

----- K • A • T • E -----  
*Kansas Association of Teachers of English*

**KATE Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

June 19, 1999

9:00 a.m.

Eisenhower Library, Abilene, KS

Members present: Andy Anderson, Dolores Baker, Joy Bunch, Nancy Converse, Rosemary Deen, Jean Dimmit, Ann Dorrah, Janice Dow, Kay Flook, John Franklin, Judy Goodpasture, Jim Heiman, Nancy Jermark, Linda Klabunde, Susan McKinney, Diane Quantic, Roberta Ryan, Dave Smit, Teresa Wasinger, Dana Waters, and Goldie Wood.

The meeting began with members meeting in interest groups to discuss various issues: general meeting and other details of Fall Conference, Kansas State Writing Assessment, ways to increase revenue and decrease expenses, membership concerns, concurrent credit.

**Call to order**

President Goldie Wood called the official meeting to order at 10:00.

**Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the February 6, 1999, meeting were approved with no additions or corrections.

**Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved with no additions.

**Treasurer's report**

In the absence of Paula Ripple, Dana Waters read the treasurer's report, including the report from the conference. The report was accepted.

**Communications**

Goldie read thank you notes from Dolores Baker and Karen Ann Stous for gifts of appreciation. Dana Waters asked if thank you notes need to be filed in the archives. The consensus was that they did not. Dolores Baker volunteered to make a conference display with thank you notes from 4H members for KATE's donations. Goldie announced that KATE will need to appoint a replacement for Arlyne Basom, who is resigning from the board.

Goldie read letters from NCTE regarding the following: Todd Goodson's inquiry about starting a Kansas State University student group (Dave Smit will contact him); NCTE president Joan Naomi Steiner's resignation; NCTE forms for the Teachers for the Dream Affiliate Award, focusing on the recruitment and involvement of teachers of color; information about NCTE's Affiliate Mutual Membership Recruitment Plan, in which NCTE contacts the state affiliate with names of new members so we can contact them to

become KATE members; Teach 2000's free NCTE membership for new teachers ; and a form for volunteers who will serve as on-line mentors to first year teachers.

### **Old business**

Goldie asked for volunteers to assist treasurer Paula Ripple by taking all or part of the treasurer's conference duties. There were no volunteers.

Goldie will contact Paula Ripple to see if we have received MATE seed money and how much was sent.

Judy Goodpasture reported she and Donna Sears are searching for underwriters for KATE publications. Linda Klabunde said that Manhattan Arts Council is paying postage for *Young Kansas Writers* . She suggested that Galen Wixen be contacted to see if they would provide funding. Andy Anderson reported that based on tax forms, KATE has been paying most of the expenses for all publications. Diane Quantic said that Nebraska takes subscriptions for their literary magazine. She suggested we might do something like that through the Kansas Humanities Council, and perhaps students could subscribe. Diane will research details. Nebraska also provides a writing camp that we might want to explore.

Dave Smit reported on Executive Board elections. He added Kay Flook's name to the ballot because she was filling out someone else's position. The voting generated only a low number of ballots.

Andy Anderson reported on plans to honor Mel Riggs at the Fall Conference. Rosemary Deen suggested a "KATE Overtime" session, inviting past members to share memories of working with Mel. Mel himself could share some of the history of KATE. At luncheon, KATE could present Mel with a plaque. Andy suggested we waive conference fees and provide lunch for former members invited to participate in honoring Mel. Goldie asked Andy to finalize plans for the conference.

Andy reported that the new State Department of Education liaison is Stacy Lierz-Ziegler.

Rosemary Deen, conference chair, passed out a tentative schedule for the 1999 KATE Fall Conference. She has thirty program proposals and needs six or seven more. The key note speaker will be Sheridan Blau, past president of NCTE. Because of activities he wants to include, the general session will be more lengthy. Rosemary moved the Kansas Teacher of the Year recognition to the luncheon session. A grade level breakfast is planned for Friday. Poetry Alive will provide entertainment at the evening social hour. A historical retrospective session is planned before the luncheon Friday. Both the conference registration form and agenda will be on the web site to be downloaded. Rosemary asked for a decision before the June mailing about who will handle registration and fees for the conference. If someone agrees to assume conference treasurer duties, the mailing address can be changed on the registration forms . Copies can be sent to the membership chair. Janice Dow asked that the registration form include information about graduate credit with Baker University. Registration for the credit will be the first day of the conference, and all sessions and luncheons must be attended. Diane Quantic suggested that we include the Wichita State University sculpture tour in the conference program. Judy suggested we couple the tour with creative writing to be used in the *KATE Update*. Rosemary requested volunteers for various conference duties. Goldie read the NCTE requirement for the Board to conduct some of its business publicly. It was decided to list the Executive Board meeting "open to all members" in the conference program. Dave Smit proposed we install officers at one of the general

sessions. Nancy Jermark suggested we try to include dinner theater in lieu of wine and cheese at a future conference. Rosemary proposed we put the idea on the conference evaluation form and assess how much interest there would be for next year. Goldie thanked Rosemary for all her efforts.

