

**Association of Graduate Schools
in Catholic Colleges and Universities**

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting
of Thursday, December 7, 1995**

**Yellowstone-Everglades Room
Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill
Washington, D.C.**

- I. Edward Jennerich, Chairperson of the Association, called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. He welcomed everyone and led self-introductions of the representatives of the member institutions present. Attendees and their affiliations were

Terrence Akai	University of Notre Dame
Barbara Braden	Creighton University
Donald Brennan	Saint Louis University
James Brennan	Loyola University - Chicago
Andrew Chludzinski	Loyola University - Chicago
Edward Cooper	Regis University
Marsha Daley	John Carroll University
Patricia DeLeeuw	Boston College
Peter Diffley	University of Notre Dame
Laura Ellis	College of New Rochelle
Paul Gallagher	Assoc. of Catholic Colleges and Universities
Willard Gingerich	St. John's University
Marianne Gramza	Loyola University - Chicago
Robert Himmelberg	Fordham University
Anthony Hyder	University of Notre Dame
Edward Jennerich	Seattle University
Rev. John Lynch	Catholic University of America
Katy Marre	University of Dayton
Patrick McGuire	St. John's University
Rosetta Moore	Saint Louis University
Robert Nikolai	Saint Louis University
Elizabeth O'Connell	University of San Diego
Janice Poorman	University of Notre Dame
Louis Primavera	St. John's University
James Powell	University of Notre Dame
Robert Powell	University of Scranton
James Rocks	Loyola University - Chicago
Gordon Sargent	University of Dayton
Michael Smyer	Boston College
Mary Jane Tiernan	University of San Diego
Sally Wertheim	John Carroll University
Diane Wilson	University of Notre Dame

(A draft of the Minutes of the Association meeting of December 8, 1994, was circulated by mail last January for review. No critical responses were filed; the Minutes were presumed acceptable as prepared by the Secretary-Treasurer and were included in the agenda-mailing for this evening's meeting.)

- II. Ed Jennerich asked Bob Nikolai, Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, to provide status reports on membership, the treasury, and the Candidates' Booklet.

Bob Nikolai first reported that twenty-eight institutions had paid full-membership dues and one continued its associate membership for 1995-96. He noted that these 29 colleges and universities are the same institutions that were active Association members in 1994-95. He made written copies of the membership report available to those institutions, present this evening, that desired the report.

Bob reported that the Association maintains a checking account in a St. Louis, Missouri, bank. He said that the treasury balance at the beginning (July 1) of the most recently completed fiscal year (1994-95) was \$1,145.58. Income during the year was derived from dues, collections of payments for the dinner after the annual meeting, and assessments from Association members participating in the Candidates' Booklet project. Expenses included dinner after the annual meeting, costs to prepare, publish, and distribute copies of the Booklet, and miscellaneous expenses for mailings and telephone-calls. The treasury balance as of July 1, 1995, was \$2,153.00. He noted that the gain in funds on hand over the 12-month period was partially related to not engaging a guest speaker for the meeting last December in Seattle. Again, Bob made written copies of his report, including a summary balance sheet and a detail of checking-account activity during FY1995, available to those institutions desiring them.

Bob Nikolai reported on the Candidates' Booklet project completed during the Fall and Winter of 1994-95. He indicated that ten universities participated, 220 biographic sketches were included in the Booklet, a total of 215 Booklets were mailed in November 1994 to academic vice presidents at Catholic colleges and universities across the United States, 652 were mailed in January 1995 to administrators of Catholic grade and high schools across the U.S., and an additional number of copies were sent in response to an announcement in the ACCU newsletter. A total of 960 copies were printed. The costs of the Booklet project, borne by the participating institutions, were approximately \$1,040. Approximately 42% of the biographees indicated that they would consider grade- or high-school faculty positions. Bob also brought to this evening's meeting several copies of the new edition of the Booklet; he noted that updated software was used in the creation of this booklet and the mailing to college/university AVPs had been completed several weeks ago. Once again, Bob made written copies of this report available to those present desiring to have them.

Finally, Bob announced that he had copies of the Associations' mailing list and the Constitution if any member institution(s) present wished to acquire copies.

