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Field Services Alliance

Goals and Task List: *Updated after the 2002 Winter Retreat in Myrtle Beach, SC*

Goal I: Maintain and further develop forum to share information and promote collegiality among the field services professionals and other interested colleagues.

Chair: Andy Verhoff, Ohio Historical Society

Tim Glines, Minnesota Historical Society; Carol Harsh, Museums on Main Street, Smithsonian Institution; Pat Miller, Illinois Heritage Association; Karla Nicholson, Kentucky Historical Society; Ann Johnson, Kentucky Historical Society.

- Plan annual meeting (Portland, September 25, 2002, 1-5 p.m.)
- Plan annual FSA winter retreat (Ohio, February 16-18 or 23-25, 2003)
- Coordinate collection of agency annual reports from each state and distribute to FSA members prior to the annual FSA meeting
- Conduct mini-census of state administrators and humanities councils to determine who else is doing field services and may be interested in joining FSA; goal is to expand membership to states not currently involved
- Survey FSA members and interested colleagues to see if they are still interested in being on FSA list/FS List
- Draft by the Portland meeting a mini-census to determine which national organizations are doing field services. The census will be sent to state and regional museum associations, state museums, state historical societies, state humanities councils, historic preservation offices, and SHIPO. Harsh will lay the groundwork with the Federation of State Humanities Councils so the survey can be sent through them.
- Create by the Portland meeting a one-page description of FSA and field services to include with the census
- Divide the country into regions and assign regions to committee members, who will determine to whom in each organization the census should be sent. (Verhoff)

Goal II: To strengthen the field services/AASLH collaboration.

Chair: Connie Rendfeld, Indiana Historical Society

Katherine Dill, Indiana Historical Society; Jo Ann Williford, North Carolina; Tara White, AASLH; Harry Klinkhamer, AASLH; *Ex officio:* Andy Verhoff, FSA chair

- Encourage FSA members to seek nomination or appointment to AASLH's Council and other committees, and likewise encourage AASLH to consider FSA representation on those bodies
- Maintain FSA representation on AASLH Editorial Board

- Investigate the possibility of FSA officers or members attending the State Historical Administrators (Klinkhamer and Davis) and the Federation of State Humanities Councils (Harsch) meetings in 2002 to promote field services and FSA
- Elect FSA vice-chair to chair Goal II (Done March 2002)
- Plan recurring presentation at annual AASLH meetings; core services and how to do them is a possibility for 2003
- Submit articles on FSA/field services to the *AASLH Dispatch*
- Work with AASLH program officers to explore other ways that FSA and AASLH can work together
- Affirm that all FSA members should be members (individual or organizational) of AASLH
- Promote AASLH membership to our constituencies
- Provide support and cooperation for AASLH's Census on History
- Follow progress of AASLH initiatives and provide FSA input/support as applicable

Goal III. To develop a theory and methodology of practice for field services work.

Chair: Pat Miller, Illinois Heritage Association

David Grabitske, Minnesota Historical Society; Karla Nicholson, Kentucky Historical Society; Katherine Dill, Indiana Historical Society; Sarah Larson, Reston Historic Trust; Tom McKay, State Historical Society of Wisconsin; *Ex officio:* Andy Verhoff, FSA chair

- Provide summary of Nicholson's survey and draft core services list; post core services on FSA web page
- Investigate creating a web-based manual containing core services field services offices should offer to function well; include good, better, and best practices
- Plan presentation on an issue pertinent to field services work for the FSA annual meeting

Goal IV. To continue to develop and share materials that help field services professionals do their work.

Co-chairs: Mary Turner, Illinois Association of Museums

Mary Edelen, South Dakota State Historical Society; J. D. Britton, Ohio Historical Society; Cherie Cook, Oklahoma Museums Association; Terry Davis, American Association for State and Local History; Lois Herr, Kansas Historical Society; Connie Rendfeld, Indiana Historical Society; *Ex officio:* Andy Verhoff on, FSA chair

- Organize leaflets/resources by topic as well as organization of origin
- Work with AASLH to update its annotated bibliography for posting on AASLH's web site. Ensure bibliography is available to non-members of AASLH by directing them to field services offices.
- Collaborate with AASLH to identify and post relevant field-service related forms on AASLH's web page. Ensure forms are available to non-members of AASLH by directing them to field services offices.
- Develop a proposed subject list for possible FSA manual: each section should have an introduction, a resource section, web site information, and a bibliography
- Determine to post either a "Top 10 Books" list or an annotated bibliography of useful resources for field services offices; the result could be posted on FSA website

Goal V. To utilize and encourage others to take advantage of emerging communication technology.

Chair: John Harris, Indiana Historical Society

Robbie Davis, South Carolina State Museum; Tim Glines, Minnesota Historical Society; Carrie Dowdy, Kentucky Historical Society; Tara White, AASLH; *Ex officio:* Andy Verhoff, FSA chair

- Post list of technical leaflets by topic

- Post field services manual
- Maintain FS-LIST
- Maintain FSA membership and interested colleagues address lists
- Encourage FSA members to review FSA web pages on the AASLH website and make recommendations for additional information to include
- Expand documents available on the FSA website: build links to FSA agencies, technical leaflets, and historical society directories
- Encourage FSA members to send the URLs for their own field services web pages to John Harris so that he can add links from the FSA web page to other field service web pages
- Help other FSA members communicate by creating designated areas for committee discussion
- Continue to explore new technologies that could benefit FSA and FSA members