We discussed how KATE might memorialize Dr. Oscar Haugh. Jean Dimmit moved that we rename the present KATE scholarship for Oscar Haugh. Nancy Converse seconded. Judy Goodpasture pointed out that the KATE scholarship is already open ended and could be used for donating a scholarship for any pursuit. John Franklin recommended we consult Dr. Haugh's family before we made a decision. Andy Anderson volunteered to contact them. John pointed out the family had suggested contributions to the KU scholarship fund. Kay Flook suggested we make a contribution to that. Dave Smit asked what KATE will do when other significant people pass on. Whom should we honor, and how? Andy Anderson moved we table the motion until the next meeting. Teresa seconded. The motion passed. Rosemary will put a memorial note and photo of Dr. Haugh in the Fall Conference program. Bonnie Newcomer will run an obituary in the next *KATE Update*.

Diane Quantic reported on the results of the concurrent credit survey. Respondents numbered 116 of approximately 2000 English teachers in the state. KATE did, however, get a good cross section. Most information verifies how schools are offering which classes. Over half surveyed responded with additional comments; most were negative. The concern most consistently expressed was that students do not get the fourth year of high school English, usually British literature. Dana Waters distributed NCTE's summarized discussion from the Issues session at the 1998 NCTE conference. She reported that the State Board of Education's task force on concurrent credit has not consulted any of the state's professional organizations; KNEA is also studying the concurrent credit issue. She suggested we draft a resolution and include the results of our survey, to be sent to KNEA, the State Board of Education task force, and NCTE. Susan McKinney asked if a resolution should contain ideas of how the situation should be handled. John Franklin asked if we could come up with a suggestion in summary form. Dave Smit moved that the chair appoint a committee to draft resolution by Fall Conference, to be sent to the various task forces studying concurrent credit issues and to NCTE. Judy Goodpasture seconded. The motion passed. A draft could be circulated and voted on at the conference. Dave said he would like to see us budget some money to publicize it. The committee appointed is Dana Waters, Diane Quantic, Andy Anderson, Nancy Converse, and Roberta Ryan. Susan McKinney asked if the committee should extend beyond the board. Goldie recommended outside people serve as resources.

Goldie announced that Bonnie Newcomer will begin *KATE Update* by June 29, and will have copy to Becky Janzen July 5. She asked that we submit copy by this deadline.

### **New business**

Dave Smit announced the KATE Teacher of the Year winner: Neoma Bates. Sharon McGee will assume chairmanship of the committee next year. Next year's candidates will be from elementary and high schools. Andy Anderson reminded the committee to get social security numbers because KATE must report income with our tax return. Dave will include a request for social security number with the information for the winner.

Judy Goodpasture reported KATE presently has 270 members with 76 new members. There were 98 people who did not respond to the membership renewal reminders. Judy sought authorization for postage for membership recruitment letters to elementary schools this summer, followed by 126 high schools, 37 colleges, and 52 middle schools later. The cost would be \$80 to \$100 for 500 letters, and 2 memberships would

balance the expense. Judy pointed out that publishing students' work in *Young Kansas Writers* is a great opportunity for teachers. Judy Goodpasture moved we spend up to \$100 dollars to write letters to up to 500 schools in Kansas to promote memberships. Susan McKinney seconded. The motion passed. A membership form to attract new members will be in the next issue of *KATE Update*. Judy asked if we should revise the form to gather information about members. No revisions were suggested. Rosemary Deen suggested we ask to promote ourselves at MATE with flyers to insert in packets or a booth. Rosemary will contact the MATE contact person.

Nancy Jermark reported on recruitment/publicity. She passed out a map showing the distribution of board members throughout the state. Board members could focus on one section of the state at a time for personal contact, or could focus on levels (e.g. all elementary schools, then all middle schools, etc.). Those who took a section could be responsible for providing addresses. Nancy distributed a letter she had drafted for e-mail contact of prospective members. Nancy passed out a brochure designed as a recruiting tool and a cost summary. Nancy pointed out a space that remained for quotes from members and passed a sheet for quotes. She asked for suggested changes. Andy Anderson suggested we include KATE's web site and a place for the new member's e-mail address. We discussed times and methods for distribution. Goldie asked for a show of hands of those in favor of personal/e-mail contact with brochure approach. Support was unanimous. Goldie asked Joy Bunch to check on technical aspects and Nancy to solicit other bids for a decision at the October board meeting. The recruitment committee also suggested separate levels meet for breakfast at the Fall Conference Friday morning to share concerns, ideas, and problems. Facilitators for each section will create an informal agenda. Volunteers were Sharon McGee for college, Goldie Wood for high school, and Teresa Wasinger for middle school.