- III. Ed Jennerich reported that, some weeks ago, he created a nominations committee consisting of Eren Branch (Past President), Elizabeth Connell (Executive Committee Member at Large), Bob Nikolai, and himself. The purpose of the committee was to select a nominee for one of the three at-large members of the Executive Committee; Father Lynch's three-year term on the Committee was expiring with this annual meeting. The committee's choice was Peter Diffley from the University of Notre Dame. Ed inquired if anyone desired to make a nomination "from the floor." No response was forthcoming. Peter was then elected to the three-year term on the Executive Committee by acclamation.
- IV. Ed Jennerich noted that restructuring of the academic unit responsible for graduate study and/or its administration has occurred at a number of institutions; he requested brief reports from the institutions representing around the table. Michael Smyer said that Boston College has a new President and is now involved in strategic planning. Elizabeth O'Connell noted that the University of San Diego also has a new President, is searching for a new Provost, and has recently completed a strategic-planning exercise. Bob Powell reported that he had been the Graduate Dean at Kent State University where the graduate school was eliminated; he rejoined the faculty there for several years, but now is pleased to be the new Dean at the University of Scranton. James Brennan indicated that Loyola University - Chicago is in the process of implemented a new plan; changes include a revised role of the faculty in university governance and separate incorporation of Loyola's medical school with a portion of the University's endowment assigned to it. Peter Diffley introduced two attendees from the University of Notre Dame for whom this is their first Association meeting; he announced that Nathan Hatch has been chosen the next Academic Vice President, and that UND is one of three finalists for this year's CGS award, sponsored by Peterson's Guides, for excellence in minority graduate activities. Willard Gingerich introduced two new staff members also present at this evening's meeting; he reported that St. John's University is celebrating its 125th birthday and has completed a recent round of planning, six of its eight Deans are new, and several new doctoral programs may be initiated. Gordon Sargent said that the University of Dayton formally organized a Graduate School two years ago and is engaged in strategic planning for the year 2005. Sally Wertheim announced that John Carroll University will have a new President in January; JCU's enrollment is strong, and a record number of freshmen are enrolled. Edward Cooper, participating in his first Association meeting, said that Regis University has been offering Master's degree study for 16 years, postbaccalaureate enrollments have been growing during the past five years, a new strategic plan is currently under faculty review, and additional graduate programs are envisioned. Barbara Braden said that she is a new Graduate Dean, Michael Lawler is currently traveling after completing a sabbatical in Lithuania, and Creighton University will be starting a new Master's degree program in Information Engineering. Robert Himmelberg reported that Fordham University is reorganizing its undergraduate structure and has united its faculty across the Bronx and Lincoln Center campuses toward strengthening the University as a whole. Don Brennan commented that graduate education at Saint Louis University has had strong support from its Provost during the past six years, but Dr. Hayes has become the President at the University of San Diego, and the posture of the new SLU Provost vis-a-vis

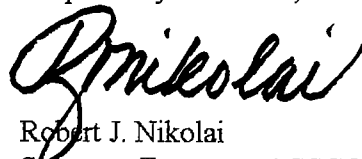
graduate education is as yet unclear. Don also said that the University is now engaged in strategic planning. Parks College will move across the Mississippi River to the main undergraduate campus in 1997, clinical reorganization is ongoing on the health-science/medical campus, and SLU has recently been advanced to "Research II" status by the Carnegie Commission. Father Lynch commented that the Catholic University of America is involved in no academic restructuring or advanced planning at the present time.

- V. Ed Jennerich introduced Ms. Kristy Kimball, a Washington staffer for Senator Edward Kennedy and of the Labor and Human Relations Committee of the Senate. Ed had invited Ms. Kimball to discuss graduate-student financial-aid issues and funding for research as the Federal budget for FY1996 is in preparation. Ms. Kimball suggested that Congress is taking a step backward from the student-aid and research funding pattern of the last 30 years; the initiative toward balancing the Federal budget over the next seven years includes substantial cuts in many programs of interest to graduate deans. She distributed copies of two, one-page summaries; the first was an outline of cuts/fees/adjustments in aid as contained in the late-September, Senate Republican reconciliation proposal, and the second was the synopsis on financial aid from the Congressional conference agreement reached in mid-November. Ms. Kimball noted that student-aid funding is partially mandated and partially discretionary; the Republicans first proposed a \$10.8 billion cut, but the Conference agreement reduced that figure to \$4.9 billion. In addition, the direct lending program would be capped, forcing 1250 institutions out of the program. She noted that, fortunately, the Congress' budget bill was vetoed on December 6. Ms. Kimball suggested that yesterday's veto was "lucky" for colleges and universities; she urged mobilization and heightened activity within the higher-education community to influence Legislators toward restoration of aid funding. Ms. Kimball also reported that the Congressional bill just vetoed would have cut non-defense, research-and-development funding by one-third by the year 2002; she said that the proposed budget for FY1996 would not be "bad," with NIH and NSF earmarked for three and one percent increases, respectively, but cuts in the years to come were anticipated. She said further that Congressman Walker's proposal to consolidate NSF, NASA, DOE, and others (but not NIH) into a Department of Science is receiving support. Ms. Kimball also noted that Section 127 of the Internal Revenue Code, that provided an tax-exemption to the benefit of free tuition for many college/university staff, expired in December 1994; an extension of that section was contained in the reconciliation bill, but the benefit for graduate-student staffers would have been gone by the end of 1995. Michael Smyer asked Ms. Kimball what specifically graduate deans could do. Ms. Kimball thought that a good strategy would be to have graduate students contact their Congressional representatives regarding the aid and tax matters. She said further that students should express themselves by voting in the 1996 elections---to show that Congress must be accountable to them. Rosetta Moore inquired about the status of the TRIO, Javitts, and PRH fellowship programs. Ms. Kimball said she wasn't sure about these programs, but continued funding might be at only 30 - 50% of their present amounts. Ed Jennerich inquired about the rumored dismantling of the Department of Education. Ms. Kimball replied that such a move was apparently stalled; she said that the present budget bills don't

speak to this issue. Robert Powell suggested that getting graduate students to vote in large numbers would be difficult. Ed Jennerich proposed that the university's office of financial aid be used to communicate with students and to urge their active participation in the electoral process. Questions ceased, and Ed Jennerich thanked Kristy Kimball for attending the Association meeting and updating the participants on the current status of student-aid and research funding proposals as talks on the Federal budget for FY 1996 and the next seven years continue. Ms. Kimball invited any dean with questions or suggestions to telephone her anytime at (202) 224-5501.

- VI. Bob Nikolai commented that the AGSCCU recognizes an affiliation with the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, and in recent years the ACCU's Executive Director has regularly attended our meetings in Washington. He then introduced Paul Gallagher, Acting Executive Director of the Association. Mr. Gallagher made a number of brief comments. He reported that the ACCU is presently assembling a national committee to address the implementation of the directives contained in Pope John Paul II's encyclical on Catholic higher education: *Ex Corda Ecclesiae*. He said that the Association's recent research project on student activities on Catholic college/university campuses culminated with a meeting of numerous participants at the College of St. Thomas (MN) last August; copies of the final report of that project would be made available to interested graduate deans. Mr. Gallagher recalled Ms. Kimball's presentation, and urged everyone to work together toward preservation of Federally supported financial-aid programs that have benefitted higher education. Also recalling the Deans' brief reports earlier, he noted an unusually large number of recent changes in administrations of Catholic colleges and universities; these changes have precipitated substantial strategic-planning activity. Mr. Gallagher reported that Elizabeth Dennington will address the 1996 Presidents' conference of ACCU-member institutions. He suggested that, with changes in its administration forthcoming, the ACCU can become more pro-active. He noted that a current ACCU initiative is toward improvement of religious literacy on Catholic college campuses, and indicated that John Carroll University had been awarded a relevant grant from the Lilly Foundation. Finally, Mr. Gallagher said that he would make available to the graduate deans an ACCU report on *Ex Corda Ecclesiae*, and he enjoined the attendees at this meeting to participate in the discussions and in responding to the directives of the encyclical on their individual campuses.
- VII. Ed Jennerich inquired if any institutional representative desired to introduce an item of new business; hearing no response, he adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Nikolai
Secretary-Treasurer, AGSCCU