Press Release
2014

American Board of Funeral Service Education meets in Minneapolis New Officers Elected

Minneapolis, Minnesota was the site of the 52nd Annual Conference of the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) from April 9-12, 2014. Members and guests from the accredited funeral service programs in the US along with representatives from NFDA, NFDMA and ICCFA meet annually to review the status of funeral service education.

Discussions included accreditation standards, program assessment, the National Board Examination, strategic planning, scholarships and curriculum development. Kelco Supply Co. provided transportation for a visit to the University of Minnesota Mortuary Science Program and a tour of the alkaline hydrolysis facilities of Bradshaw Celebration of Life Center. Service Corporation International hosted a reception to promote their scholarship program and to welcome the new ABFSE Executive Director, Robert C Smith III.

Elected to two year terms as officers of ABFSE were President Eugene Ogrodnik of Pittsburgh (PA) Institute of Mortuary Science, Vice-President Karl Kann of Worsham College of Mortuary Science, Wheeling, IL., Secretary-Treasurer Jzyk Ennis of Jefferson State Community College, Birmingham, AL., and Past President Francisco Solis of San Antonio College (TX). Steven Spann of John A. Gupton College, Nashville, TN serves as Chairman of the Committee on Accreditation.

ABFSE has been recognized as the sole accrediting agency in funeral service education by the US Department of Education since 1972 and by Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) since 2006. 6006 students are enrolled in the 58 accredited funeral service programs located in 34 different states and the District of Columbia.

Email comments and questions to Robert C. Smith III, Executive Director
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Pictured: (clockwise) Eugene Ogrodnik, Francisco Solis, Jzyk Ennis, Karl Kann