

ACAO Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, March 11, 2017
Washington, DC

Attending: Laura de Abruna, Rick Miranda, Kevin Carman, Pat Chute, ACAO Member, Paul Starkey, Risa Palm, Martha Potvin, April Mason, B.J. Reed

ACAO Representative: Theresa Gibbon

Digital Fellows Project: Casey Green, Campus Computing and Jim Ptaszynski, Gates Foundation

The meeting is called to order. Laura welcomed everyone and began with an introduction of Louis Soares, Vice President of Research at ACE.

ACAO / ACE Collaboration - Louis Soares, VP of Research at ACE, met with the Board on the potential of collaborative research with the two organizations. This research would be focused on digital learning and the use of analytics. The research would examine a broadening of the use of analytics to improve student performance, retention, completion, etc. The Board is very interested and encouraged ACE to include representatives from all sectors of Higher Education (CFO, CIO, etc.). Mr. Soares asked the board to submit ideas or questions of apparent gaps in knowledge on the subject and where the ACAO board believes it can be most applicable.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

ACE historically does periodical monographs on Higher Education issues – As technology enables systems changes: how does it really become effective (beyond the rhetoric/disruptive forces)? There is a suggestion that that ACAO and ACE are under leveraging their membership as a research base. The “Digital Space” is an initial suggested topic but Mr. Soares is open to additional topics.

B.J. Reed pointed out that Chaouki Abdallah is very interested in the analytic side at University of New Mexico. He also indicated that the University of Nebraska, Omaha makes use of analytics consistently with concentrations on financial data, student outcomes and academic performance.

Discussion continued regarding the tactical and strategic use of analytics, the position of the provost and decision making.

Louis Soares agreed to provide a summary of next steps for ACAO.

Financial Report: Risa Palm provided a review of the 2016 financials and explained how these numbers tie to a drop in membership.

Digital Fellows update:

Two documents were provided:

- Digital Fellows Project - an overview of the project, leadership, and activities. This information will be posted to the ACAO website. Attended SXSW to promote. Will be promoting through a number of other venues.
- FAQ - this will also be posted to the web.

Laura Niesen de Abruna provided a status update for the Digital Fellows Project. She explained that the Senior Leadership Group, comprised of members of the ACAO Board, will review Digital Fellows Applications. Laura reminded the board that she will continue to provide status updates to the board for this project moving forward.

Discussion of the Digital Fellows Project continued regarding the following:

- Move the understanding of the innovation to the personal and professional agenda of the provost.
- Members of the ACAO Board should attend one of the convenings. This creates opportunities for Board member to be transformed as well.
- Project Goal to transform teaching and learning on campus beyond simply purchasing a new learning management platform.
- ACAO's ability to add value by providing the tools, questions, guides to help others to evaluate.

Jim Ptaszynski reviewed courseware in context.org explaining that a grant was given to titan partners in Boston with OLC, SRI and others to discern the state of courseware today based on new learning science. He explained that Gates is putting together a Digital Showcase that will be cloud based and allow schools to access and test a number of tools, to upload multiple products from multiple companies without going through a salesman and to provide a place for people to place their reviews.

He added that these Digital Fellows Project outcomes could be showcased as an ACAO member benefit.

ACTION ITEM: With the correction of Kevin Carman's name, the January minutes will be approved. B.J. moved, Rick Miranda seconded. Approved.

ACE & ACAO - Rick and Connie spoke w Jim Sirianni about increasing connections between ACAO and the ACE Fellows. ACAO would like to promote our membership through a variety of means including potential webinars showcasing content from ACAO.

B.J. also spoke with Jim Sirianni regarding the inclusion of ACAO members on the ACE Fellows panels at their convenings. Jim asked if ACAO could put together cases for Fellows to study. Jim also asked for mentors from the ACAO Membership. B.J. agreed to follow up with Sherie Hughes, ACE Fellow Leader.

Advisory Board - potential of having emeritus members serve as an advisory group. A proposal was disseminated. Theresa advocates. Laura moves, and B.J. second. Approved.

New ACAO Board Members - approximately half the membership voted approving the slate of nominees. New Board Members will be introduced at membership business meeting.

Adjourned.