

**Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting**  
**Texas Association of Deans of Liberals Arts and Sciences**  
**January 28-29, 2009 - Denton, Texas**

A massive ice storm struck the DFW area during the overnight of January 27-28, 2009. Thawing on the morning of January 28, 2009 was slow with hundreds of traffic jams, slow-moving lanes and other impediments to travel. The planned 1:00 PM starting time for the 2009 meeting was delayed by 37 minutes as delegates trickled in.

TADLAS President Kevin Lambert called the 2009 meeting to order at 1:37 PM on January 28, 2009 on the campus of the University of North Texas (UNT) in Denton, Texas. Lambert introduced our host, Warren Bruggren, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UNT, and complimented him on the outstanding organization that UNT put into the welcoming efforts under such unusual circumstances. The agenda for the meeting is posted [here](#).

Ann Abbe, UNT Vice President for Development led off our speakers with a presentation on endowment-based foundation giving. She offered advice on advisory boards, networking, and recruiting of shareholders. She commented “Make sure they support your mission before you appoint them, or they’ll try to change it”. She described typical high-profile advisory board member as a potential giver who is well-known to their own professional community and with a personal capacity to give. Someone with a sense of PR is also helpful. She suggests building a Top 25 Prospects every year and focusing on them. The goal is to build a five year list of the Top 125 Prospects.

After the midafternoon break Warren introduced Diane Crane and Ann Clinkscales for a lively presentation on the role of athletics in academic fundraising. At several points there were 3 hands in the air simultaneously as participants waited to ask questions and make comments. The proselytizing went so well that eventually there was considerable audience commentary; not all of it positive.

The Business meeting convened at 4:40 PM with President Lambert presenting the new TADLAS.ORG website and another round of thanks to Warren’s people for making it happen. Minutes from the 2008 meeting at Laredo were read, discussed and approved after a motion from Dennis Kratz and several seconds. Lee Nordt of Baylor gave the Treasurers Report and provided these attendance numbers:

2006	43 participants
2007	45 participants
2008	39 participants
2009	42 participants

But, he noted, only 29 people had physically made it through the aftermath of the ice storm to be present at this moment. Our current net change in the operating balance was \$3,076.87. Tony Duben moved to accept the report; Dennis Kratz seconded, and the report was accepted on a voice vote. In light of the numerous “missing” participants, there was a substantial discussion on the topic of refunding conference fees. A motion from the Our Lady of the Lake representative stated that fees should be refunded if there

was advance notification. There was a suggestion that we apply such fees to next years registration rather than issuing cash refunds (this due to the hassles of dealing with two-way Purchase Orders). It was noted that “conference counts” for catering, etc. are normally fixed about 1 week prior to the event. Beyond that point we have to pay regardless of whether someone shows up or not. After much discussion, A motion passed to provide 100% refunds prior to 2 weeks before the event and leave the disposition of the funds to the participant (e.g. refund now or credit for next year).

President Lambert then proposed that we begin using the TADLAS website as the official repository of TADLAS data and activities.

President Lambert called for nominations of new officers. Dennis Kratz as chair of the nominating committee, reported that we needed to elect a new president, vice-president, secretary, and 3 board members (Ann Staton and Kevin Lambert are rotating off the board). Nominations from the floor produced the following unanimous results:

President	Ann Staton,	<a href="mailto:astaton@twu.edu">astaton@twu.edu</a>
Vice-President	Tony Duben,	<a href="mailto:dubenaj@sfasu.edu">dubenaj@sfasu.edu</a>
Treasurer	Lee Nordt,	<a href="mailto:lee_nordt@haylor.edu">lee_nordt@haylor.edu</a>
Secretary	Grady Price Blount,	<a href="mailto:gdblount@angelo.edu">gdblount@angelo.edu</a>

Lee Nordt then called for recognition of outgoing-President Lambert’s fine service to the organization.

Existing board members and the year their term expires are:

Jim Renier, WTAMU	2010
George Perry, UTSA	2011
Frank Petzold, TAMU-CC	2011
Warren Bruggren, UNT	2012
Ann Marie Ellis, TSU	2012

President Lambert then opened a discussion of meeting locations by volunteering Angelo State University for the 2010 meeting. Ann Ataton suggested we have our meetings in Austin during legislative years (odd-numbered years) and *off-site* in even-numbered years. Tony Duben reiterated this idea. It was decided to solicit member input on this proposal via email communication to Ann Staton ([astaton@twu.edu](mailto:astaton@twu.edu)) and she, in consultation with the board, will make and announce a decision by the end of February.

President Lambert then suggested we set aside \$20,000 as a corpus and use the interest on same generate a small scholarship for the host institution at future annual meetings. Dennis Kratz stated that we need to put funding opportunities on the TADLAS website. There was substantial discussion about a suggestion to include community college deans in our organization. Lambert noted that there are 245 names on the THECB list of deans and assistant deans. He thought this might be a large pool of potential new members. Secretary Blount volunteered to prepare a white paper on the subject and forward it to the membership via email.

**Thursday, January 29, 2009**

The second day of the meeting convened in Hubbard Hall on the campus of Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas.

President Lambert called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM and promptly ceded authority to our new president Ann Staton.

As her first official act, President Staton introduced Dr. Richard Nicolas for his talk on Behavioral Assessment Teams as supplements to *Early Alert*-style academic monitoring schemes. He cited a Ford Foundation report on *The Top 20 Skills Employers Look for when Hiring New College Graduates*. He emphasized that they focus on these broader criteria, not just test scores or attendance. He described the mobile *GO Centers* and explained how they staff their trailer with student organization members. The audience was then invited outside to visit the TWU *GO Center* trailer during the ensuing break.

President Staton then introduced Richard Sheardy for a discussion of science education and the [SENCER](#) program. Cindy Maguire then made a presentation on pre-testing and post-testing in non-traditional core science courses. As an example, she cited her course *Introduction to Environmental Chemistry*, SCI 2103.