

MINUTES
WEST TEXAS P-16 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2007
Clear Springs Cafe
3:00 p.m.

Members present included: Mary Hunt, Hunt Advertising, Rex Peebles, Midland College, Adela Vasquez, E.C. I.S.D. Michele Harmon, M.I.S.D. Amy Burchett, Howard College, Tom Parks, UTPB, Sue Ferguson, Midland College, Ed Mills, UTPB and Jo Lynn Jones, THECB

The meeting started at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Dr. Mills began with a description of the West Texas P-16 Council Budget and explained all the encumbrances, specifically the expenses incurred for the October 19, 2007 fall conference. He mentioned the estimated \$3,000 received in registration fees, and explained that the conference almost paid for itself. He went into detail on the remaining training travel expenses and the funds set aside for the spring speakers series. As of today, there will be a significant amount to be carried over for another conference and expenses next calendar year.

Dr. Mills explained that the West Texas P-16 council would be hosting a spring speaker series. He gave the group background information on Dr. Paul Theobald who is a P-16 council organizer; concentrating on rural populations in upstate New York. He will be presenting at the UTPB CEED building on Friday, February 22, 2008. He is trying to arrange a speaking engagement with Maria Hinojosa, host of NPR Latino USA, for an evening date in April. To date he has received no response from her organizers.

Jo Lynn Jones explained about the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, "Closing the Gaps" conference, scheduled for Monday, March 24th from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in either Midland or Odessa. All the presenters are being provided by the Coordinating Board. The group decided that it would be best to have the meeting at either the MCM Elegante or Midland Hilton. Availability and prices will be checked.

The West Texas Regional P-16 Bylaws were distributed and reviewed by each member present. Dr. Mills commented that the arrangement of the west Texas area was a new concept to the Coordinating Board, and they were impressed by the new regional group model. The Bylaws were unanimously approved by all the members present.

Jo Lynn Jones then explained the THECB P-16 training scheduled for Monday, January 14, 2008 at the headquarters in Austin. An agenda is to be provided sometime next week, and will be distributed to all the members present at the meeting. All members were encouraged to attend.

At this time, the regional groups reported on their activities:

Adela Vasquez commented that ECISD is in the process of aligning itself with UTPB and OC in regards to curriculum development. She also reported that Hector Mendez is planning on hiring a P-16 person for ECISD.

Amy Burchett reported that Howard County ISD is planning on initiating kindergarten graduation this spring. They are also planning on implementing a celebrity match-up program between 5th grade students and Howard College athletes and students. She also reported that Howard College is going to develop its own GO-Center model. Instead of having a presence on each high school campus throughout the school year; Howard College is going to sponsor 1-2 week GO-Center workshops. Depending on the size of the high school, college personnel will be on campus all day and into the evenings in order to meet with parents for either one week or two during the spring semester.

It was decided that the West Texas P-16 council will host another fall conference. Friday, October 17, 2008 was selected as the date.

Dr. Mills asked if there was any new business and the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.