2014 SACSCOC ANNUAL MEETING

MUSIC CITY CENTER, NASHVILLE, TN

DECEMBER 6-9, 2014

PHOTO GALLERY
Melodious a cappella music was provided at the opening session by the renown Fisk Jubilee Singers® from Fisk University in Nashville, TN.
Dr. Andrew Westmoreland, President of Samford University and Chair of SACSCOC, thanked the Fisk Jubilee Singers® and called the meeting to order.
Dr. Westmoreland moderated each plenary session with ease and wit.
The Honorable Margaret Spellings spoke on “Higher Education at a Crossroads: Responding and Adapting to Demands for Change.”
The former Secretary of Education cited several problems and potential solutions for higher education.
Almost 4,500 individuals attended the opening session in the Grand Ballroom at the Music City Center in downtown Nashville.
Dr. Belle Wheelan, in her tenth year as president of SACSCOC, welcomed attendees and recognized her staff and special guests.
Dr. Wheelan recommended comfortable shoes because the Music City Center was located on 16 acres with over 1 million square feet of space.
The Educational Excellence Exposition included 82 exhibitors and 28 sponsors from a variety of service and technology-based industries.
Attendees seemed to enjoy their time in the expo hall.
Some exhibitors have been regular participants in the SACSCOC expo.
Comedian Jeff Allen provided a wonderful “interlude” for participants who had been attending sessions all day.
Everyone needs a bit of levity at times, and Jeff provided some comic relief before attendees returned to the serious work of accreditation.
A sign of the times . . .
Dr. Wheelan greeted presidents and chancellors during “Presidents’ Day” activities.
Dr. Paul Gaston, author of *Accreditation: How It’s Changing, Why It Must*, spoke at the Presidents’ breakfast.
Ms. Tanya Joosten, Director of eLearning Research and Development at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, spoke to CEOs on the impact of social media.
Dr. Marshall Hill, Executive Director of the National Council of Regional Accrediting Reciprocity Agreements talked about SARA and its impact on distance education.
About 400 CEOs attended Presidents’ Day activities at the Omni Nashville hotel.
Ms. Jazmin Ghent, saxophonist from Tennessee State University, provided music before the Second General Session.
Recipients of the Meritorious Service Award were Dr. Mark Foley (for Mr. J. Steve Lee), Dr. Louise Clark, Dr. Larry Earvin (Leadership Award recipient), Dr. James Campbell, and Dr. Carla Sanderson. Drs. Westmoreland and Wheelan congratulated the group.
Mr. Cameron Evans, Chief Technology Officer at Microsoft Corporation, provided a stimulating talk titled “Innovation Is Not Enough.”
Dr. Michael Johnson, SACSCOC Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff, shared a chuckle with an institutional representative before his group meeting.
Dr. Charles Taylor, SACSCOC vice president, talked to his institutional representatives about potential challenges they may encounter.
Dr. Claudette Williams, also Vice President, listened to a comment by a representative at the Annual Meeting.
Dr. Crystal Baird met with colleagues from her assigned institutions.
VP Barry Goldstein talked to institutional reps while Dr. Cheryl Cardell looked on.
All SACSCOC staff sessions were quite large.
Dr. Michael Hoefer referred to the *Principles of Accreditation* while addressing institutional representatives.
Dr. Robin Hoffman addressed colleagues as Dr. Kevin Sightler (who reviews substantive changes) looked on.
Dr. Steven Sheeley had some fun with representatives of his institutions at the start of their group meeting.
One of our newest VPs, Dr. Mark Kirk, met with her institutional representatives.
Dr. Nuria Cuevas talked to a standing room only crowd about changes in accreditation.
Dr. Diane Calhoun-French was the first recipient of the Dr. Demetria Gibbs Outstanding Chair award. Dr. Terrell Gibbs made the presentation with Dr. Wheelan.
The Cumberland University Singers, directed by Dr. Brian Killian, provided beautiful music at the closing session.
Dr. Wheelan gave the “State of the Commission” address at the closing session.
Although it was the last session, Dr. Wheelan’s talk was well-received by attendees.
2015 SACSCOC Annual Meeting
George R. Brown Convention Center
Houston, Texas
December 5-8, 2015

Visit www.sacscoc.org/aamain.asp for details.

Proposals are due March 19, 2015
no later than 5:00 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar!