked them to introduce themselves and tell the group where they call home. Bob Palmer asked for approval of the minutes. Chris von Rosenvinge reported a change in the name of the website expenditure and Linda Tiller requested clarification of an amount on the total held by the Oklahoma A+ schools fund. Bob Palmer called for approval of the minutes with changes. Marvin Lamb so moved, Lee Neibert seconded, and the minutes were approved with the aforementioned changes.

Financial Report – Linda Tiller reported that The DaVinci Institute has received a 501c3 status from the Internal Revenue Service and that an account has been opened for the direct use of the Institute. A report was handed out showing the balance of three funds representing the DaVinci Institute account. Fund 1 - The DaVinci Institute Financial Statement shows Income of \$16,997.24 with expenses of \$9,510.52 for an ending balance as of 12/14/01 of \$7,486.72. Fund 2 – OKLAHOMA A+ Initiative Financial Statement shows Income of \$120,000.00 with expenses of \$18,869.00 for an ending balance as of 12/14/01 of \$101,131.00. (Linda stated that some encumbrances were still outstanding on this fund with the largest being the fees for Vince Marron of North Carolina A+ Schools). Fund 3 – Shared Website Account shows Income of \$5,470.23 with expenses of \$2770.00 for an ending balance as of 12/14/01 of \$2700.23.

A copy of the partnership between the DaVinci Institute and the University of Central Oklahoma was distributed prior to the meeting (UCO/Oklahoma A+ Schools partnership agreement). Bob Palmer asked if all in attendance were prepared to approve the partnership proposal. Chris Markwood explained that UCO would pay 100% of the benefits for the Executive Director and 60% of the salary. He stated that they would hammer out legal and supervisory purposes. He also asked for an amendment to the fundraising clause which would stipulate that only The DaVinci Institute could raise money for the OKLAHOMA A+ Schools Program. No one opposed the amendment. Marvin Lamb explained the process of such a partnership using the weather service program at OU as a model. It was agreed that John Clinton would be ½ time Da Vinci Oklahoma A+ schools Executive Director and ½ Director of the Center for Arts

Education at UCO. It was also suggested that some areas needed to have more defined written policies. Marvin Lamb recommended a motion for the Oklahoma A+ draft stating that the Oklahoma A+ Schools lack an articulated mission statement. Bob Palmer asked for questions. Manuel Prestamo asked for clarification of funding for the Executive Director position. Are the funds at UCO coming through The Kirkpatrick Foundation? Susan McCalmont verified that this would be true until July 1, 2002 when it will become the responsibility of The DaVinci Institute. Bob Palmer recognized that new amendments may be necessary as the vision of the Institute and the Oklahoma A+ program needs change and grow. Following discussion Bob Palmer asked for a vote to accept the Oklahoma A+ Schools partnership. None were opposed.

A copy of the DaVinci Institute policy statement was also distributed. Bob Palmer asked if all in attendance were prepared to approve the partnership policy. It was suggested that approval be tabled until the January 11, 2002 meeting. Linda Tiller informed the members that DA VINCI INSTITUTE would be the legal name of the organization and that all legal papers must be addressed in this manner. Mark Parker expressed the feasibility of amendments to the policy as the vision of the DaVinci Institute changes. A motion was made for acceptance of the policy. None opposed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education- John Clinton reported on the progress of the Oklahoma A+ Schools in Oklahoma. He distributed a report which outlined the success of the regional meetings, the dates for application deadlines and naming of participating schools, an update on the video conference of that morning and a week prior with Vince Marron, Mark Parker, Susan McCalmont, John Brown, Terri Collins, Teresa Brekke, Joe Hull, Pamela Hodges, Marie Parker, and Gerry Howell. An included in the report was a list of dates for the upcoming events involving Oklahoma A+ Schools and a list of possible members for the Selection Committee for the Oklahoma A+ Schools. John also reported that thank you notes were sent out to those who attended or showed interest in the program with additional applications and contact information included.

