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Minutes Board of Directors Meeting: November 11, 2002

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**The DaVinci Institute
Board of Directors Meeting
November 11, 2002
Minutes**

The board of Directors of the DaVinci Institute met on Friday, November 11, 2002 from 3:00-5:05 at the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority. Those in attendance were: Mark Parker, OCU; Paul Hammond, OBU; Melissa Vincent, DaVinci; John Clinton, Oklahoma A Schools; Chris Markwood, UCO; Mary Brodnax, UCO; Linda Tiller, OU; Marvin Lamb, OU; David Alexander, SNU; Betty Edwards, Rose State College; and Mike Gunzenhauser, OSU.

Those not in attendance were: Bob Palmer, UCO; Susan McCalmont, Kirkpatrick Foundation; Teresa Brekke, Kirkpatrick Foundation, Manuel Prestamo, OKCCC, Nancy Barry, OU; Ben Bates, Langston, John Dobson, OSU, Lee Neibert, St. Gregory's; and Mike Raiber, OU.

I. Welcome: Mark Parker called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

II. The minutes were read. Mark Parker asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Linda Tiller made a motion to accept the minutes. Mike Gunzenhauser asked for one change to be made in the minutes. Marvin Lamb moved for approval of the minutes with the change. Mike Gunzenhauser seconded. All approved.

III. Financial Report – Linda Tiller reviewed the quarterly financials of the DaVinci Institute and the Oklahoma A+ Schools Program. As of September 30, 2002 Oklahoma A+ Schools has a balance of \$269,785.43. As of September 30, 2002 the DaVinci Institute has a balance of

Linda also addressed the request of members of the board to review bills for the Kenan Institute. She reported that the documentation for the payments is over 100 pages and is not advantageous to make a copy for each member of the board but that anyone who wishes to see the invoices and expenses can do so at any time by just contacting her and setting up a date.

Chris Markwood moved to accept the financial statements as presented. Paul Hammond seconded. All approved.

IV. Directors Report- Melissa Vincent discussed the need to develop criteria for the DaVinci Scholars program that is to be initiated in April 2002. Marvin Lamb added that it is important to compile the idea of the award's purpose and establish criteria in order for the education committee to develop a program that will in the best interest of all involved. Linda Tiller suggested discerning if it would be a 2 or 3 year commitment on the part of the scholar. Mike Gunzenhauser requested to know if the award is to encourage more money or professional development. Chris Markwood contributed the idea that the board needed to discuss what would keep educators in Oklahoma... more money, enrichment stipend, supplies stipend, travel stipend. Marvin Lamb provided information that showed that salaries flatten after about five years and that working conditions add to the discontent of educators. Mary Brodnax asked if there was any anecdotal evidence that there existed a teacher's shortage. John Clinton suggested the additions of a role model or mentor that would help support the first year educator. Marvin Lamb asked if it was necessary to actually have this up and running by April. Mary Brodnax suggested having the first year just as an achievement. Marvin Lamb suggested waiting until funding is secured and then grandfathering in those who were named prior to receipt of monies. Mike Gunzenhauser questioned the time constraint and Paul Hammond informed him that it was due to Ken Robinson's availability. David Alexander suggested an incremental giving structure:

1st year - \$3,000 to teacher, \$600 for supplies, \$200 for professional development

2nd year - \$4,000 to teacher, \$700 for supplies, \$300 for development

3rd year - \$5,000 to teacher, \$800 for supplies, \$400 for development

Total = \$15,000

Mark Parker agreed that this would make the scholar a hot item for schools but that the expenditures would need limits.

Mike Gunzenhauser added that it is still important to get a mentor stipend in the mix. David Alexander asked if that was typical in the public system and Mike replied that it was. Chris Markwood also agreed with the importance of a mentor for the incoming scholar. Mary Brodnax was concerned with the effect after the three years. They get used to additional money and then it is gone. Marvin Lamb replied that it would time to establish roots in the community and feel a sense of belonging. John Clinton asked what would happen if they got fired, weren't as good as they had appeared or move. It was explained that incentive is giving at completion of each year so they would just forfeit whatever they were not able to maintain in such cases. David Alexander asked if there would be funding for elementary, high school and middle school. Marvin Lamb questioned if offering this award to dance and drama students if it would stop certification work. It was suggested that a summary of criteria be given for the arts education committee and the bumps be smoothed in the coming months.

