Minutes
Federation of Business Disciplines
Board of Directors’ Meeting
March 6, 2010

Sheraton Dallas Hotel (Press Club, 9:00 A.M.)

Attendees:

Michelle McEacharn  FBD President
Marsha Bayless   FBD Program Vice-President and General Program Chair
Larry Garner   FBD Chair-Elect
Tom Tolleson   FBD Secretary/Treasurer
Betty Kleen   Executive Director and FBD Past-President (2007-2008)
Leonard Love   FBD Director of Marketing
Carla Barber   Director of Placement
Ashish Chandra   FBD Immediate Past President (2008-2009)
Chu Nguyen   Academy of International Business, Southwest
Anisul Islam   Academy of International Business, Southwest
Dennis Togo   American Accounting Association, Southwest
Robert Walsh   American Accounting Association, Southwest
Margaret Kilcoyne   Association for Business Communications, Southwestern U.S.
Daniel Friesen   Association for Business Information Systems
Roslyn Turner   Association for Business Information Systems
Kishwar Joonas   Association of Collegiate Marketing Educators
Paul Cronan   Decision Sciences Institute, Southwest
Roderick Posey   Decision Sciences Institute, Southwest
Suzanne Clinton   Southwest Academy of Management
Janice Black   Southwest Academy of Management
Jeffrey Miller   Southwest Case Research Association
James Philpot   Southwestern Finance Association
Natasha Delcoure   Southwestern Finance Association
Mihai Nica   Southwestern Society of Economists

* If applicable, indicates participation at board meeting as an observer who does not have voting privilege.

Special Note: The FBD Executive Director, Director of Marketing, Director of Placement, Historian and Webmaster are non-voting board positions.

I. McEacharn, on behalf of David Paul, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and gave a general welcome. She reminded everyone that officer changes are effective with the Saturday morning FBD meeting. Thus, the presidency passed from Paul to McEacharn. Bayless is now Vice President and General Program Chair; Larry Garner is Vice President and General Program Chair-Elect. McEacharn then asked each of the Board members to introduce themselves and name the association they represent.
II. McEacharn asked Tolleson to provide each attendee a copy of the minutes for the Wednesday, March 3, Board of Directors’ meeting. After a review of the minutes, Posey noted that an asterisk should be placed by his name on the list of attendees for the March 3 meeting; Posey moved (Cronan second) to accept the minutes as read subject to the editorial correction. The minutes were approved.

III. General Program Chair McEacharn gave her conference report and stated that, overall, the conference went well. She acknowledged that we do have areas for improvements and that we will work on those. A motion was made and seconded to congratulate McEacharn for a great conference. Board members signaled passage of the motion with their applause and laudatory remarks.

IV. Director of Marketing, Leonard Love, noted that feedback from our exhibitors was positive. The exhibitors shared with Love that they liked having registration in the same room as the exhibits and that placing registration at the back of the Exhibit Hall generated more traffic for them. Love encouraged FBD membership to compliment those book reps whose companies sponsored a booth at the conference. Love also asked for names of other exhibitors that are represented at any conferences that the membership attends. McEeacharn, Love and Kleen will all work to attract other exhibitors for future FBD meetings.

V. Because no one “officially” filled the Coordinator of Registration position for the 2010 meeting, Tolleson provided the “unofficial” registration numbers, including preliminary on-site registrations. Tolleson cautioned that the numbers could change (though not significantly) for any association once he prepares the final registration reports.

VI. Director of Placement, Carla Barber, stated the placement had 12 positions and 23 applicants. She noted that the number of advertised positions is down significantly from a few years ago and also down by over half from the previous year. State hiring freezes and budget cuts no doubt impacted the number of placement positions. Barber reported that FBD is working on year-round placements. The developments will be shared with the associations as we make progress. Kleen added that she is working on a list of schools in the region and then beyond; also, she plans to contact PhD institutions to encourage their grads to post on the FBD website. We need applicants and positions. Kleen explained that applicants are not charged for posting a vita. Positions generate revenue, which certainly has a positive contribution to FBD’s overall financial health.

VII. Secretary/Treasurer, Tom Tolleson, discussed payments to the associations. The payment process will be different this year since all of the associations, except the Southwestern Finance group, chose to put their food and beverage charges on FBD’s master bill. Each association’s food and beverage charges, along with any association’s incidental charges, will be deducted from that association’s registration fees. McEacharn explained that the hotel has been very good about updating the master bill, and before we sign off on the bill, we will also have a representative from the association sign off or send an acknowledgment.

