

Tri-State
Federal Relations Committee

8/11/03 Conference Call Minutes
9:00- 9:55

Members present:

Rachel Brinkley, Sharon Clough, Bob Foulz, Kelly Foulz, Zhanna Goltser, Rich Heath, Andrea Hunt, Bill Irwin, Eric Miles, David Schrock, Amy Spinnato, Ken Robinson, Ingrid Valentine, Nancy-Pat Weaver, Taisha Winters, Tara Yancey, Holly Zaglaniczny

1. Ingrid reported on the progress of the September visit to the Hill. After input from several members we decided to move ahead with Friday, September 19th as the target date. Ingrid will work with her “subcommittee” to set the times and place but will try to use American University Law School as the meeting site. There will be an agenda established for the morning and visits to the Hill scheduled from 2-4 pm, followed by a debriefing after. Members will send Rich any staff offices that they want to visit and who they would like to “pair” with. Rich will send out “suggested” pairings and other offices to contact for appointments by 8/15/03. Appointments should then be made ASAP for the afternoon of the 19th. We will develop a “talking points” sheet for members use for the visit as well as a letter to be left with the staffers. We will be representing Tri-State and will develop the talking points based on issues that we all can support. The “Spring Hill Symposium” will take place in late January of early February. This time frame came from Ingrid’s discussions with staffers regarding the “most” opportune time to be there. Bill Irwin mentioned that he and some of his committee members from EASFAA would like to participate in one or both of the Hill visits. He will discuss the dates with his committee and let us know ASAP who may be attending.
2. Andrea is working with Dawn on the bills coming out of Congress. They will give us an update during the next conference call on 9/8/03.
3. Kelly reported that she is working on a breakfast meeting for 9/12/03 with Rep. Castle, in Wilmington. Confirmation and details will follow. Rep. Castle is sponsoring legislation affecting Head Start and is on the Re-Authorization Committee as is Rep. VanHollen from Maryland. We are encouraged to visit his website to be informed of the issues before the breakfast meeting.
4. Several members gave input regarding the “Too Much Work?” article. It was noted that it is a “problem” affecting all sectors and that we need to be informed how “our” students are affected at each institution. It is our understanding that NASFAA is currently in discussions regarding the issues and will be suggesting a “unified” approach in the near future. We will wait for their direction before we establish any “talking “points, which hopefully will take place before our Sept. 19th visit to the Hill staffers. Rachel shared an example of the impact on a student at UMBC and was encouraged to put it in writing after securing the proper permission from the student. Other schools were

encouraged to seek out and develop scenarios from their locations that could be “shared” with the staffers in September so they can see the impact on “their” constituents.

5. Thank you to all who were able to join in for all or part of the conference call. Our next conference call is 9/8/03. Please send “issues” to be discussed prior to the 5th for inclusion if there is research that we need to do for discussion of the issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth and Rich
Co-Chairs, Tri-State FRC