



CEC Student Chapter Faculty Advisors' Roundtable
2008 CEC Convention & Expo
Friday, April 4, 2008 – 8:15-10:00 am
Boston, MA – Sheraton Hotel
- Notes -

Participants: 64 faculty advisors and representatives from student chapters and state/provincial units (list attached). Other participants: Shea Obremski, CEC Student Committee; Andrea Abel, CEC Student Committee; Susan Simmons, Director, Membership Services, CEC; and Renee Coates, Administrative Assistant, Membership Services, CEC.

CEC staff provided an overview of the Student Transition 2 Professional Membership Program and encouraged the faculty advisors and leaders to actively promote this program. Information on the spring 2008 Student Transition 2 Professional membership campaign was provided, and the Career Center/Job Bank was highlighted. The dates for the 2008 Back-to-School student membership campaign (August 1-October 31, 2008) were announced.

Faculty Advisors from four of the five chapters participating in the CEC/CEC-PD Student Mentoring Pilot (Lynn DeCapua-Georgian Court University, Marya Grande-Canisius College, Stephen Kroeger-University of Cincinnati, and Craig Miner-Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville) shared that the mentoring has been a beneficial experience for all persons involved. The Steering Committee will survey everyone involved in the pilot, and a recommendation will be made to the CEC Board of Directors on this program.

Wendy Ehrensberger, Faculty Advisor from Dowling College and New York State CEC, began the discussion, "What's Working For You?" to start the roundtable discussions focusing on establishing and maintaining healthy CEC student chapters. Notes from these roundtable discussions follows:

Student Member Recruitment and Retention and Transition to Professional Membership

- In Introduction to Special Education course, link professionalism to membership in CEC
- Professors model by bringing CEC journals to class
- Require students to join CEC; use journals for text
- Require membership as part of program/major
- Can't require membership, but give credit for CEC membership
- Offer bonus points to students who join/renew CEC membership
- Get state CEC representative to come to the university to talk to the students to recruit for membership
- Instead of text books, require membership to access journals/research information
- Waive textbook purchase and ask students to get a membership instead so they will have access to CEC journals and resources
- Faculty advisor volunteer to advise freshmen education majors
- Faculty advisor teach Introduction to Special Education and include requirement to attend at least two CEC student chapter meetings as part of that introductory class
- Freshman seminar – require students to attend a CEC meeting

- Sophomore year – required assignment to use CEC journals to do research
- College of Education requires professional development activities in student’s professional portfolio, so join CEC and participate to fulfill this requirement
- Faculty advisors need to get their colleagues involved in recruiting students
- Enthusiastic advisors is key to attracting students
- Target regular education majors
- One university chapter has as its goal to get as many regular education majors to join as there are special education majors in the chapter
- Encourage non special education majors to join
- Do a big event to entice students to become members due to the excitement
- Chapter sponsored a Halloween Party that was so popular and got such buzz that everyone joined the next day
- New members get free t-shirts (cost subsidized by existing members)
- Student chapter gives \$10 discount to new and renewing members
- Tap into conference/convention to generate enthusiasm for membership
- Graduate Assistants must be a CEC member—prerequisite to being a GA
- Capping ceremony—welcome to the teaching profession
- Make sure that permanent mailing address for May and December graduates is sent to CEC for follow-up on their membership

Student Chapter Leadership, Participation, and Communication

- Feed them! Pizza is good.
- Feed student officers regularly and give them as many perks as possible.
- Faculty nominates talented students to be officers. Sends official “letter of nomination” to students. This is motivating to potential officers.
- Recognize leadership skill/potential and personally invite the student(s) to get involved
- Keep officers on committees to entice freshmen and sophomores involvement – they become leaders in future years
- Officer ladder – transition to position
- Shadow officers to learn the position
- Mix undergraduate and graduate – undergraduate better leaders
- Use underclassmen right
- Have co-presidents: one new person and one returning so they can support each other in the role
- Officer term starts in January because student teaching starts in January
- One semester responsibilities versus entire school year
- Provide instruction to chapter leaders on Roberts Rules of Order, how to run a meeting, and how to take minutes
- Connect student chapter with local professional chapter
- Engage students and connect them at the state level
- Invite regular education to CEC activities and meetings – don’t have to be a member
- Let all students participate even if not a paid member
- Newsletter focusing on student activities
- Meet often
- Meet via e-mail and four times per year at state conference
- Use e-mail
- Facebook
- Web site
- Bulletin board

Social Activities, Service Activities, and Professional Development

- Sponsor activities that give direct contact with students with disabilities – not just meetings
- Disability Awareness Week competition among different groups – provides more visibility for the student chapter
- Good workshops: principals and first year teachers
- Professional development speakers at each meeting
- Partner with local high school to provide opportunity for students to mentor high school students with disabilities
- Cook and provide dinners 3 times per year at Ronald McDonald House
- Homecoming float
- “Adopt” a special needs child through another program
- Collaborate with other student educational organizations (NEA student groups) on projects
- Facilitate collaboration among different student organizations

Attending State/Provincial Conference and CEC Convention

- Point system for members: earn money, door prizes, get free stuff
- Must apply to attend CEC convention (blatzsl@jmu.edu)
- Present at TED Kaleidoscope (research) poster/roundtable session at CEC convention
- Present at state conference and bring other students
- Get students supported (financially and otherwise) to attend state and national conference
- Second year officers get funding from local/state CEC to attend CEC convention
- State CEC lets students attend the state conference for free. Some work as volunteers at the conference to earn their free registration.
- Contact the state/provincial CEC for ways student chapters/members can be involved

