



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ESEA

STATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

Ensuring Student Equity & Access

## Conference Planning Committee March 2019 Meeting Notes

The Conference Planning Committee (CPC) met via telephone on March 21, 2019 at **1:00PM EDT**, 12:00PM CDT, 11:00AM MDT, 10:00AM MST & PDT.

Those in attendance were: Jonas Zuckerman (Committee Chair – WI); Tara Rodriguez (KY); Gail Clark Dickson (MD); Julie Cowell (MO); Sonya Morris (FL); Kathryn (Joey) Nichol (NH); Lynn Sodat (VA); Theresa Villmer (MO); Dean Zajic (KS).

A+ Events Staff: Bob Harmon (NAESPA CEO–WA), Marcus Cheeks (NAESPA CPO–MS), Monica Kemper, (A+ Events Event Director–CA.)

### Meeting Agenda

1. [Review Conference evaluation results.](#)
  - Jonas provided a recap of the survey results reviewed during the February meeting.
  - Some attendees commented that the conference was too long and they would prefer a three day event rather than four days. Bob pointed out that the next set of conferences (2020 – 2024) will be four days in length based on contracts already in place. Renegotiating the contracts would be costly. The committee requested a cost estimate for renegotiating the contracts, beginning with the 2021 conference in Boston. A+ Events staff will research the potential cost to the Association of renegotiating contracts to shorten the conference. The results will be discussed during the April CPC meeting.
  - The committee discussed the common attendee complaint regarding the lack of food options at the Kansas City conference. This should be less of an issue when the conference takes place in downtown Atlanta due to more restaurants located near the convention center.
2. [Review the 2019 Conference Proposal Submission Guide, and identify any changes to these two sections: Presentation topic areas \(page 3\) and Proposal submission details \(page 5\)](#)
  - Bob explained that the list of topics from Kansas City was shortened and refined from the Philadelphia conference. The overall consensus of the

committee was that the topics list worked well and should be kept the same, except for the following minor changes:

- Add the individual federal ESEA programs as a secondary list, so that each proposal is categorized as Instruction, Leadership or Policy, followed by topics that apply to the subject matter, and tagged with any number of applicable federal Title programs
- Special populations will be removed as a topic from page 5, because this item will be replaced with the addition of specific ESEA programs
- Add to the topics list on page 5: “Equitable services to private schools”
- The committee decided to make this one change under Proposed Presentation Characteristics: Add a fifth bullet – “Select the federal ESEA programs that are most relevant to your proposal.”

3. Review the existing grading rubric (page 2) and discuss any edits.

- The committee was in agreement that the rubric was helpful last year and should be kept as is – with the following addition:
- Include a line about highlighting issues of equity in both the first grading item and the bonus points sections. This would allow for proposals addressing equity to receive slightly higher points than those that do not fit with the theme.

4. Decide whether or not to invite former Distinguished Schools to submit proposals.

- Committee members on the call agreed that inviting former National ESEA Distinguished Schools to submit proposals is a nice way to honor their work and there is no reason not to encourage them to do so. It should be clear that these schools would be submitting proposals through the general submission process and their proposals wouldn't automatically be selected.
- Agenda items 5 through 9 (listed below) were briefly discussed during the committee meeting. However, because time was running short, Jonas suggested committee members have additional time beyond the meeting, for review and comment of these important items. It was decided that an email would go out to committee members, with details regarding the incomplete agenda items. The committee will have until Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> to submit comments on these items, either via the Conference Planning Committee Discussion board or by replying to the email.

5. Identify organizations that should be encouraged to have presenters submit proposals.

6. Identify other associations, groups, or individuals that will be invited as presenters—outside the general proposal submission process.

7. Keynote ideas for 2020
8. Discuss the 2020 Theme: “Together for Equity” and any edits to the theme description:

“As we integrate, innovate, and collaborate, we must make sure that this work is being done with the goal of equity, making sure that “every student has access to the educational resources and rigor they need at the right moment in their education across race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, sexual orientation, family background and/ or family income.” (CCSSO, Leading for Equity). Programs funded by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) are designed for equity and we must all work together to make this goal a reality, and ensure that all students have access to and receive the education and resources they need and deserve. The 2020 National ESEA Conference will focus on how our combined efforts will lead us to this goal of equity.”
9. Review Conference terms and conditions for the following groups:
  - [Standard Proposals](#)
  - [Invited Proposals](#)
  - [Attendees](#)
  - [Exhibitors](#)
  - [Members](#)

The next Conference Planning Committee Meeting is a conference call scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 1:00pm Eastern.