

NPDA Minutes from 11/21/03
NCA Meeting: Miami Beach

1. Call to Order: Sharon Porter

2. Agenda: It was M/S/P that we move proposals from the Prescott Retreat for consideration before old business.

3. Committee Reports:

a. Sharon Porter, President: A summer conference happened in Prescott, AZ. One hundred and thirteen proposals were generated. While these move on as business, proposals for revised committee structures are functioning in an add hoc fashion. She and Ed Inch attended the AFA and CEDA meetings. We share many goals with them. National tournament preparations are underway. Al Johnson and the author of our tournament software will be there. The site visit was positive. Thanks to Becky, Skip, Konrad, et al for all the hard work.

b. Ed Inch, VP and Editor: The journal is not out yet, but will be soon. IDEA is doing the printing. It is a double issue with all the papers. Trish will be taking over as editor. She will be working to develop themes out of papers presented at NCA. There is a lot of research being done and we hope to use it.

c. Renea Gernant, Exec Secretary: The spreadsheet has been updated. All tournaments received are present except for CSU-Northridge. Any mistakes that are found in the spreadsheet should be sent to Rgernant@cune.edu for correction. Thanks for sending and letting me know and checking on the information for the spreadsheet.

d. Brent Northup, Treasurer: First to Prescott—balance of \$16,137. After spending time with an accountant we will continue to keep a reserve for fines, etc. In regards to the Prescott trip and providing transparency—Quickbooks online has a password for officers to access. The monthly disbursement reports are going out and these include expenses, invoices, etc. There are 144 members—there was a slight error with AFA but it has been fixed. If you wish to host the Irish, go to the [website](#) for more information. Tryout information is available on the [website](#) as well. Sharon thanked Brent for all his work pre-and post-Prescott.

e. Michael Dreher, Website: The website has been updated, and now includes a search function. The journal is in the process of being converted to electronic form, and will be posted to the website, including past issues. Send topics and win/loss percentages to Michael to post in order to help others in topic selection and teaching/practicing.

f. Trischa Goodnow, Journal Editor: Areas she hopes to focus on: communication discipline and parli., who we are and what do we want, and student voices. It is suggested that the journal be printed more regularly in a credible and professional development format. Perhaps it could be bundled with Controversia (IDEA). Finally, NPDA wants your articles for the journal.

g. Keith West, Student Rep: There were other students there and that is good. Concerns: It is preferred that we have written philosophies for critics as well as judge training sessions. The wording and direction of resolutions is frustrating, brings unfair ground, and students want equitable ground. Sharon says students were at the Prescott conference.

h: Cal - Northridge, Tourney Host: Thanks to District I for the travel money—Skip, Konrad, Taylor. The hotel is at a different location other than the tourneys and is a great place, gives a national feeling. Restaurants are within walking distance and the hotel is in a safe neighborhood. There are one hundred seventy-five classrooms available and the discount to the Universal Studios is appreciated.

I: Konrad Hack, Tournament Director (absent): Tab room will be prepped 2 times over. The invite will be sent out soon. Pairing of rounds one and two need to be ready to go the night before. If Konrad doesn't do that we are all prepared to physically assault him.

j: Lisa Ashby, CSHD: Based upon the working budget, we will get a lawyer to look at proposal and get the legal reviews.

k: Robert Trapp, Finance Committee: Initial report is a rough, but working draft based upon status quo and by-laws. We will have discussions after about what is in the budget but we will not be making changes. We are working on a vision for how to spend money in attempt to clarify expenses to be made. Precedent categories for expenses include: transportation for NPDA (may or may not use), hired judges—may import judges. A discretionary amount will be put aside for the President in case it is needed. Also, the discretionary amount for NCA travel may not be spent. Tournament director-judge booklet money is saved and can be downloaded. Results may be able to be downloaded as well. Outreach committee is not included—see Kate's report. What is a fiscal year? We need to define that. We need another report in CA--to be submitted in March--for the June-to-June year.

