



## 1999 Retreat - Stowe [APPROVED]

**1999 Fall NCoGS Working Conference**  
**Thursday October 21 through Sun October 24, 1999**  
**Minutes of the Opening Session**  
**Stowe, Vermont**  
**October 21, 1999**

Co-President Bruce Haggard called the Opening Session of the Biannual Retreat Conference to order at 8:20 p.m. He welcomed the participants and introduced Jean Olson, Member of the Executive Committee and the Host and Organizer of this Conference.

Jean welcomed the participants and gave an overview of the conference and announced that the focus of the conference was Evaluation Design. Jean introduced the leader for the workshops, Larisa M. Naples.

Bruce thanked Jean for her work in organizing the conference. He then introduced the Executive Committee: Co-Presidents Bruce Haggard and Mary Daley; Vice President/Technology Peter Berget; Treasurer Mary Daley, Secretary Bob Seney; At-Large Jean Olsen, Ted Tarkow, Immediate past President and thanked them for their work.

Peter Berget announced that the web site was established and as of this date 32,000 hits have been recorded with an average of about 90 hits a day. He also announced that the Directory had been completed and that a copy would be made available to all participants. He did announce that several known schools are missing because information was not submitted by the deadline. The organization recognized and thanked Peter for his extensive work in both of these areas.

Bruce then summarized the purpose of this retreat conference. Our goal was to develop an evaluation instrument that could be used by all the Governor's Schools. A single evaluation process will give NCoGS more credibility.

Larisa then addressed the conference. She asked us "What do we want to know? What kinds of questions do we want/need to ask? What are our commonalities? What instruments are not appropriate? She also reminded us that evaluation is a process and not just an instrument. She then challenged us with the question "Are we willing to hear what we don't want to hear?"

The Opening Session was adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m. [President's Note: Unclear whether an official closing session concluded the meeting.]

Submitted by

Bob Seney, Secretary

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