Linda Tiller summarized that there would be a three year commitment to teach in Oklahoma, there would be incremental stipends for salary, enrichment and travel and that nominations would be limited to valid certifications in the state of Oklahoma (i.e. music and art). The nominee would also need to have at least a 3.0 GPA. Linda Tiller made a motion to accept her summary. Marvin Lamb seconded. All approved.

Melissa Vincent then mentioned an opportunity for DaVinci Institute to get some name recognition in the middle schools through sponsorship of the Social Science Fair held at the University of Central Oklahoma. It would be a cost efficient way to get the name in the middle schools and be associated with learning that integrated the arts with a "core" curriculum. David Alexander stated that it seemed a viable way to get some board identity in the area and moved that the DaVinci Institute approve support in the amount of \$400 to see this project succeed. Betty Edwards seconded. Nine approved, two opposed.

Melissa Vincent then asked the Board if there would be any interest in having scholarships at the community college level. The Board did not see any benefit in this area.

V. Education – John Clinton began his report with an update on research. Nancy Barry prepared a report to be distributed to the board concerning the research aspect of Oklahoma A+ Schools. The researchers met with principals, parents, and other individuals involved in the process that had attended program activities, regional meetings, etc. They are still compiling their findings. John Clinton emphasized the fact that this research is very time intensive.

Mike Gunzenhauser gave an overview of the processes involved in gathering and compiling the data. Linda Tiller requested a bill for the Oklahoma State University portion of the research work.

John Clinton gave an update on Oklahoma A+ Schools with a summary of the mini-institutes and budget projections. The Oklahoma A+ Schools has an operational budget of \$220,000 (\$150,000 Kirkpatrick and \$70,000 Windgate). There are outstanding requests to Sonic (\$50,000), and Reynolds (\$450,000). Last year the budget spent was \$600,000. With this in mind other funders are being looked into: Sarkeys, Boeing and SBC for fiscal year 2004. The budget has been modified with the inclusion of 5 new schools (\$250,000) and 10 new schools (\$280,000). He reported that the Summer Institutes for 2002 will be \$181,000 more than the previous year due to the addition of two weeks for the incoming schools. 2001 Oklahoma A+ Schools will have 2 ½ day institutes while the 2002 schools will have the regular 5 day institute. Oklahoma School for Science and Math will charge \$5,000 for security and custodial work but is donating dorms and facilities. There will also be 2 pre-institutes for every 5 new schools. One in March and one in May. The selection committee will be paid \$125 and there are additional costs for printing of \$6,000 which puts the cost for the summer institutes (with consultation expenses) at \$45,000. John Clinton also informed the board that a printer is needed (\$1500) and additional expenditures for mileage and food can be found on the inserts.

John Clinton asked for approval of the proposed expenditures. Linda Tiller informed the board that the quarterly report actually shows \$269,000 existing in Oklahoma A+ which is closer to the needed total. Mark Parker stated that the board appreciated the tightening of the budget and charged John to not change course and to accept as many schools as possible not exceeding the approved 20 schools for the year. Mary Brodnax asked what the Reynolds grant would mean as far as acceptance of schools in the program and

John stated that it would definitely ease any discomfort in the budget. David Alexander inquired as to the amount of time John spends lobbying for private funding and John replied about 15-20%.

B. Programming – In Manuel Prestamo's absence Melissa Vincent revisited the schedule for Jack Eddleman and informed the board that the possibility of a Fulbright Scholar will have to be looked at for the 2004-2005 year due to time constraints, host problems, and the schedule of the desired scholar.

She also mentioned that Manuel Prestamo had been in contact with members of the Oklahoma Arts Institute and they desire to become involved with the activities of the DaVinci Institute. They are willing to help host the Fulbright Scholar and are holding their scholarships for the fall for the Oklahoma A+ Fellows before releasing them to the rest of the teaching population.

C. Public Awareness – Paul Hammond reported that the committee decided to place the website at charity advantage to take advantage of the low cost for the next few years and will then investigate a production site at a later time.

VI. Adjournment – Due to the late hour, Mark Parker tabled any new business and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Tiller motioned, Paul Hammond seconded, all approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:15pm