

ASCD ANNUAL MEETING  
Sunday, April 2, 2006, 3:00-4:00 p.m.  
Lakeside Center at McCormick Place  
Chicago, Illinois

Summary

President Mary Ellen Freeley welcomed attendees to ASCD's 2006 Annual Meeting. She reminded attendees of the busy agenda and said that this meeting would be followed by the Meet the President-Elect Candidates Forum. Freeley then introduced Parliamentarian Stuart Rankin and Executive Director Gene Carter.

Highlights of Board of Directors' Actions

President Freeley reviewed several highlights from the Board of Directors' actions over the past year, including

- The adoption of a new Strategic Plan.
- A refined nominations process.
- The evolution of the Leadership Council into a strong body with a positive influence.
- The convening of a Leadership Council panel that finalized a report better defining who and what the Leadership Council is.
- Strengthening of the work of the Leadership Council Management Team.
- The first meeting of the Leadership for Effective Advocacy and Practice (LEAP) Institute and the development of the Legislative Committee and Legislative Agenda.
- The Board of Directors' visit to China in November 2005, resulting in the building of some new relationships and strengthening of some current relationships.

President Freeley noted that Board members had received some financial reports from the Executive Director and that the financial health of the organization is excellent.

Key Association Opportunities, Challenges, and Issues

Executive Director Gene Carter said that this 61st Annual Conference and Exhibit Show will have been one of ASCD's most successful conferences, with more than 13,000 attendees expected. He said that membership is growing, research-based learning and teaching resources are being expanded, and the Association is very financially sound. This is a time of celebration for ASCD.

Carter shared information on the vision of ASCD's future, saying that change is the dominant factor in today's society. Recent changes at ASCD include the organization's sponsorship of free workshops to offer professional development for educators teaching students dislocated by recent hurricanes, impact on the global front (i.e., the Board of Directors' visit to China in November 2005), an expanded influence and advocacy role, and a shift in dialogue from schooling to learning.

He also shared highlights from ASCD's Commission on the Whole Child and reviewed the organization's top five legislative priorities in its 2006 Legislative Agenda: (1) determine accountability through multiple measures of assessment, (2) increase support and flexibility for comprehensive professional development, (3) provide flexibility and resources to support innovative high school reform, (4) increase support and resources for school readiness and early development of the whole child, and (5) increase flexibility for research-based interventions in schools needing improvement. Carter briefly reviewed possible collaborations around ASCD's research-based resources and practice-focused initiatives. He then used Jim Collins's "four stages that build a great organization" to highlight some of the key future challenges and opportunities that ASCD must address in its quest for significance.

President Freeley thanked Carter for his presentation and acknowledged the hard work of the ASCD staff. She noted that ASCD's Board of Directors works constantly in many ways on the organization's behalf, and she reviewed the recent committee work on an evaluation instrument for both the Board and the Leadership Council. Freeley then thanked Immediate Past President Martha Bruckner for being a wonderful role model.

#### Member Comments and Questions

President Freeley opened the floor to any member comments and questions; hearing none, she declared the Annual Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

GRC/bdr