

Diversity Section Business Meeting
August 3, 2010
San Francisco, California

Pamela C. Smith opened the business meeting at 7:17am. She welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for allowing her to serve as president. She also reminded members to be sure to keep bringing in friends and colleagues to join the Diversity section. She encouraged us to attend the Diversity sessions at the AAA, which were so nicely organized by Ray Elson. She announced that this year's Diversity conference is November 5-7 in Atlanta. Submission deadline is August 16.

- Lewis Stewart, co-chair for the meeting in Atlanta, encouraged everyone to submit their papers, including works-in-progress. Mark Dawkins mentioned that we don't have discussants, therefore we have a very lively discussion and everyone participates and gives feedback.
- Pamela announced that doctoral students will get a separate call for papers which Mark Dawkins will handle.

Henock Lewis, treasurer, presented the financial report. Current balance (4/30) is about 37,000. Pamela said we still need sponsors for the Diversity meeting. If you know firms in Atlanta, please contact them.

David Boynton, AAA, presented a Diversity section membership report. Currently the section has 284 active members including those who joined at the meeting. Pamela met her goal of increasing membership this year.

Pamela presented the officer nominations. The council representative for the Diversity section will be Kathryn Epps. Other officers nominated are Amelia Baldwin as Vice-President/President-Elect, Arianna Pinello as Secretary, Newsletter Editor Sandra Gates. Of course, President is Kathryn Epps. Officers were elected by acclamation.

Appointed positions: Louis Stewart and Catherine Cleaveland are serving as co-chairs of the midyear meeting for 2010 and will continue in 2011. Ray Elson chaired the AAA in 2010 and he's agreed to continue that for the 2011 meeting.

Amelia presented last year's minutes, which were approved as amended to correct Louis' name.

Sandra Gates reminded us to send by email to sgates@txwest.edu any announcements for the newsletter.

Pamela then turned the meeting over to new President Kathryn Epps.

Kathryn Epps thanked Pamela for serving as president 2009-2010 and presented her with a plaque.

Kathryn said how honored she is to serve our exciting and energetic section. She has been listening to the comments and suggestions of the members. Those of you who attended the past few Diversity conferences will remember how we have been challenged in some way. Two years ago, we heard a challenge to move into administration and we had several folks (Mark Dawkins, Kathryn Epps, Carol

Brown) move up into administration, and we were challenged last year to obtain chaired professorships and Amelia Baldwin was hired into a chaired professorship this year.

Kathryn also announced that the 2011 Diversity meeting will be in Fort Lauderdale. She also thanked the past leaders of the group who encouraged her to take responsibilities within the section, most particularly Cheryl Allen, Cynthia Jackson, Mark Dawkins, and Pamela C. Smith.

Kathryn reminded us that papers do not have to be diversity related to be submitted to the conference. We have a very broad definition of diversity topics and we encourage members to present their current work, no matter what the topic within accounting. Presenters will get excellent feedback and interaction at the conference. Our goal is to help our members get the feedback needed to ultimately publish in journals.

For 2010-2011, Kathryn will help the section work on two main things. First, we will be promoting diversity within the accounting profession. What can we do as the section to promote diversity in the profession? Second, we will be promoting diverse research. Kathryn is appointing Task Forces, with deliverables and due dates, to accomplish these two things. Task Force on Dissemination of Diversity Related Research will be chaired by Amelia Baldwin. The Task Force on Promoting Diversity in the Profession will include Ken Henry. Kathryn will be working closely with both task forces to promote diversity in the profession and in research. If you are interested in helping with a task force, let Kathryn know.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in November. You can email Kathryn at kepps@kennesaw.edu.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45a.m.