The board of Directors of the DaVinci Institute met on Friday, December 13, 2002 from 3:00-4:20 pm at the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority.
The DaVinci Institute
Board of Directors Meeting
December 13, 2002
Minutes

The board of Directors of the DaVinci Institute met on Friday, December 13, 2002 from 3:00-4:20 pm at the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority. Those in attendance were: Mark Parker, OCU; Paul Hammond, OBU; Melissa Vincent, DaVinci Institute; Teresa Brekke, Kirkpatrick Foundation; Linda Tiller, OU; Marvin Lamb, OU; David Alexander, SNU; Betty Edwards, Rose State College; Mike Gunzenhauser, OSU; Bob Palmer, UCO; JoBeth Moad, OCU and Manuel Prestamo, OKCCC.

Those not in attendance were: Susan McCalmont, Kirkpatrick Foundation; Nancy Barry, OU; Ben Bates, Langston, John Dobson, OSU, and Lee Neibert, St. Gregory’s University.

I. Welcome: Mark Parker called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

II. The minutes were read. Mark Parker asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Marvin Lamb made a motion to accept the minutes. Bob Palmer seconded. All approved.

III. Financial Report – Linda Tiller reported that the interest statements for the DaVinci Institute accounts had only recently reached her and a cumulative report of those earnings appeared in the October statement. The November statement shows a monthly accrual and henceforth a monthly report of interest earnings will be available. She reported on the expenses for October $10,103.96 and the deposits $3464.02 and also the expenses $7,500 and deposits $743.39 for November in that there was no board meeting in October. This left a total balance in the DaVinci Institute account of $60,407.61 as of 11/30/02. Bob Palmer moved for acceptance of the financial report. Paul Hammond seconded. All approved.

Linda Tiller suggested that grant writing be considered if the group decided to continue assisting with providing support for the shared resources program. She also reported that the Reynolds Foundation check for the Oklahoma A+ schools program of $175,000 was received on November 26, 2002. Mark Parker added that a check for $1,000 was received from the Kirkpatrick Foundation to be used for general operating expenses for the DaVinci Institute. He also suggested forming a committee to discuss and search out grant opportunities. Members of this committee will include Mark Parker, Melissa Vincent, Linda Tiller, Susan McCalmont and Manuel Prestamo. Linda Tiller mentioned apprehension on achieving any funding for the Scholars program with the short amount of time that remained and Melissa Vincent explained that actual distribution of any monies had a one year buffer period from the date of the naming of any scholars.

IV. Committee Reports- Education
Marvin Lamb introduced an outline form the research group. He then summarized the DaVinci Scholars proposal offered by the education committee for approval. (See attachment). Bob Palmer asked if this monetary “gift” was in addition to the current budget. Marvin Lamb stated that this is in addition to what has been budgeted. Bob Palmer then asked what the benefits were to the organization. Mark Parker commented that the program is mission driven. Bob Palmer suggested that the scholars be required to make some statement concerning their being named a “scholar.” Melissa Vincent stated that it would be encouraged that they attend future award dinners and provide background and encouragement for those who are nominated. Linda Tiller suggested that the program be funded by an annual fundraising activity and matching grants. Manuel Prestamo asked if the scholar would be an employed individual and was told that it is required that they be employed to receive any monies but that they could still be named a scholar and not receive a job. Marvin Lamb noted that the education committee did recognized that with the present economy the scholar may not be able to solicit a job. Paul Hammond asked what would happen if the student didn’t have a job in August but found one in January. Linda Tiller stated that they should receive half of the award amount. Marvin Lamb stated that the committee claimed that there exists two halves to the award- honor and monetary gain. JoBeth Moad added that if a commitment has been made to attempting to secure a job then the pledge should remain with the scholar. Mark Parker asked if there was a
motion to accept the proposal with no amendments. Paul Hammond made a motion. Linda Tiller seconded. All approved.

B. Programming – Manuel Prestamo
Manuel Prestamo summarized the discussion of the executive committee concerning the various possibilities for shared resources. He offered the names of Yehuda Goldin, Zhen Zimbalista, McLean Mix, Salzburg Marionettes, Moscow Boys Choir, Brazilian Quartet, and Shakespeare residency program as possible performers for those interested. He added that Yehuda Goldin has a performance piece with Carmen that is very appealing but didn’t know of anyone that might have an interest in that. Bob Palmer asked how the artist Yehuda Goldin came to be a possibility. Manuel Prestamo explained that his name appeared while checking on the availability of a second resource. Linda Tiller asked about the impact bringing in an Israeli might have on the state. Manuel Prestamo stated that in April a cantata was presented to celebrate the anniversary of the Holocaust and had Israeli performers and no one expressed any fears. The performance has no political statement and is not promoting Israel so there should not be any problem. The only thing that might happen is if war occurs it may be necessary to postpone due to the difficulty in traveling. Mark Parker suggested that we email constituents about the available offerings. Manuel Prestamo stated that would be fine except that monetary fees would need to be excluded. Mark Parker asked if there were any other areas that needed to have assistance other than funding. Manuel Prestamo stated that was the only area but did stress the fact that one on one communication was the best way in which to promote the availability of the performers. Manuel Prestamo added that with the current wave of the economy the bigger artists may be out since funds may not be available. Mark Parker asked if anyone had any further questions concerning programming. None were brought out.