Fundraising

- Pretzels dipped in chocolate
- T-shirts: have contest to design and winner gets a free t-shirt with their design
- T-shirts: “Exceptional Teachers for Exceptional Children”
- Tote bags
- Tie-dye bags
- Did not work: discount cards
- Silent auction for students at state conference
- Raffles at Parent’s Weekend
- Car wash: businesses paid \$50 to have their business cards put in bags given to car wash customers
- Parsons Community Day fundraiser
- Coupon books
- Scholastic Book Fair is a great fundraiser! Contact Scholastic on how to set it up.
- Senior faculty are asked to write grants to support the CEC student chapter
- Membership drive to increase number of members and thereby increase the amount of money received from state CEC
- State CEC Student Association and student chapters help out each other
- State CEC gives mini-grants to student chapters for projects and recruitment
- Student government gives “official” student groups an annual stipend so we make sure our chapter meets campus requirements for “official” status

2008 Student Chapter Faculty Advisors' Roundtable Participants
(*Indicates chapter representative, but not the Faculty Advisor)

Nancy Aguinaga, University of Southern Indiana (forming)
Chukwuma Ahanonu, Mississippi Valley State University Chapter #1066
Tina Atkins*, Central Michigan University Chapter #0566
Joan Bacon, Augustana College Chapter #0633 (SD)
Andrew Battles*, Western Kentucky University Chapter #0960
Sharon Blatz, James Madison University Chapter #0470 (VA)
Joyce Brandes, University of Oklahoma Chapter #0897
Amy Camardese, Westminster College (PA)
Diane Carroll, Metropolitan State College of Denver Ch #0990 (CO)
Helen Dainty, Tennessee Tech University Chapter #0998
Jeanne Danneker, Winona State University Chapter #1072 (MN)
Lynn DeCapua, Georgian Court University Chapter #0970 (NJ)
Michelle Doty, Lewis Clark State College Chapter #1201 (ID)
Wendy Ehrensberger, Dowling College Chapter #1141 & New York State CEC Student Advisor
Myra Fall, Saginaw Valley St University Ch #0053 (reactivating) (MI)
Julie Fee, University of Guam Chapter #1203
Ellen Griffin*, North Park University Chapter #1206 (IL)
Marya Grande, Canisius College Chapter #0432 (NY)
Deborah Griswold, University of Kansas Chapter #0197
Arlene Hall, Murray State University Chapter #0193 (KY)
Wendy Harriott, Monmouth University Chapter #0691 (NJ)
Monica Harris, Western Michigan University Chapter #0346
Hammam Hasan, Spalding University Chapter #1199 (KY)
Laurie Jepsen*, Michigan CEC Student Faculty Advisor
Debra Johnson, Prairie View A&M University Ch #0987 (reactivating) (TX)
Suzanne Kemp, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chapter #0505
Stephen Kroeger, University of Cincinnati Chapter #0080 (OH)
Joan Levine, California State University-Fullerton Chapter #0485
Jerry Liss, Emporia State University Chapter #0904 (KS)
Sandra Mathis, Norfolk State University Chapter #0697 (VA)
Amy Mazur, George Washington University #1009 (reactivating) (DC)
Joan McDonald, Arizona State University-West Chapter #0090
Linda McDowell, University of Southern Mississippi Chapter #0622
Margaret McLane, College of Saint Rose Chapter #0443 (NY)
Rebecca McMullen, Georgia College & State Univ Ch #0996 & Georgia Student CEC Faculty Advisor
Anthony Menendez, Cleveland State University Chapter #0863 (OH)
Martha Mercantini, St. Joseph's University (PA)
Linda Miller-Dunleavy, Old Dominion University Chapter #0883 (VA)
Craig Miner, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville Ch #0696
Mary Morningstar, University of Kansas Chapter #0197
Susan O'Rourke, Carlow University (forming) (PA)
Darlene Perner, Bloomsburg University Chapter #0370 (PA)
Lori Peterson, University of Northern Colorado Chapter #0381
Patti Powell, Trinity Christian College Chapter #0233 (IL)
Julia Reffel, Valdosta State University Chapter #0424 (reactivating) (GA)
Zuhar Rende, Clark Atlanta University Chapter #0619 (GA)
Eileen Sabbatino, St. Joseph's University (PA)
Mary Schreiner, Alvernia College Chapter #PAR5 (PA Region 5)

Deborah Scott, New Castle County Vo-Tech School District (DE)
Cynthia Simpson, Sam Houston State University Chapter #0815 (TX)
Carolin Sinkfield, Texas A&M-Kingsville-San Antonio (forming)
Vicky Spencer, Sam Houston State University Chapter #0815 (TX)
Robert Stansberry, Carroll College Chapter #0472 (MT)
Shirley Steffens, Northwest Missouri State University Chapter #0115
Karen Troup, University of Cincinnati Chapter #0080 (OH)
Claire Verden, West Chester University Chapter (forming) (PA)
Joanne Vesay, Rider University Chapter #0262 (PA)
Donna Wadsworth, University of Louisiana-Lafayette Chapter #1063
Karen Wagner, Florida CEC Student Chapter Advisor
Hsuying Ward, California State University-Chico Chapter #0627
David Watkins, Muskingum College Ch #1067 (reactivating) (OH)
Robin Wells, Eastern New Mexico University Chapter #0142
Caron Westland, University of Colorado-Denver Chapter #0721
Kimberly Zgonc, Georgia Southern University Chapter #0675