

# **NANFED Field Consortia Chairs Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

3:30-5 EST

2:30-4 CST

1:30-3 MST

12:30-2 PST

Zoom invitation- <https://msu.zoom.us/j/176937280>

## **Minutes**

Attendees: Valerie Clemmons (Tri-State), Elon Simms (North Central), Michele Sienkiewicz (Front Range; President of NANFED), Beth Lewis (Tri-State), Carrie Turner (Alabama), Theresia Johnson-Ratliff (Vice-President of NANFED), Michelle Brandt (Distance Ed), Heather Kanenberg (Texas), Rebecca Brigham (North Carolina; Chair of COFE), Froylana Miller (Southern California and NANFED board member), Katrina Boone (Florida), Jodi Hall (North Carolina), Julie Navarre (North Central and NANFED board member), Aubree Rogers, Administrative Assistant Michigan State University

### **I. Welcome and Introductions (Theresia)**

Each member began by introducing themselves and the consortium they represent, including when the consortium was founded, how often and in what format they meet, and some of the main activities of the consortium. An addendum follows these minutes for all who are interested.

### **II. NANFED's Mission and Relationship to Regional Consortia (Michele)**

What is NANFED? Michele Sienkiewicz, President, summarized NANFED's history, missions and goals. NANFED is a 501(c)(3) organization with an independent voice outside of CSWE for field. Started in the 1980s before there was an official field council at CSWE, which now exists as the Council on Field Education (COFE). NANFED was created to gather input from field constituents and to advocate for field education needs at the CSWE level. NANFED's mission is to enhance and support field educators and consortia throughout North America.

NANFED dues primarily pay for the Heart of Social Work Field Award reception at APM. Membership to NANFED is low and so we have a very small budget. Discussion centered

around benefits individuals or consortia get from being a NANFED member. Feedback from members indicated that the dues structure is confusing.

### **How does NANFED interact with CSWE/ COFE/ BPD?**

8 years ago with the establishment of COFE, field now has an official voice within CSWE. One goal for this year is to improve communication between COFE, The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors (BPD) and NANFED. According to Rebecca Brigham, President of COFE, "Partnering with our sister organizations is part of official charge of COFE. We need to work together and speak in a common voice to represent field education."

### **How do we strengthen the relationship between consortia and NANFED?**

Ideas raised included: 1) Having a greater presence at BPD to include those schools with only BSW programs in NANFED; 2) NANFED can serve as a liaison between consortia and COFE/ CSWE to elicit issues of concerns; 3) Figuring out a way for NANFED to connect with those schools who can't attend APM.

### **III. Next steps (Julie N)**

- 1) Would it be helpful to convene this group again of regional consortia heads and the NANFED Board? There is interest in having another meeting such as this one. Michele S. will update the NANFED board at the next meeting.
- 2) What thoughts do you have about creating and establishing a mentoring program for new field directors?. Rebecca Brigham stated that CSWE and COFE just launched a new field director training in February. Six different modules- 45 new different field directors in the process of being trained. \$75 for the training. BPD has an in person training for new field directors during their event. Participants agreed that having NANFED create a network for new field directors to consult as questions arise would be a very helpful addition to any formalized training. Nothing can take the place of talking to someone else who has been in field education for awhile.
- 3) CSWE sponsoring a day long for field directors that held on the Thursday before APM 2017 for \$125. Focused on how the Grand Challenges in social work intersect with field education.
- 4) One way to increase field's voice at CSWE is by nominating a field educator or self-nominating to be on a council other than COFE. This is very important for to make sure field is represented on different councils and commissions.
- 5) How do we better support field programs in schools with limited resources?

## Addendum

### Summary of each Regional Consortium that attended

- 1) Texas- Meets monthly by phone and 2X/ year in person at BPD or APM and at the Texas NASW conference; host a session at the NASW conference each year; host a "Students' Day at the Capitol" for all SW students each year; maintains a statewide list-serve
- 2) North Central- Western PA, Ohio, WV, IN, IL, Western NY- Meet 2X/ year in person at Case Western; mostly info sharing and support; founded 24 years ago
- 3) Michigan- 33 schools in the state; all agree on a May start date for field search; held a statewide conference; working on a statewide survey of benefits to agencies of students' contributions through field education
- 4) Florida- Meet 2X/ year; Statewide field instructor training that all schools contribute to and accept; statewide list-serve; Google drive to share common forms; discuss processes and issues
- 5) Tri-State- Philly, NJ and Delaware- Founded over 20 years ago; Meet 4X/yr in different places; co-host field instructor training 2X/year for field instructors from all schools; Outreach to new social work programs; discuss common agencies
- 6) Alabama- Founded two years ago; meet 2X/year; info sharing support for new field people; modules to share for field instructor training
- 7) North Carolina- Founded long time ago; Mostly NC, but some close SC schools and one from TN- meet for 2 days 2X/year; discuss EPAS changes; piloting some shared content for student orientation and field instructor training/ orientation; resource sharing re: reaffirmation
- 8) Southern California (SoCal)- there's also a NoCal consortium and they meet together as a whole state once a year; agreed upon timeline for internship search; many similar functions to others mentioned
- 9) Front Range- Schools along the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains including ND, SD, Wyoming, Colorado and NM- Has existed off and on for about 15 years; most impactful was co-hosting APM in Denver in 2015; began to work on joint field instructor training modules and presented together at 2015 APM; mostly sharing and support, especially for new field educators