IDEA EAST REGION BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
13 March 2015
Fort Worth Texas

1 The meeting was called to order by Sandra Reicis, East Region Chair.

2 Approval of March 7, 2014 Meeting Minutes: The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting and were discussed and accepted without revision. Motion to approve by P Greenberg, second by D Brothers. The minutes were approved.

CHAIR REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
3 Financial Report by S Reicis – With 29 attending, the fall 2014 regional conference had revenues of $5155 and expenses of $3674 giving the region a “change in assets” of $1481. Reicis explained that the IDEC budgeting/accounting process has changed with the Regions no longer receiving seed money from the overall budget. Each region will submit a budget for expenses in the spring for approval by the Board. Profit from the activities of the regions will no longer be in a regional budget.

Migette Kaup, IDEC Board representative at the meeting explained that this change is to consolidate resources in reality, as they are in theory.

Reicis reported that no late fees will be charged for late payment of dues, however members who have not paid will not have access to the “Members” portion of the website until they pay.

4 Student Competition: Reicis reported that the East Region had the most projects in the competition final round (3 undergraduate and 2 graduate). This is the first year that graduates are competing in a separate category.

A request was made that all the final projects be posted on the website so that students could see more than just the three winners. Another request was made that the judges be announced. Reicis responded that she thought the judges were announced but would take both these requests back to the Board.

A discussion was held concerning the difficulties of the logistics of the student competition – this is the first year it was judged all on-line and it is hoped that this will alleviate some of the past problems. A suggestion was made that two people
administer the competition for the region so that the experience/knowledge can be carried forward from year to year.

5 Reicis reminded attendees to fill out the blue form (in their badges) for the “people's choice” award of excellence and return the form to the registration table by 5PM on Saturday because the announcement is made at the awards banquet.

6 Volunteer Opportunities – there are six positions open on the national level. Details are available on-line under “Service”. At the regional level two positions are open – Membership Coordinator/Networking and the East Region Representative to the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is a time sensitive position with the work being done through the summer into September.

There are changes to four Regional Council positions – the regional Scholarship Coordinator, Regional IDEC Newsletter/Communications Liaison, the Student Competitions Engagement Member, and the Membership Coordinator/Networking.

Recis reminded the members that she is stepping down as of May 1st and that Karen Clarke has been elected to the Chair position. Karen presented Sandra with a gift from the region in thanks and recognition of her service of one half and one full term as the chair.

OLD BUSINESS

7 Ellen Fisher, on behalf of the IDEC Foundation, requested that the Region consider making a donation again this year to support the foundation. She explained that the foundation needs to raise more money to be able to consistently fund its scholarships and projects out of investment income.

Motion: P Blaser – “That the East Region give $1000 to support the IDEC Foundation”.
Second – T Balbaa.
Discussion: A question was asked “how can we allocate money if we don’t have a budget?”
The motion was withdrawn by P Blaser.

The discussion continued regarding how to fund the Foundation. E Fisher pointed out that we gave $600 last year but that level of funding by five regions would not begin to cover the work of the foundation. Other amounts were discussed.

M Kaup explained that the regions need to raise money to fund their activities. A question was asked whether the regional conferences were intended to be this fundraising venue. Kaup responded that the conferences should make money
and the proceeds from fundraising go back into the general funds. Donations to the Foundation or other funds must be budgeted realistically. A question was asked whether we know the proceeds from the recent regional conferences. Another suggestion was made that the entire membership vote as a body to fund the Foundation rather than having each region put in a line item to their budget.

**Motion**: E Fisher – “That the East Region have as a goal to give $2500 to the IDEC Foundation to be used for the Graduate Scholarship Fund for the 2015 budget year”.
Second – C Birkentall
Discussion: A question was asked why the Graduate Scholarship Fund? Fisher answered that the Foundation has identified it as having the most need for funding.
VOTE: 17 for, 14 against, 0 abstentions – the motion passed.

8 2015 Regional Conference: Lois Weinthal invited members to join the faculty and students in Toronto this fall for a conference hosted by Ryerson University. The best date for the event is October 22-24th. She asked for suggestions for a theme, events, and comments on the proposed dates.

She can be contacted at weinthal@ryerson.ca and looks forward to comments and suggestions from the membership.

The call for the abstracts will be coming out May 1st. Reicis asked if the membership wanted all five categories included and received no opposition.

9 2016 Regional Conference: Reicis asked for volunteers to host the fall conference.

10 Motion to adjourn: B Reeves
Second – P Greenberg
The meeting was adjourned.