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Minutes Executive Committee Meeting: January 10, 2003

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**The DaVinci Institute
Executive Committee Meeting
January 10, 2003
Minutes**

The Executive Committee of the DaVinci Institute Board of Directors met on Friday, January 10, 2003 from 2:40 – 3:00 pm at OETA. Those in attendance were: Manuel Prestamo, OKCCC; Bob Palmer, UCO; Teresa Brekke, Kirkpatrick Foundation; Susan McCalmont, Kirkpatrick Foundation, Mary Brodnax, UCO; and Melissa Vincent, DaVinci Institute.

Those not in attendance were Mark Parker, OCU; Paul Hammond, OBU; Linda Tiller, OU and Marvin Lamb, OU.

I. Welcome Bob Palmer called the meeting.

II. Minutes: Bob Palmer asked the executive committee to read through the minutes from December 13, 2002 and requested a motion to approve. Manuel Prestamo made the motion to approve the minutes. Teresa Brekke seconded. All approved.

III. Financial Report: There was no financial report in Linda Tiller's absence.

IV. DaVinci Scholars update: Melissa Vincent reported that as approved the banquet would be held at the Regal Room and plans were underway to set up entertainment, an exhibition and a silent auction. She informed everyone that a draft of the application for scholar nominations was in their packet and asked for approval to present it to the board. Mary Brodnax mentioned the inclusion of creative writing that had been suggested to her by others she had spoken to. The committee felt it necessary to address this issue in the larger audience. Bob Palmer did add however that the board did not want to become exclusive so this was an area that needed to be considered. Manual Prestamo state that the national and state organizations for these entities do make a distinction between creative writing being an English category and not a Fine Arts category. He inquired as to whether the institutions represented on the board featured a creative writing component and was informed that at least one institution did so. The committee approved submitting the draft to the board with the exclusion, presently of creative writing.

V. Funding: Susan McCalmont addressed the need for the DaVinci Institute to begin to diversify its source of funding to include more than one funder to represent the interest that has begun to grow and give the organization more credibility.

VI. Additions to the Board: Susan McCalmont suggested presenting to the board the idea of creating an arm of the DaVinci Institute board that would encompass more of the community leadership and advocacy patrons in order to assist with funding and organization of special events. She emphasized the need for the DaVinci Institute to possess a civic presence and possibly tie this presence into those who have strong connections with the institutions that presently support the organization. She added that this would also assist in expanding the public awareness and possibly garner more support. Bob Palmer agreed that this would be a good time to initiate such a change since other additions are being considered at this point. Susan McCalmont added that recommendations from the various institutions represented by the DaVinci Institute would be essential for the success of this addition. Manuel Prestamo questioned its connection with the Oklahoma A+ board. Susan McCalmont explained that the Oklahoma A+ board is operational, more of a governance board and not charged with public awareness or fundraising. Manuel Prestamo agreed that such an addition would be beneficial but that the title of such an entity should possibly be that of "council" and could focus on the special events such as the DaVinci Scholars awards banquet. Bob Palmer added that the additional members would not be members of the official board in that many would not be willing to sit through the business of the board but as patrons of the arts would want to help the DaVinci Institute with its programs. Manuel Prestamo asked how this would be implemented. Bob Palmer suggested that someone bring a proposal for this addition to the next board meeting. Susan McCalmont stated that this needs to be fast-tracked in that they need to be on board prior to the April event.

VII. New Business: Manuel Prestamo asked if there were any plans or suggestions for the continued funding of programming for the programming committee or if the monetary issue was being placed on those institutions that might participate. Bob Palmer reported that a committee had been formed to look into this idea. Melissa Vincent stated that due to the holiday they had not convened.

VIII. Adjournment: With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm.