**Association of Business Information Systems**

Business Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2008

Houston, TX

1. **President’s Welcome and Call to Order** – Chynette Nealy
2. **Officers Reports** – All officers’ reports were distributed.
   1. *Secretary/Treasurer* – Daniel Friesen presented the minutes from the 2007 Board meeting. Daniel also presented a financial report update. The balance as of 3/6/2008 is $3,178.83. Both reports were moved to be accepted and the motion carried.
   2. *VP/Program Chair* – Carla J. Barber reported there were 14 papers and 20 presentations for the 2008 conference and the awards recipients were for Outstanding Educator Award – Chynette Nealy and the Distinguished Paper Award – Ronnie Fanguy and Betty Kleen.
   3. *Proceedings Editor* – Gerald Plumlee. Carla Barber made the report for Gerald in his absence. There were 20 papers accepted with 29 authors and there were 14 papers presented with 22 authors. Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, AR paid the $276.36 cost of printing the proceedings.
   4. *Past President / Nominating Committee* – Julie McDonald presented a slate of officers for the 2008-2009 academic year. The nominees are: President – Carla Barber, VP/Program Chair – Daniel Friesen, Secretary/Treasurer – Nansi Swartwout, Proceedings Editor – Gerald Plumlee, and Historian – Betty Kleen. There were no nominations from the floor, so the presented slate was uncontested.
3. **FBD Board Report** – Betty Kleen – who is also the FBD President – gave a report from the FBD Board.
   1. She reported on a procedure modification whereby no member association will receive their membership dues until an officer slate is officially in place.
   2. She reported that FBD procedure was modified to incorporate a longer planning horizon in order to secure better financial arrangements with the conference hotels. The current and tentative slate of cities is as follows: 2009—Oklahoma City, 2010— possibly New Orleans, 2011—possibly Houston, and 2012—possibly Oklahoma City.
   3. Finally, she reported on an item to be discussed regarding conference dates, i.e. is a change from a Wednesday-to-Saturday schedule to a Thursday-to-Sunday schedule perceived as an improvement? The general feeling of the ABIS membership was that the change is acceptable.
4. **Old Business** – Chynette Nealy
   1. ABIS’ new journal, Journal of Research in Business Information Systems.
      1. It was agreed that the new journal should be an annual publication. While the first issue must be mailed, the disc publication format makes the journal more available and is, therefore, the preferred mode.
      2. It was also agreed that the new journal should appear in 3 categories of Cabells Directory of Publishing Opportunities—Education, Information Technology, and Management; thus the journal listing would appear in 3 separate volumes of Cabells Directory.
      3. It was agreed that the subscription cost of $25 per year for non-members is reasonable.
5. **New Business** - Chynette Nealy
   1. *Registration vs. Membership Dues* - change of designation for the monies collected by ABIS. The new designation will be “registration” which replaces the term “membership dues.” The change should help ABIS members secure funding with their universities and colleges.
   2. *Office of “Proceedings Editor.”* - The office term was changed from 1 year to “up to 3 years” in order to preserve the learning that occurs during the first year of the office. The initial bylaw amendment to effect this change was motioned by Walter Creighton and seconded by Susan Jennings. In a related item, the bylaws were amended to start the ABIS officer rotation at the Secretary / Treasurer office. This amendment was forwarded by Margaret Kilcoyne, seconded by Susan Jennings. After some discussion, the question was called by Betty Kleen and unanimously passed by the membership.
   3. *Registration fees* - Betty Kleen moved to increase the registration fee to $50, to set the student registration fee at $35, and to set the journal subscription price for nonmembers at $25. Carla Barber seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
   4. *The Journal online* - Carla Barber made a motion to make the new journal available online, for free, but only after an elapsed time of 6 months from date of publication. Margaret Kilcoyne seconded. After some discussion, the motion passed unanimously.
   5. *ABIS Website Hosting and Domain Name* - Carla Barber made a motion to move the ABIS website off of the Southern Arkansas University server to a public hosting site and to purchase an appropriate domain name for our use. Betty Kleen seconded this motion. During discussion, it was revealed that the cost of the domain name is $9.99 per year. The cost of hosting would be approximately $161 per 3 year period. An acceptable domain name that was proposed is “abis-fbd.org.” After this discussion, the motion was passed unanimously. Carla Barber accepted responsibility to make it so.
   6. *Journal Info* - Items discussed included the necessity of longer articles, e.g. 10-20 pages and the necessity of a $75 submission fee for non-members. Margaret Kilcoyne made a motion to include in the bylaws a statement limiting the journal contents to papers presented at ABIS or published in the ABIS Proceedings. Nansi Swartwout seconded. After some discussion that touched on (a) the items of the previous discussion and (b) the acceptability of papers from older sources, e.g. old Proceedings, this motion passed unanimously.
   7. *Journal Editor* – A nomination was made from the floor to have Chynette Nealy fulfill the position of Journal Editor. This nomination was ratified unanimously.
   8. *Election of Officers* - Margaret Kilcoyne made a motion to accept the slate of officers for 2008-2009 that was presented earlier. This motion was seconded by numerous members and was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

Secretary/Treasurer  
Daniel Friesen