

# CALL Minutes

Sept. 8, 2003  
9:00 am – 10:am

**9/8/2003:** Conference Call began at 9:00. Attended by: Cissy VanSickle, Richard Heath (co-chair), Ingrid Valentine, Rachel Brinkley, NancyPat Weaver, Sharon Clough, Taisha Winters, Andrea Hunt, Beth McSweeney (co-chair).

- 1) Rich confirmed that he, Rachel, Beth and Carol Parks are planning to attend the Reauthorization meeting scheduled for 9/11/03 in Washington.
- 2) Ingrid discussed the 9/19/03 One-Day Hill Visit. She will send us all a reminder and directions to the American University Law School. This will be a mini-version of what we did at the Spring Symposium. The day will be scheduled to run from 9-5, and we are scheduled to hear from Buddy Blakely from 9:45-12, have lunch from 12-1:15. We will take a bus to the Hill at 1:30 and have time from 2-4 to meet with our Legislators and/or Legislative Assistants. We will return to the Law School at 4:30 and debrief till approximately 5, when our day will end. Most of the committee members seem to be getting a good response regarding meetings, although there have been some who have had difficulty getting scheduled so far.
- 3) Bills: Andrea and Dawn have begun to track bills. They are trying to get them organized in a fashion that will permit them to send out information at least monthly. They plan to get an update out to us soon.
- 4) Beth reviewed information that Holly gave regarding Re-Authorization. Several bills may be introduced soon by John Boehner (Chairman of House, Education and the Workforce Committee), but they are currently just being floated past the Republican members to get feedback so that they might pass more easily. These include the “Affordability in Higher Education Act of 2003”, the “Expanding Opportunities in Higher Education Act of 2003”, the “International Studies and the Higher Education Act of 2003” and the “Graduate Opportunities Act of 2003”. Beth will send copies to Ingrid so that they may be included with the Hill visit packets. Beth also reviewed Holly’s information that the Kennedy Amendment is likely to be voted on in the next week (possibly as early as tomorrow, 9/9/03), and that Larry has noted that everything is likely to be very fluid as far as possible legislation and where everyone stands; much may change, and very quickly. We will need to get an update just before we go to meet with the Legislators/LAs so that we have our talking points in order. (Holly said that Larry will help us to “tweak” them). Beth also reviewed Holly’s information regarding the recommendations signed off on by everyone but the PIRGs (pell, origination fee relief for those who qualify for sub. loans, increased repayment options, consolidation, single-holder rule excluding Perkins, putting \$1 billion into loan forgiveness programs).

The conference call was closed at 9:35 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Beth McSweeney**