

MAC3
(Metroplex Area Consortium of Career Centers)
4 February 2009

The February meeting was held at Northwestern Mutual Financial Services in Fort Worth, where we were welcomed by David Bostwick and given a tour of the offices. Mr. Bostwick talked about the strong internship program; he also indicated he welcomes informational interviews with students as he recruits young professionals for lifetime careers with Northwestern Mutual.

Best Practices:

Patsy Caropresi highlighted her experiences working with local Chambers of Commerce to develop an employer base.

Business Meeting:

The meeting opened with welcome by Francynne Maynard, and a community-building exercise called “My Place in the Circle.”

Minutes: Janie Shipman—Minutes of the January 2009 meeting were approved as written, with none objecting.

Finances: Melissa Yip—Melissa presented the financial report: starting balance was \$465.71, income was \$200.00, expenses were \$164.99, and ending balance as of 01/31/2009 was \$500.72. The financial report was approved with none objecting.

Community Outreach Program: Discussion about last month’s proposal to have a MAC3-sponsored program to educate workers about finding a job in tough economic times resulted in agreement to put the idea on hold for now. Several schools are already developing their own similar events.

Executive Board—Francynne reported that the Executive Board had held a strategic planning meeting and proposed having a Q & A Time each month to encourage discussion and to encourage us to use each other as resources. Today’s questions were:

- (1) does anyone have a role or person dedicated to writing grant proposals?
- (2) could we have an informal poll about job fairs and employer numbers this spring? Most schools reported employer numbers are down a little for their spring fairs.
- (3) is anyone experiencing an influx of alumni using career services as a result of layoffs?

Suggestions: encourage alumni to take advantage of local area job fairs, develop an alumni support group for job and careers exploration, and develop resource lists especially for alumni.

Committee Breakout Sessions: overview worksheets will be provided each month for breakout sessions so committees can record their discussions for use in the minutes. Committee notes below are taken from those worksheets:

Professional Development:

Discussed LinkedIn, expanding your network, economic update, and what to do. Action may be needed at the May meeting. Darrell Whitsell will follow up with FWCC and Job Links; Kimshi Hickman will check on LinkedIn.

Employer Relations:

Each month an institution could host an employer. Diversify employers. Michael Greer and Sherri Mata will contact some social agencies in June.

Responsible for coordinating employer visits by MAC3. Target social service agencies, educational institutions, etc. Target date is the June meeting. The committee would like to have 2 or 3 business contacts from MAC3 members for employers they work closely with.

Michael Greer and Sherri Mata will work with their contacts. Francynne will contact members for ideas of employers to have meetings.

Budget: request \$50 for refreshments if the employer host is unable to provide refreshments.

Membership:

The committee was tasked to discuss setting a penalty for late payment of dues. Dues are due January 31 with a final deadline of March 31. The committee recommends a late charge of \$50 if payments are paid after the March 31 deadline. This would prompt a review of and possibly an amendment to the By-laws.

Website Committee:

The website committee will redesign the website in test mode (not actually published) for presentation at the next meeting. Target date is the March 4 meeting. Committee members will look at the current site and bring suggestions, and changes will be discussed and approved via email before the next meeting. Have A/V set up to pull up redesigned test mode website for MAC3 members to view March 4.

Announcements:

UTA is having a special speaker on the 16th at 7:00 pm on social activism and community service.

TCU is having WRP interviews on the 13th.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Best Practices:

March – Collin College – Preston Ridge; Midwestern State Univ.; TCC Southeast
April – Collin College – Spring Creek; Northwood University; TCU
May – Eastfield College; Paul Quinn College; TCU Graduate Career Services Center
August – Brookhaven College; SMU; Texas Wesleyan University
September – El Centro; Southwestern Assemblies of God; Texas Woman's University
October – Mountain View; Tarleton State; UNT
November – North Lake College; TCC NE; UTA
December – Richland College; TCC NW; UTD

Upcoming Meetings:

March 4, 2009 – Business meeting: **The University of Texas at Dallas**

April 1, 2009 – Employer tour/visit (to be announced) and business meeting

May 6, 2009 – Business meeting: **Eastfield College**, Room S-100