

**ABFSE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ZOOM MEETING – 3/13/26 10:00 AM EST**

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ebonē Dukes @ 10:05 am

Roll call was taken and the following ABFSE Programs/Institutions were present:

American Academy McAllister Institute
American River College
Arapahoe Community College
Cape Cod Community
Chandler-Gilbert Community College
Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service
Cypress College
Dallas Institute of Funeral Service
Delgado Community College
DesMoines Area Community College
Fayetteville Technical Community College
Goodwin University
Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service
Jefferson State Community College
John A. Gupton College
Lake Washington Institute of Technology
Mid-America College of Funeral Service
Milwaukee Area Technical College
North Shore Community College
Northampton Community College
Northeast Texas Community College
Northwest Mississippi Community College
Pittsburg Institute of Mortuary Science
St. Petersburg College
University of Arkansas Hope/Texarkana
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Minnesota
Wayne State University
Worsham College of Mortuary Science

ABFSE Executive Director Robb Smith and Assistant Executive Director Mike Landon were invited guests.

Motion to approve the Agenda – Moved by Jolena Grande; second, Gary Brown – motion passed

Leili McMurrough was asked to serve as parliamentarian.

Motion for approval of minutes from previous meeting. – Moved by Jolena Grande; second Lisa Meehan. Motion carried

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – No report

Committee on Accreditation – At the last COA meeting, five items were discussed: 1) Branch Campuses; 2) Complaint against the COA; 3) A request to reconsider decision of COA (did not involve a negative ruling by the COA); 4) Reviewed data about annual report; 5) Asked CUC to provide nominations for COA vacancies.

Constitution and By-laws – No report

Curriculum – Met virtually in September and approved the outlines that will be voted on in April as a Notice of Motion. Summer curriculum review will take place on June 4-7 in San Antonio. Interested participants must submit their request by March 16. The need will be 5 educators for each outline.

Program – The Professional Development Programs for the Annual Conference are set as well as monthly zoom PD programs throughout the year.

Scholarship – numbers of applications received are smaller (31) and many are still incomplete.

Only 5 applications were complete at the March 1 deadline.

NBE Liaison – Committee met a couple of times – Items discussed were persistence pass rate. This is a COA responsibility, not the ICFSEB. The ICFSEB reports that approximately 90% of NBE takers opt to release their scores to the program. The committee will be sending out a survey soliciting questions to be addressed to the ICFSEB during the meeting in Houston.

Motion to accept committee reports – Moved by Leili McMurrough; second Nick Nicci.

Motion carried

Report from the February ICFSEB Conference – Robb Smith

There were 11 educators present representing 9 different colleges.

4 educators are also state board members. Mark Evelyn was selected to a full term on the Conference Board of Directors.

The ICFSEB and the ABFSE are discussing establishing a group of individuals to review the task analysis.

The Conference offers zoom sessions to meet with ABFSE programs and students to share information about the ICFSEB

Exam Security – testing agencies continue to deal with cheating

Update on the textbook survey – can be updated as soon as the Annual Report is closed (should be updated at least annually) – Assists the Conference in writing exam questions.

Call for unfinished business – none

New Business

Curriculum Outlines to be voted on – no comments

Mentorship Committee – Will be a Notice of Motion for the Annual Meeting to establish a standing committee.

Bachelor Degree Requirements – COA is asking for a revision for BA degree Gen Ed.

COA nominations – 5 slots of the 12 will be turning over. The new members will be observers for two meetings to acclimate themselves to the function of the COA. Public and Private

members will have a 5 year term and the CUC member will have a 4 year term. March 27 is the deadline for applications.

Funeral Law and FTC – Housekeeping change simply to make funeral law and FTC in the standards.

Announcements

Annual Meeting – April 13 – 17 in Houston, TX

Summer Curriculum Workshop: June 4 – 7 in San Antonio – Funeral History and Embalming; Pathology; Sociology are the outlines to be reviewed.

Robb spoke on the correspondence with Air Quality. ABFSE and NFDA have sent him cease and desist letters. He is not endorsed by the ABFSE.

Funeral service law text book is under revision

Strategic planning session in Charlotte prior to the start of the NFDA convention

PD on the 24th – Rethinking Cremation – new zoom link with Arapahoe address.

Annual Meeting will be live streamed via TribuCast on Friday the 17th of April

The persistence pass rate will be monitored in the ABFSE office. 15 programs will benefit from persistence pass as their NBE pass rates were less than 70%.

CUC will meet on Friday, April 17 at 8:00 am to review COA applications.

Motion to adjourn – moved by Leili McMurrough; second by Lisa Meehan. Motion carried