

Report on 2015-16 Initiatives -

1. The Region charges our current certification committee with the work of exploring the pro's, con's, costs, implications, feasibility, alternatives, etc. of our region finding a way to offer certification. The Certification Committee is asked to bring a report to the Executive Committee and to the membership at next year's meeting at Kanuga.

Report: Yes, we did (see Dr. John Eddinger's full report posted on website)

2. The Region charges the Executive Committee with appointing a **work group** to explore how we might expand the content and reach of our **website and social media**. We propose that this work group be empowered to retain appropriate consultation. We ask this work group to report its progress to the Executive Committee and the region by February 1, 2016.

Report: A workgroup composed of Chris O'Rear, Will Eades, Laura Gundel, David Smith, Elaine Hoffman, Russell Siler Jones developed a vision for a new regional website and identified a membership management and website content system - Your Membership.

A new regional website is being developed and version 1.0 rolled out in August 2016.

3. The Region charges the Executive Committee to hire a member to promote the proliferation of local continuing educational events for the region by: 1) recruiting members to provide workshops 2) supporting them 3) helping them with CEU's, advertising, etc.

Report: We initially contracted for a consultant who helped us learn that we were not organizationally prepared for even a part-time coordinator.

The Region sponsored or co-sponsored events with the following groups:

- North Carolina Association of Pastoral Counselors
- Asheville Chapter and Partnership for Pastoral Counseling
- Tennessee Association of Pastoral Therapists
- CareNet of North Carolina

4. The Region charges the Executive Committee to develop a plan for Web-based learning and consultation groups such as Theological Integrative Case-Consultation Groups.

Report:

- Great First Group!
- Next Group begins this winter
- Richard Rohr – February 16, 2017
- Nancy McWilliams
- Consulted and reviewed Iliff curriculum

--Successful Theological Case Conference online May-Sept, another starting in January with Robert Cooke – we'll be advertising registration after Kanuga

--Online event with Richard Rohr in February, be looking for more information!

--Video production of Nancy McWilliams, continuing to explore how we might capture offerings by video and making them available online

--John Eddinger trip to Denver...online curriculum previewed, still deciding how we might want to engage with that

5. The Region charges the Executive Committee to appoint a ***work group*** to help the region connect more often and more creatively with seminaries, divinity schools, C.P.E. programs, and non-theologically-oriented graduate schools.

Report We have developed a plan for rolling out Student Affiliate Groups

In 2017, we hope to have 2-3 pilot programs to begin, gather information as we tweak our model and move forward.

6. The Region charges the Executive Committee with appointing a member to explore connecting with educational and other institutions doing research in the efficacy of pastoral- and/or spiritually-integrated psychotherapy.

Report: Danielson Institute in Boston - One of the places where research into spiritually integrated psychotherapy is happening, and Russell Jones has been connecting with the staff and researchers there.

Russell has explored several connections; most fruitful has been with the Duke University Theology, Medicine and Culture Program. Warren Kinghorn, the Co-Chair of that program, will be our speaker next year at Kanuga.

7. The Region charges the Executive Committee with exploring the possibility of hiring a regional executive director.

Report: The Executive Committee recommends hiring a Regional Coordinator in 2017. With the shifting of responsibility of all activity from association to region it's become very clear that we're going to need staffing to do the work of the region. It makes sense to us that we contract with someone to coordinate and carry out particular parts of our strategic plan. We're still working through the process of how to put this position into place, and for the time being are temporarily paying the Regional Chair to help bridge us to this future. This position will help us maintain some continuity beyond the two-year terms of chair. We envision this position working on contract rather than as an employee. On behalf of the region, the Coordinating Council, led by the Regional Chair, will set strategic direction and identify measurable, achievable goals for the Regional Coordinator. The Regional Coordinator will implement the strategies set by the Coordinating Council and will be accountable to the Coordinating Council.

We are also foreseeing the need for additional contracts in the areas of Program Development, Continuing Education, Outreach, and Fundraising.

It is clear from our SOAR survey that the membership also support the idea of engaging professionals to help move our initiatives forward.

8. During the interim, the Chair will be paid a monthly stipend going forward, beginning November 1, 2015. The proposed amount is \$1000.00. This is an interim/transitional position and the chair will be accountable monthly to the Executive Committee with a written report.

Report: Russell Siler Jones is receiving this small stipend.

9. The Region charges the Executive Committee with securing a person to perform the administrative functions of the region.

Report: PAT EDDINGER is carrying this for us and we have blessed the establishment of a “Support Organization” to help with management.

Additional Reports

[Local Chapters Taskforce– Donna Scott and Dick Bruehl](#)

They’ve done a marvelous job for the last two years in encouraging us to connect and be active locally. They’ve helped us understand and believe in this model, and several chapters are already active:

--Our newest chapter, the Asheville Chapter, created an offering that expanded AAPC’s outreach in the community in an event that featured presentations from area pastors, political leaders, college professions and community organizers with break-out session facilitated by pastoral counselors.

Other community groups that aren’t yet officially chapters sponsored events:

--Our established cluster group in Alabama hosted a continuing education event also that was an integrated approach which featured two presenters, one a pastoral counselor and the other a professional psychologist for a community wide audience.

--Our state affiliated group, the Tennessee Association of Clinical Pastoral Therapists, sponsored a workshop panel discussion about the similarities and differences in the approaches of spiritual directors and pastoral counselors for a wider audience of healing practitioners.

Pastoral and Personal Concerns – David Verner

We were fortunate to have the help of volunteers Donna Scott and Eunice Holbert for part of the year. We thank Jim Hightower for his leadership of the committee during my extended leave of absence.

During the year committee members and volunteers accepted calling assignments for 160 of the SE Region's members. Collectively we actually attempted contact and invited conversations with 110. We have actually had conversations with 52.

In these conversations we have been asking about such things as:

- Our members' experience of the major transition taking place in AAPC and in the SE Region;
- Their response to several ideas about ways we as a region can better serve the personal and pastoral needs of our membership; and
- Their interest in recent regional innovations including local chapters and local and/or web-based continuing education initiatives.

We also planned a new welcoming program for First-Timers at Kanuga. We matched them with seasoned veterans, held a special dinner, and hosted the usual reception for them following the opening plenary. We extend thanks to Will Eads and David Harris for helping coordinate this effort.

Theological and Social Concerns – Robert Cooke

-- Bill Larrison will present twice on: "Sharing a Terminal Illness: A Theological Reflection."

-- Robert Cooke will introduce the concept of "Ambiguous Loss."

Advocacy – Andrew Gee

-- Support of Exec Committee as we've been addressing the changes before us.

-- Keeping an eye on licensure issues in TN and ongoing in NC

Program Committee – JoEllen Holmes

--Save the Date! 2017 Kanuga – October 20-22 with Warren Kinghorn, MD, ThD of Duke Divinity and Duke Medical Schools

--**176** registered participants this year at Kanuga - the most in recent memory including **47** newcomers!