C. Public Awareness – Paul Hammond
Paul Hammond reported that the speakers were set for the 2003-2004 year. The September speaker will be Dr. Camille Hardy formerly of NTO and now an editor for Dance Magazine and a specialist on Literacy and Dance. November will be left open for a general membership meeting. February will feature Dr. Jane Bonbright of the National Dance Education Organization who works on certification and national standards. She will also present a student forum/lecture. April will feature Dr. David Elliott author of Music Matters and professor at NYU. He also will present a student lecture and speak at the DaVinci Scholars award dinner.

V. Director’s Report – Melissa Vincent
Melissa Vincent opened with remarks about the success of the Social Science Fair that DaVinci Institute helped fund. She added that Dr. Webb, Dr. Betz and Dr. Baughman of UCO were all very appreciative of the help that was given to this program by DaVinci.

Melissa Vincent discussed the website and requested that any information that the board desired to have on the web be sent to her. She explained that there is a calendar page and that any campus that wanted an individual page could have one by sending in their information. She also asked that anyone who knew of members of DaVinci that had won an award be forwarded to her so that she could add it to the website.

In regards to the DaVinci Scholars event she discussed a venue at which to hold the event, the Regal Room that was both inexpensive and neutral. The idea to have faculty from the various colleges perform and/or display their art work was discussed as well as the possibility of having the artwork for sell with portions of the proceeds going to the DaVinci Institute. She added that a piano was on site, all audio video equipment was included in the room rental price and there were numerous menu choices and references that could be checked. She asked for a motion to accept the venue. Linda Tiller made a motion to accept the proposed site. Paul Hammond seconded. All approved. Melissa Vincent also asked for a committee to be formed to work on the logistics of the DaVinci Scholars event. Paul Hammond, Teresa Brekke, Melissa Vincent and Bob Palmer will assist with this endeavor.

David Alexander suggested contacting Donna Rinehart for support of asking for corporate sponsorship of this event so as to avoid any conflict of interest.
Linda Tiller suggested that members of the board help in seeking these donors in that they have additional “pull” with those that contribute to their individual campuses and they have a connection to both the donor and the organization. This will help until the name DaVinci Institute is more common. Bob Palmer suggested that Melissa Vincent needed to provide the operators at UCO with their name and number so that when people attempt to get in contact with the DaVinci Institute the operator knows who to connect them with. Melissa Vincent responded that she had contacted the operator several times with this information. Bob Palmer suggested walking the information over on a piece of paper so that they had a hard copy of the request.

V. Other Business
Melissa Vincent and Bob Palmer introduced the idea of a student panel on the board to give the student a voice in the organizations programs. David Alexander asked if we should be discussing membership with the students and Bob Palmer stated that this would occur in time but that presently the group is lacking in regards to reaching the students. Paul Hammond restated that the two speakers for the upcoming year are having programs focused toward students and this panel could help in development and promotion. Linda Tiller asked how difficult it would be to achieve diversity. Bob Palmer stated that it would take assistance from someone at each campus to recognize students that would be appropriate and help keep them focused and inspired. David Alexander asked if this was focused in central Oklahoma or statewide. Bob Palmer stated that the ultimate goal will be inclusive but that initially it will probably come from the central area. Marvin Lamb asked that the board empower Bob Palmer to develop a proposal for the next board meeting outlining the mission and goal of this panel and how it would be developed. Mike Gunzenhauser added that this panel could serve the same goals as the DaVinci Scholars program but that the name should be descriptive of the desires of the “panel”. Linda Tiller added that rotational meetings would help to bolster unity with the students being able to view the various campuses. Marvin made the motion that Bob Palmer compile a proposal. Linda Tiller seconded. All approved.

Linda Tiller asked if the media committee was sending out press releases. Melissa Vincent informed her that she was doing that presently. She had obtained the listings from the PR department at UCO and had distributed press releases to all newspapers, magazines and radio stations that UCO sends to and also to the various local papers.

Mark Parker asked if any other matters needed discussion. No one commented.

VI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2003 3:00 pm at OETA.