

## Federal Relations

Minutes/Report:

**DATE:** January 1, 2005 - 12122005 FRC minutes

**LOCATION:** (Phone Conference)

**ATTENDEES:** Scott Filter, Taisha Winters, Nancy-Pat Weaver, Tara Yancy, Jerry

McKeen, Ingrid Valentine, Rich Heath, Beth McSweeney

**GUEST(S):**

**MINUTES STATUS:**

o Spring Hill Visit to DC early March? Ingrid will get us some particulars, and we'll look at doing a one-day visit. March 1, 2, 8, 9 are best possible dates right now, since we'll be getting into spring break dates any later than that. NY and VA can opt to stay overnight (maybe visit the Hill the next morning, too?). Beth will check with Larry Z to see if he might be available to give an update in March, and we may use Buddy to do "Hill 101" as part of the morning presentation. Use of Metro suggested to help save on funds, and also since that gives a good base for visitors, too. We'll need to suggest to NY and VA that they prepare position papers/letters to bring (and we'll need to put one together, too, for that matter).

o Expected that there will be another Continuing Resolution to take us to 3/30/06 since nothing happening now, and possibility of Boehner being reassigned to another House leadership role following Tom DeLay stepping down from a leadership role. Buck McKeon would likely be tapped to step into the Chair for Education and the Workforce if this happens.

o Supreme Court rulings - the feds can have Social Security benefits attached if a student has defaulted on a federal loan. Also, we expect SCOTUS to rule that campuses can't refuse military recruiters access to campus (unless campuses choose to forego federal funds)

o Katrina students - after 12/31/05, students must be enrolled as "regular" students (as opposed to "visiting" or "transient" status) in order to continue to receive federal financial aid funds. (If their campuses are not reopening for the spring, or if their school is not resuming offering their programs, they can still be treated as visiting or transient). Keep checking info on Katrina/Rita students on NASFAA, NSLDS, IFAP, etc for updates and info.

o Nursing shortage beginning to be on the front burner; recent testimony on the Hill regarding shortage of nursing educators will

be a problem in filling the shortages of nurses expected in the next 10 years.

o Interesting stats from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO); S.1932 would decrease direct spending over the next 5 years by \$9.7 billion, but the new grants, increased loan limits and reduced insurance for lenders proposed will increase spending by \$11.5 billion (net loss in savings of \$1.8 billion). (Just an odd fact).

o Next scheduled phone conference Monday, January 9, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth McSweeney/Taisha Winters  
FRC Co-Chairs

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, 1/9/2006

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 9:30 a.m.

**SUBMITTED BY:** BMc

**POSTED BY:** Beth McSweeney