Chris von Rosenvinge questioned the use of a member of the Tulsa Arts and Humanities on the committee. Why just the Tulsa branch and not other cities? John Clinton stated that it was just a suggestion for acquiring someone from the Tulsa area and that the Arts and Humanities group had not been singled out. Marvin Lamb suggested that if a political representative is selected to the committee it be someone who is appointed to avoid any future conflict with election changes. Nancy Barry addressed a concern of having members of the research team evaluating the selection of schools but added that after seeing the size of the board no longer sees any chance of bias. Susan McCalmont re-emphasized the importance of representing the Oklahoma A+ program as an education issue and not an Arts Education issue. Aarone Corwin and Nancy Barry questioned the process for the selection. John explained that individuals would be assigned a number of schools to know inside and out, they would also be expected to assess the others that were not specifically assigned to them. They agreed that it would run like the advisory boards. Marvin Lamb questioned whether the selection committee should decide the

criteria and Mark Parker stated that would be a great deal to expect from an outside group. The selection committee should receive the criteria from the Institute and only be responsible for selection of the schools that best fit the criteria determined by members of the Institute. Linda Tiller recommended that John Clinton draft the criteria. John accepted the recommendation with the understanding that the members of the DaVinci Institute would approve the criteria at the January 11, 2002 meeting. All agreed.

Campus Programming – Manuel Prestamo reported that the committee is picking up steam and had a very productive meeting with representatives from OSU, Murray State, OBU, UCO, SNU, SEOSU, OSAU, and OKCCC in attendance. In respect to visiting artists the committee showed a strong interest in acquiring Lynn Harrell, cellist in residence at Rice University in Houston, Texas. They were also discussing Loren Hollander a pianist and Jack Edelman a past member of the Julliard faculty with acting, directing, and dancing interests. Mark Parker inquired as to the absence of anyone for drama or art itself. Manuel Prestamo remarked that Jack Edelman would represent the drama portion of his concern and was open to any suggestions for someone that could be contacted for other art forms. Manuel Prestamo spoke of the possibility of having the various schools do a combined performance under the direction of Lynn Harrell. Marvin Lamb was concerned about where the performance would be held? How many schools and/or students would be involved? Susan McCalmont assured that an appropriate performance venue could be obtained. She also mentioned that Robert Redford would be at the Cowboy Hall and Western Heritage Museum and offered the idea of a consortium with the actor. All agreed this would be a great coup.

Public Awareness – Bob Palmer gave an update on the committee remarking that this was the first meeting with him as the chair. The brochure is in its last stage of proofing and should be ready in mid-January. The participants were given copies of the home pages of three websites that list the events of the various colleges associated with the DaVinci Institute including the Institutes personal website at www.davinciinstitute.net. The second website is located at www.okarts.org – the Oklahoma Arts Calendar. The third website is a public website and it was suggested that this not be used in association with the Institute. Bob Palmer expressed the importance of getting our name out in the community and our programs suggesting the use of these forums. The committee asked for a way to inquire about happenings at other institutes and Melissa Vincent suggested that they use the website by setting up an area similar to the Oklahoma A+ forums in which the various colleges could leave messages concerning artists they would like to share or dates that they need to fill on their cultural series so that others may share their resources. The committee also felt that it was important to define the constituency of the community that is trying to be reached and find ways to develop each area to the betterment of the Institute and Oklahoma.

Speakers – Melissa Vincent reported for Paul Hammond that the speaker for May, Samuel Hope has been secured and that Elliot Eisner would be speaking in February. However, Paul questioned whether it would be more beneficial to have Mr. Eisner at the September meeting instead to make the most efficient use of his pulling power. Those in

attendance felt the February meeting would be better. Melissa also asked for suggestions to give to Paul concerning a speaker for the September meeting.

Other Business – Linda Tiller questioned Mark Parker about the membership costs. She wanted to know the process by which to bill individual verses institutional members. Would individuals be \$75? What is the institutional fee? Mark Parker suggested that for the present the pricing in the brochure be followed: Individual \$75, student \$20, and that the fee for institutions be tabled until further discussion could follow. JoBeth Moad seconded the motion to table the institutional fee discussion. The founding institutions members would still be members without a fee due and the participating institutions would continue with the same fee as previously charged.

Bob Palmer asked if there was any further business. None responded. Lee Neibert motioned for adjournment and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. with the next board meeting of the DaVinci Institute scheduled for January 11, 2002 at OETA.