



Monthly Conference Call Minutes
November 16, 2020
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The October Meeting was canceled due to illness.

1. November Executive Monthly Call- Most are still working from home, except LSU, Gretchen is back in office and back to driving to visits. Attending- Joe, Bill, Kris, Kay, Gretchen, Julie, Karen and L. Kay.
2. General planning status and current expectations for 2021- Kris Hayden let us know she is working on hotel blocks, securing on campus rooms, and making sure we won't have cancellation fees if it ends up going virtual. She had someone reach out about being a keynote, no info yet. Another life coach person reached out looking for events to speak at. What do we want? What kind of a inspirational keynote speaker? Should we use list serve to ask the whole group? Will the COVID situation change enough that even meeting is the bigger question. Bill heard the AAVMC meeting in March will have keynote Robin DiAngelo, author of White Fragility, will be the keynote speaker. We can each look at case conferences for ideas. Julie suggested something on need based issues and affordability, maybe a scholarship recipient. L. Kay suggested "Advancement after COVID", moving forward. What will the new model be? Gretchen agreed, a "Lesson's Learned" approach, where do we now. Karen asked about something for the Grateful Client track based on the new challenges with clients not coming into teaching hospitals anymore. Suicide, mental health and wellness are also big topics. Mental health of fundraisers and our teams as well as students. We all have been impacted by suicide. We all have an emotional toll, so this topic will be a great place to start. A panel of VTH social worker/Pet Memorial people might be good. Dr. Pamela Linden is heading a new Veterinary Social Worker Group. Joe mentioned that he heard during the pandemic that veterinary medicine seems to be thriving during the pandemic, how does that effect fundraising down the road? Added to the Covid puppy craze, the economics could really change. It seems we have a wide variety of topics. Kris has a lot more to go on in looking for speakers now.
3. AVAP Post 2020 Conference Budget-
 - a. Karen has not heard from Mark at AAVMC, to clear up whether we received a refund on our deposit to Town & Country yet, she will ask again.
 - b. Most universities-vet schools will have budget concerns next year, so many probably won't have conference funds. This could mean we will need to be virtual again in 2021. Many organizations are already moving late spring conferences to virtual. Some are now hybrid. VMX in Orlando has moved to June and hybrid.
4. On-Going Webinar Topics- Status update on plans for diversity webinar- Bill said the last webinar on social boundaries with donors went well. Wednesday, Dec 9th, is a DEI Webinar. We have a great panel lined up. We will have a recipient of the AAVMC diversity scholarship as a speaker. Dr. Jai Sweet will moderate, she asked for survey of topics of interest. Kelly from Advancement Resources is willing to do a Grateful Client webinar. The newly formed stewardship group had a great first meeting, thanks Karen.

Next meeting: December 14