VIII. Betty Kleen, Executive Director, stated that she will request our webmaster to update the website for the Houston meeting next week. Kleen reviewed with the Board her efforts to contain costs and take us more “green.” We will continue to explore AV setups for the long-term. Once we have our next few future meetings solidified, she can work on other “value-added” items.

IX. Marsha Bayless, Vice President and General Program Chair, shared that 9 out of 10 program chairs were present at the new program chairs meeting this morning. The other organization had a representative. Based on the initial feedback she has received, Bayless anticipates that Boot Camp will be held in June.
X. Routine Administrative Issues

A. McEacharn reviewed rules for the Nominating Committee. The by-laws read that the Nominating Committee shall consist of the three most recent past presidents who are willing to serve and two other voting members of the board. These latter members cannot be from the same associations as those of the past presidents serving on the committee. Don Mosley (Case) and James Philpot (Finance) were nominated and seconded. Posey moved for nominations to close. Mosley and Philpot were elected by acclamation to serve on the committee.

B. McEacharn then provided an overview of the Site Selection Committee. Members of this committee include the Executive Director, the most recent past Program Chair willing to serve and one additional committee member. Excluding the Executive Director, the members of the Site Selection Committee are limited to a $250 expense reimbursement per site visit. Kleen stated that we have a site visit scheduled for Albuquerque on Friday, March 12. Albuquerque’s Tourist and Convention Center has put together a package for us to consider. The meeting rooms will be in the convention center. Kleen has looked at the logistics of the facilities, and it appears that the proposal is workable. Tolleson proposed that Kleen and McEacharn go and allow Dennis Togo, who resides in the Albuquerque area, to visit the hotel at a later date if the March 12 date conflicts with his schedule. Posey seconded the motion. Motion approved.

C. In its meeting on March 3, 2010, the Board approved of going to New Orleans for the 2012 meeting and requested that each association bring back feedback from the membership. McEacharn asked for feedback on the decision, and, overall, the response was positive.

XI. Strategic Issues

A. Kleen shared with the Board the suggestion from the FBD Journal Committee. (Members are Dennis Togo (Accounting), Nick Twigg (SWAM), Alex Sharland (SWCRA and Chair of the committee), Ann Wilson (ABC) and Sharon Thach (SSE). After deliberations, the committee was supportive of moving forward with an FBD journal. One idea that the committee proposed was publishing those papers that earned “Best Paper Awards.” Discussion ensued. Philpot noted that authors of the best finance papers are not going to consider the FBD journal as a publication outlet for their papers; thus, we may face an adverse selection problem. Philpot suggested that FBD provide an option to the authors of the paper awards. Those authors, if they chose, could publish their papers in the FBD journal; otherwise, they could chose not to publish their papers in the FBD journal. Friesen noted that ABIS also has its own journal. Representatives of DSI and SSE said that their associations also have their own journals. Cronan added that the best way for FBD to go was to form an editorial board and identify a niche. He offered that maybe the journal should be about pedagogical research. Although many challenges related to the publication of an FBD journal remain to be resolved, overall the Board was receptive to the committee’s proposal to proceed with the idea. Kleen noted that she will appoint the FBD president with the task of moving this item’s planning forward for the next year.

B. Kleen also updated the Board on FBD’s plan to provide a year-round placement service. Kleen, Barber and McEacharn are working out the details; payment capability is in place at this point. Kleen surmised that recruiting does not occur in the spring, rather in the fall. So, this affords us some time to tweak the details. She added that we must set fees that keep it affordable.
XII. Operational Issues

A. Kleen stated that the Dallas Sheraton did a considerably better job with the vegetarian options than we experienced with the Renaissance in Oklahoma City. She said that we know that we had an issue with opening online registration. We did get it up, and we did get it working. We are going to try to keep the website updated.

B. Kleen commented that she monitored the room block very carefully. Kleen reviewed why it is important for our room block to be met. Hotels will not give us a “hotel.com” rate because we are using their meeting rooms. Each association should remind their membership of this reason.

C. Joonas expressed concern about the setup time between a meal session and the next presentation session. Kleen noted that some of these issues arise because of the associations’ room request demand.

D. Comments about the AV package were generally favorable. IT support was very visible on the first day but appeared to be less visible on the second day of the conference.

XIII. The meeting adjourned at 11:10.