In the absence of Kay Haas, Jean Dimmitt summarized issues to be considered for the KATE Speaker's Bureau: who would coordinate, how would fees be divided between KATE and the speaker, and how would advertising be handled.

Joy Bunch reported that the committee to explore constitutional change in the presidential line needs more time to consider the issue. They were considering a standing committee to work on membership, making a constitutional change would be unnecessary. Promoting membership should become the duty of the recruitment committee, making that committee chair a position and putting that person's address on the membership forms. The second vice president could then work on the conference with the first vice president. The senior past president could assume additional duties. Goldie will put this on the fall agenda so they can discuss job descriptions.

Andy Anderson reported there is no problem with KATE selling advertising in our publications as long as we state our policy with disclaimers. We do not have to accept any advertising we don't want. Rates are shaped by circulation and audience. The committee will contact other journals and newsletters to determine possible rates. Possible advertisers might be publishers or universities offering advanced degrees. Andy moved we accept advertising in our KATE publications. John Franklin seconded. The motion passed. The committee will research rates; the editors will set them. Rates could be handed out to publishers at the Fall Conference. Dave Smit asked if we should have someone to market our advertising. This question will be placed on the fall meeting agenda and volunteers will be solicited.

Andy Anderson announced the web site address change: <[www.jccc.net/~aanders/kate](http://www.jccc.net/~aanders/kate)>.

Dolores Baker suggested we purchase magnets with the KATE logo and web site @ 35 cents each. The cost would be \$200 for 500. They could be included in the conference packets. Rosemary Deen suggested sending them to members of NCTE who aren't KATE members. We could sell them for 50 cents each. Rosemary Deen moved that we authorize Dolores to purchase the magnets. Nancy Jermark seconded. The motion passed.

Information soliciting information on membership forms indicated members' interest in changing the conference days to Friday/Saturday. Thursday received 60 votes, Friday received 83, and Saturday received 84. Andy Anderson has reserved the Marriot for Thursday/Friday through 2006. He will inquire about changing the dates to Friday and Saturday in future years. That would open the possibility of scheduling a pre-conference workshop on Thursday.

We discussed inviting Kim Young and others from the State Department of Education to talk about state assessments at the Fall conference. Dolores Baker volunteered to help Lisa Otter with the Idea Exchange at the conference.

Linda Klabunde suggested we include a place on the membership form to indicate which two out of three KATE journals the member wishes to receive. We discussed selling subscriptions to our journals. Dave Smit questioned how much we would save because of press runs.

The MATE conference asked that we send some KATE members. Andy Anderson and Rosemary Deen are planning to attend.

Goldie reminded us that all officers must be NCTE members. She will have a list of Kansas NCTE members if someone needs a list or labels. Rosemary suggested sending the *KATE Update* issue with the conference and membership form to those who are members of NCTE but not of KATE. She will talk to Becky Janzen about the cost.

## Reports

John Franklin, *Kansas English* editor, categorized kinds of writing for the publication: scholarly articles, more informal and personal essays, interviews; poetry; reports from conferences. He would like to change the cover, using names of contributors on the front. Since Pittsburg State University is giving him release time to publish *Kansas English*, John would like to put Big Brutus on the cover. He suggested using guest editors, editing special issues for special topics. The editors should solicit grants to do this and board could approve of issues. John proposed we publish annually with submissions in late December and the issue published in the spring.

Linda Klabunde asked for clarity about the copyright status of our publications. A newspaper reprinting a piece from a KATE publication must acknowledge the reprint permission. Also, KATE's policy states that students published must currently be students of the teacher submitting the students' work for publication. Some teachers have abused this policy, submitting work of students who have moved on. Gray areas also exist, such as students a teacher has in activity period. It was decided that KATE will issue a statement that KATE editors assume the work teachers submit is that of students they have had within the past year. Judy Goodpasture asked that we make sure the membership form in *Young Kansas Writers* is current.

In the absence of Bonnie Newcomer, Goldie reported that *KATE Update* will include an obituary for Dr. Oscar Haugh and the new web page address.

Gerritt Bleeker sent a report that 35 juniors from 16 high schools competed for the NCTE Writing Award. KATE members had judged the entrants and made a decision that will be announced for the conference.

Barbara Bleeker sent word that 72 books were nominated for the William Allen White award. The panel will meet in October to vote for the finalists.

Joy Bunch reported that the SLATE committee would create a display for the Fall conference about challenges to books. She said that challenges have decreased.

Goldie suggested we meet another time in the year because of sparse attendance in June. There was some discussion of changing the meeting place.

### **Adjournment**

Following door prize drawings, the meeting adjourned at 3:45.

Dana Waters, secretary