Questions from floor: Jeremy Grace: What is \$1000 for gifts? Trapp: For tab and outgoing officers, etc. Grace: Phone and entertainment for Irish? Keep in contact and selection of American students? Brent: Travel coordination and entertainment for one day for NPDA. Steve: Who decides discretion? Trapp: Executive Council. Sharon: Part of Prescott to decide. Trapp: He argues that we can't tie executive council hands to numbers in budget so it is flexible, let good people spend money—trust them. Brent: Finance and expense okay—weird costs. Kevin Minch: What is the present window of discretion? Trapp: Compare it post spending. Grace: What about vendors and trophies? Brent: Midwest Trophy was the vendor who was recommended. We will keep looking. We now save quad-octs trophies to save money. Grace: Concerned about big money. Sharon: It's okay, here is where it all goes. John Meany: Why labeled as line items such as Irish not outreach? Skip: We do need to minimize host school expenses. Sharon:

Look at Prescott first and finances from them before we do more. Dreher: Shawnalee Whitney has video from 2003 available from Univ. of Alaska.

- l. Nominations Committee, Ed Inch:
Secretary-Gernant, Rogers, Stapleton
Treasurer-Northup
Nominations open until the end of the meeting.

m. Outreach Committee, Kate Schuster: Outreach chair is happy about outreach because we need to grow. International college and high school numbers are lower than NPDA. Encourage member schools to get grants and develop it in their area. Problem: First we need the money for the grants. There are thirteen schools that sponsor state championships for high school. Thanks to all and Steve Litman for outreach. Some bad news is that our committee structure is not so good—domestic, international and ad hoc projects with budgets are competing for money. Outreach will withdraw its proposal from Prescott and rewrite to make stuff solid. She will submit a list to the parliament and web of High School Tourneys. Trapp: Concern with money was that we didn't realize outreach was to give grants. Kate: Need to have some sort of money set aside for the committee, make this an action item for the reform committee. Steve: Keep Ad Hoc until when? Kate: Take reconstruction action now but no funding until next year. Trish: Some will not like that we are a grant giving organization. Kate: If we don't have money then we have no need for the committee and its projects.

Move to Extend Meeting: M: Dreher-Extend by 10 minutes. 2nd by Gernant. Passed.

- n. Professional Development: No report.
- o. Publications Committee: Done above.
- p. Site and Hosting, Skip Rutledge: SMU and Texas Tech are willing to cohost. Good bid by Ric Schaefer and Joe Grant. (Accepted by Executive Council.) Official recommendation is that the committee start thinking about other years. Prescott tried to make the process better. We would like to move east and south for graphic representation. Dates: March 17-21, 2005 which is our traditional time in year.

4. PRESCOTT

Sharon Prologue: Some are more controversial than others. She and Trapp concluded that there were nine items that need more discussion and we don't want to rush through them. We need to decide which to send to mail ballot and which to keep for NPDA for discussion.

The following items were discussed for purposes of how to handle only:

1. Article III, By-Law 6: Legislative assembly proposal-majority of members not at NCA. District elect three representatives to attend meeting. Eliminate college representative. Replace NCA meeting. Change district systems to reflect travel. M/S/Passed to postpone.

2. Financial system needs refinement in the language. M/S/Passed to postpone.

3. Outreach has withdrawn. Keep Ad-Hoc and await discussion of revised proposal.

There was some discussion regarding whether By-Laws can be sent by mail ballot or not. There are two interpretations of current language in constitution (the initial interpretation under which the packet was initially sent and an interpretation which indicates business must be done in a business meeting only). Body determined that by-laws should to be discussed and passed at a meeting and not in a mail ballot. (This action ensures that the legality of decisions won't be challenged later because it is CLEARLY within constitutional guidelines at that point.)

4. Season Sweepstakes change to Honor Awards: M/S/Passed to postpone.

5. Changing Sanctioning System for Affiliate Members: M/S/Passed to postpone.

6. Guidelines for Novice and Junior: M/S/Passed to postpone.

7. Expand tournament to a ten round event: M/S/Passed to postpone.

8. Break Brackets: M/S/Passed to postpone.

9. Tourney Sweeps Changes: M/S/Passed to postpone.

Grace: Can we amend constitution to allow for mail by-laws? Michael and Renea: Yes, but it needs to be submitted as a motion, discussed and then sent as a mail ballot itself.

Trapp: Move to send out remaining amendments from Prescott now. Renea seconds.

Question called. M/S/ Passed. General Question: Can we vote for remaining none controversial by-laws now? Yes, technically. Brent: Not safe. Michael: That enables contradictions to be passed. Kuster: Move to send out non-controversial by-laws as an advisory ballot and results will be given at meeting and then voted on officially in CA.

Passed. Trapp: Move to advance South Carolina motions ahead and table to next meeting. M/S/Postponed indefinitely.

5. Nominations close.

6. M/S/P to adjourn.