

**GLA PARAPROFESSIONAL DIVISION MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

The meeting was held at the Continuing Education center at CSU at 11:00 a.m.

**Attendance**

Heidi Benford, Barbara Dantzler, Jennifer Duke, Laura Herndon, and Karen Manning.

**Business**

Prospects for a Vice Chair were the first order of business. The current Chair is Karen Manning. Heidi Benford agreed to be Vice Chair and Laura Herndon will continue as Secretary.

Discussion was then turned to recruitment issues. Heidi Benford mentioned her previous membership drive with gift cards and partial registration fees incentives was reasonably successful but not as much as she had hoped. One suggestion to increase recruitment is to use the GLA listserv for promotion. Laura Herndon proposed investigating the potential of a paraprofessional blog and a local Facebook group to advertise the division and committee. Karen Manning will consult with a colleague about the blog and also investigate Facebook for existing groups.

Next on the agenda was planning for the 2008 GaCOMO. Karen Manning proposed that the committee aim to conduct four meetings to be held at Clayton State University on dates to be announced before COMO.

The possibility of reworking a previous program for paraprofessionals entering graduate programs as Valdosta State University has received accreditation and increased enrollment was proposed by Laura Herndon. It was also proposed that recent graduates be contacted to share their view on how life has changed for them since graduation and what to expect. Possible title for this program could be From Para to Professional.

The committee recommended aiming for Thursday sessions in order to secure best turn-outs for the programs.

Karen Manning will check with Rhonda Boozer that she will continue to handle the Paraprofessional Awards this year. A suggestion was made to put the pictures of last years award winners in the Spring GLA Quarterly to promote the coming 2008 awards and encourage participation.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was concluded at 11:40a.m.

Submitted by

Laura E. Herndon  
January 28, 2008