

RAINBOW SIG 14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
NAFSA Conference, Montréal, Quebec, Canada  
Wednesday, May 24, 2006 1:45-3:00 p.m.  
Palais des Congrès- Room 516C

Jan Kieling and J. Scott Van Der Meid opened the business meeting by welcoming the members and reviewing the RAINBOW SIG Mission. They introduced the officers and greeted the new attendees.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Jan announced that when someone signs up as a member of the Rainbow SIG, NAFSA now requires that they also be registered as a “dues-paying” NAFSA member in order for their membership to count for SIG reaccreditation. In order for a SIG to continue, its membership must contain at least 1% of the total dues-paying NAFSA membership. It was announced that as standard procedure, all rainbow members will be added to the listserv which now serves as the primary mode of communication.

#### MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Scott mentioned that 30 responses were received out of the SIGs 127 registered members. The advisory board is going to use the results to establish new projects on the coming years; such as publications and their desired focus. Some members resisted ranking their answers, thinking that the survey was broken. This was intentional to force the ranking of priorities. Results of the survey were published in the spring 2006 issue of the SIG newsletter which is available on our website.

#### PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

The 2005 Rainbow SIG business meeting minutes were approved by vote.

#### WEBSITE

Kathy Sideli reported on the state of the website. She spoke about the origins of the site to serve as a place for resources for advisors and then later students. She invited the room to visit the website. We have very poor resources for international students which we hope to improve upon. The eternal concern: any material that is added should be at least three clicks from porn or unwanted materials. Kathy also reported that about 20 offensive email messages were sent to the website's general email. Overall the website is widely used and we get good questions. She reiterated the desire for new materials to add to the site.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Susan Carty reported that we were able to meet NAFSA required 1% of dues-paying registered NAFSA members this year. There are 143 active members in the Rainbow SIG.

#### FINANCIAL

Rick Russo gave the financial update. Scott managed to raise the money for the reception and thus no membership donations were depleted for that. The SIG advisory board agreed to financially assist a speaker to come present on Friday at a session on trans issues. Rick reminded the membership to donate at the meeting and/ or use the online form on our website to make donations.

## NEWSLETTER

Thomas Lavenir and Eero Jesurun reported out as the newsletter co-chairs. They asked for resources and articles, especially from students perspectives. They also asked the membership to contribute with photos. Each year there are two newsletters published and then posted on our website.

## ELECTIONS

Scott announced that only one of the SIGs leadership positions was open this year, that of the co-chair. There was one nominee on the floor, Mark Lenhart. No other nominations were submitted from the floor. After closing the nominations, Mark was elected on majority vote as the co-chair for 2006-2008.

## NAFSA MONTREAL 2006

The Rainbow SIG submitted three sessions and one workshop. All four were accepted for presentation in Montreal. Unfortunately the half day workshop did not have enough enrollment and for the second time was canceled by NAFSA.

## NAFSA MINNEAPOLIS 2007.

Mike Alcott reported on NAFSA 2007 in Minneapolis. The Rainbow SIG is known as a model of how SIGs should be modeled and structured. Preparing Global Citizens is the 2007 conference theme and he encouraged everyone to submit session proposals.

## CO-CHAIR KUDOS

Scott thanked Jan for her two years co-chairing the Rainbow SIG.

The meeting was adjourned.