



## **KCA President's Report**

I think this promises to be a challenging and exciting year. I cannot thank Nikki enough for her hard work and dedication to the counseling profession and KCA. I am humbled to be President of KCA. That still does not sound right to me. I think a lot about what that should mean and how KCA can be better because somehow I am in that role. I believe there are a lot of great people in KCA and we can all achieve great things by working together through sharing our vision, giving of our ideas and believing in our profession as counselors and committed humans. I believe in counseling because it is developmental and looks for prevention more than cures. It believes in the worth of all people and seeks their best. My major goals center around two areas: support of the profession and increasing our membership. In the last two years we have lost about two hundred members. I know our professional group is not alone but this decline has happened with other professional groups within our state and at the national level. I am hoping we as an organization want to make a difference and be diligent about who we are as professionals and what each of us can do for the profession. I have listed several topics that were discussed, started on or ideas. I hope our executive board can problem solve, examine alternatives, and come up with a plan of action in each of the areas if the Executive Council determines they are worthy of our time and energy. For each of these are I would like you to think of as many strengths, concerns and other issues that need to be considered and bring them with you to our meeting. The more prepared each of us are for the discussion at the meeting the further along we will be towards coming up with a solution if that is the direction we wish to take. I think we have to energize our Regions, Divisions and Committees. Truly, the greatest work and involvement has to occur at that level. A tree is only as strong as its roots. KCA is only as strong as that board base of 400 plus members allows it to be.

Status report on a testing seminar offered by KCA at this point in time. Nikki Currie has a personal interest in taking the licensure exam but is also willing to collect information and become a presenter on behalf of KCA based on the terms that we previously outlined where KCA would offer test-taking seminars for the NBCC exam at three different locations. Previously the executive council had authorized me to go ahead in sending someone to Illinois to learn how their testing seminars work and to support someone to attend those. The proposal considered by 2003-04 exec. Council follows:

In view of the current budget situation and based on the model used in Illinois is to develop a program for individuals who would take a one day workshop in

1. Preparation as a part of their study for the National Counselor Exam.
2. Offer the one-day workshop six times a year. Three times in the fall and three times in the Spring in Kansas City, Wichita, and Hays.
3. Pay the presenter \$200.00 per day plus \$10 per individual register, with five or more registered.
4. Each of the workshops would be held in a hotel with lunch provided to the individuals attending. These workshops run from 9-12 and from 1-4.
5. They would include information on test taking strategies, information about the exam, and review of the major issues in each of the eight areas with suggestions for additional study after the workshop.
6. An evaluation would be given to the attendees to receive feedback on the workshop, in addition their permission for follow-up and contact information would requested so that follow-up could be done in terms of finding out how they did on the exam and suggestions for future training.
7. It is proposed that these workshops be started the fall of 2005.
8. The individual selected to do the training would have her way paid to attend a comparable training session in Illinois where this has been a successful money-maker for the Illinois Counseling Association.
9. Seed money would need to be set aside for brochure development, advertisement, for training, and the program should become self-supporting and provide a systematic source of income for the Kansas Counseling Association, after basic expenses were meant.
10. Individuals who would be interested in attending the workshop should come from the following sources:
  11. Individuals in their final year of their graduate program, from Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Iowa and Colorado. Individuals who have received their counseling degree and who were studying to take the NCE as a part of their licensure process.
  12. The cost for attending the one-day workshop would be based on the model used in Illinois, which is around 125.00.

Term of office for KCA officers. Should be keep the 4 year cycle or move to a 3 year cycle? Gary

The following was submitted by Carol Dellinger for consideration at last April's meeting:

We discussed the possibility of changing responsibility for the state convention to the President-elect and responsibility for the newsletter to the President-elect-elect. (Actually, I did not find any place in the By Laws or Policies that actually gives the President-elect this job) To do so, we would want to first look at the By Laws, Article VI, and Officers and make changes in #2 and #3. We would also need to decide if the President-elect would remain co-chair of the Media Committee or if that would need to be changed to the President-elect-elect..

Next we could need to look at Policies and Procedures (2.8) Convention Policy: Phase I Site Selection Committee to see if we wanted to change the responsibility for this to the President-elect-elect or leave it as is, and Phase II Convention Planning.

According to our by laws, to make a by laws change without 30 days notice we would have to have 4/5 approval at the general meeting. I don't think these changes would be particularly controversial, and it makes a lot of sense.

Carol has typed up a suggested draft of the proposed changes and a copy will be brought to the meeting in case the board votes to make the changes and submit it to the membership for a vote. Without a 30-day notice, there would need to be a 4/5 vote of the membership to pass.

Increase in membership. I want as many ideas as possible for how we can do this. One is to give free memberships to all people who graduate from a counseling program their first year. Second is to have a contest to see who can get the most members. To give free membership for one year to all people who are members of ACA but not KCA. To challenge each person to recruit one member.

Increased involvement at the grass roots level. This will allow more people to feel a part of KCA and feel like they are making a contribution.