



**The Research and Education Council
American Watchmaker-Clockmaker Institute
Harrison, Ohio
Minutes June 13, 2010**

- Herman Mayer Lititz Watch Technicum REC Director
- Doug Thompson Saint Paul College REC Secretary
- Jason Champion Oklahoma State University
- Jason Ziegenbein Oklahoma State University
- Tom Schomaker AWCI
- Jim Michaels NAWCC School
- Gary Biscelli Lititz Watch Technicum
- Janelle Juairé Saint Paul College

- Jim Lubic AWCI Executive Director

Meeting called to order 8:17am EDT by Director Mayer.

Minutes from the Minutes May 9th, 2009 meeting in Okmulgee, Oklahoma were presented. Michaels moved to accept the minutes as prepared, second from Ziegenbein.
Voice vote: Approved unanimously.

School Reports

Biscelli and Mayer reported that the Lititz Watch Technicum has increased the number of students to 14 in the first year of the SAWTA program and 12 students in the second year (which is the final year of their affiliation with the WOSTEP program). This final WOSTEP class will graduate in August 2010. He noted that though the number of applicants has been lower, the overall quality of the candidates has increased. The use of dexterity tests has not a reliable method of determining candidates for their program and so they have instituted comprehensive one on one interviews of prospective students.

Thompson and Juairé reported Saint Paul College has a total of 19 students enrolled, 9 in the first year and 10 in the second. Economic conditions affected the most recent January student enrollment. Financial hardships have kept a few applicants from completing the enrollment process and some have dropped out after being accepted. This has happened with short notice to the college and makes it very difficult to secure a full class by the start date. Recruiting efforts have increased at the college and the number of inquiries is up for the 2011 start.

Ziegenbein and Champion reported that the Okmulgee Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology graduated 3 students in December, have 10 students in the first year and 6 students in the second year, with a move to start 14 the next SAWTA session (2011). Their candidates are finding out about their program online and they also have experienced an increase in non-traditional student applications. Students have been submitting some homework online in Power Point format prior to class presentation. The current campus president, Bob Klabenés, will retire at the end of the year.

Schomaker reported that most courses are filled at the AWCI Academy, but there has been a fall off in enrollment this year, possibly due to the economy, as well the lower demand for the CW21 by watchmakers having already completed the requirement for Rolex spare part accounts. He noted there are over 200 watchmakers having passed the CW21 examination.

Michaels reported the NAWCC School of Horology has received accreditation for their 3028 hour program. He has received 127 inquiries for the 20 spots available and has 18 starting this month. He has been working hard with physical changes to the school as well as academic changes (moving to semester rather than a credit hour basis). Their watchmaking program is currently more popular than the clockmaking program in terms of general interest and enrollment.

General Reports

Lubic reported that seven schools applied for and received scholarship funds from the Harold and Marie Borneman Greenwood Memorial Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. The awards are administrated through the ELM Trust.

He also expressed the necessity of a WT program, which has not been developed due to a number of difficulties.

Current REC members: Gem City College, Lititz Watch Technicum, NAWCC School of Watchmaking, North American Institute of Swiss Watchmaking, North Seattle Community College, N.G. Hayek School of Watchmaking, OSU Institute of Technology, Paris Junior College, Saint Paul College and Watchmakers of Switzerland.

The schools in Mississippi and Michigan have closed.

New Business

A Committee for Continuing Education was formed with Mayer as chair, Ziegenbein and Thompson as committee members.

REC Officers

Ziegenbein was elected as the Research and Education Council Director and Mayer was elected as the new REC secretary.

Motion for adjournment by Schomaker, seconded by Champion, unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25am EDT

Submitted by REC Secretary, Doug Thompson.