

Original



Education and Library Networks Coalition

October 28, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room TW-A325
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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OCT 29 2004

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

**In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrator's Board of Directors,
CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45**

Dear Secretary Dortch:

We write today to urge you to reappoint two individuals to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors: **Dr. Anne L. Bryant** as the representative for schools that are eligible to receive discounts through the Universal Service Fund, and **Anne Campbell** as the member representing libraries that are eligible to receive discounts. Both Ms. Campbell and Dr. Bryant currently serve on the Schools & Libraries Committee of USAC (Dr. Bryant as Vice Chair), and we feel that both are tremendous assets to the Board.

As executive director of the National School Boards Association (NSBA), Dr. Bryant brings a wealth of information about the technology needs of schools. She is a leading advocate for public education, and has promoted education technology initiatives as a key component of student achievement. Dr. Bryant recently served as co-chair of the CEO Forum on Education and Technology, an organization of 20+ high technology CEOs assembled to report to the nation on progress in technology and education. She is also a member of the Learning First Alliance, comprised of 12 education organizations committed to raising student achievement.

Ms. Campbell, the director of the National City Public Library in California and past President of the California Library Association, is a community leader, a respected figure in the library field, and a major advocate for the E-rate program. She possesses a deep knowledge of library technology, funding issues, and the role of libraries in the E-Rate program and has testified frequently on these topics before Congress and national agencies. Libraries across the country appreciate her commitment to sharing library concerns with the Board, and communicating changes in the program to applicants in the field.

The Education and Libraries Networks Coalition (EdLiNC), a coalition representing the nation's leading education and library associations, strongly supports the reappointment of Ms. Campbell and Dr. Bryant to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors. Both have proven themselves to be committed advocates for the integrity and continued success of the Universal Service Fund and E-Rate program.

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Copies of Dr. Bryant's and Ms. Campbell's professional biographies are attached.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

American Association of School Administrators
American Library Association
Association of Educational Service Agencies
Consortium for School Networking
Council of Chief State School Officers
Education Legislative Services
International Society for Technology in Education
National Association of Independent Schools
National Catholic Educational Association
National Education Association
National Education Knowledge Industry Association
National School Boards Association
Rural School and Community Trust

cc: Ms. Sheryl Todd, Telecommunications Access Policy Division
Wireline Competition Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Room 5-B540

Anne L. Bryant, Ed.D.
Executive Director

As executive director of the National School Boards Association, Anne L. Bryant heads a federation of state and territorial organizations dedicated to advancing education through citizen governance of public schools. The federation reaches over 14,700 school districts involving 95,000 school board members. She directs a 130 person staff in Alexandria, Virginia, implementing policies to help the state associations and local school boards provide leadership for today's children in order to develop tomorrow's leaders.

A native of greater Boston, Massachusetts, Bryant is an experienced association executive and brings to NSBA a strong background in education. She has written widely on K-12 education, volunteer-staff leadership issues, and the role of the federal government in education. Bryant testifies before Congress, carrying the message that the education of our public school students is the nation's top priority. She serves as a spokesperson for NSBA to the news media and national organizations, forging new partnerships to guarantee every child an equal opportunity for a high quality education.

Bryant is an advisory commissioner of the Education Commission of the States and is the chair of the Board of Trustees at Simmons College. She is also Vice Chair of the Schools & Libraries Committee of Universal Service Administrative Company (which includes oversight of the \$2.25 billion technology discount fund for schools and libraries, known as the E-rate). Bryant recently served as a member and co-chair of the CEO Forum on Education and Technology, an organization of 20+ high technology CEO's assembled to report to the nation on progress in technology and education. She is also a member of the Learning First Alliance, an alliance of 12 education organizations committed to raising student achievement.

Prior to joining NSBA in July 1996, Bryant was executive director of the American Association of University Women, a national organization advancing equity for women and girls in education, the workplace, and the family. From 1974 to 1986, she was vice president of the Professional Education Division of P.M. Haeger & Associates, a Chicago association management firm. She holds an Ed.D. degree from the University of Massachusetts and a B.A. from Simmons College.

In 1987, Bryant was named a fellow by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), and in 1992 was honored for her leadership with the Key Award, the ASAE's highest recognition. In 1983, she was awarded the University of Massachusetts Alumnae Achievement Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Education, and in 1993 she received the Alumnae Achievement Award from Simmons College. In June 1996, she was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the University of New England, and in 1998, she was also awarded an honorary Doctorate of Education from Middlebury College. In 1999, she received the Chancellor's Medal from the University of Massachusetts. In March 2002, the ASAE Foundation honored Bryant for her exceptional career in association leadership.

ANNE L. BRYANT

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SUMMARY

Bryant is known nationally as an innovative leader, a team oriented manager, and a thoughtful and articulate spokesperson for the organizations she has both led and coached. For almost 30 years she has worked with boards of directors of non-profit organizations, helping each to create a focused, strategic vision and harness a staff team to implement the goals and strategies to effect that vision and done so while building a sound fiscal infrastructure. Bryant has served on several outside boards, where she continues to rise to senior leadership, becoming head of the Management Committee (Independent Sector), the chair of the board (Simmons College), treasurer (Universal Service Administrative Company), and co-chair (CEO Forum). Much of Bryant's recent experience is in the field of education where she is called on by Congress, the administration, and numerous media outlets to speak on her views and the positions of the National School Boards Association. Bryant has a reputation as a change agent and outcome thinker who guides a high caliber team that has achieved strategic and long-term goals.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Executive Director (CEO)

National School Boards Association (NSBA), Alexandria, VA
National School Boards Foundation (NSBF), Alexandria, VA

1996-present

NSBA, headquartered in Washington, represents and serves 95,000 school board members (on 14,700 local boards) throughout the U.S. and its territories. With a staff of 130 and a budget of \$22 million, the association's purpose is to improve the quality of governance of locally elected school board officials. NSBA represents public schools at the national, executive, legislative, and judicial levels on such issues as equitable funding, student performance standards, special education, and technology innovation in teaching and learning. Research is conducted on topics such as class size, site-based management, union/management issues, private versus public schools, and character education. These services are provided through major conferences, regional meetings, award winning publications, and 52 state and territorial associations that provide direct services to local school board members.

During the past seven years NSBA has seen its reputation change from a strong but somewhat defensive organization to a vibrant force with a new agenda for school board improvement focus on student achievement and community engagement. Together with the board of directors and staff, Bryant has:

- Created a new, focused strategic plan with four organizational goals.
- Implemented the Key Work of School Boards (an eight-part framework for school board training).
- Articulated legislative priorities to Congress on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and local district flexibility.
- Led the development of an online learning center, which is available to all 50 state school boards associations for individual board and district training.
- Collaborated with 11 other education organizations to create the Learning First Alliance, a first in the field of education.

Executive Director

1986-1996

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), Washington, D.C.

The AAUW Educational Foundation, Washington, D.C.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, Washington, D.C.

Under Bryant's leadership AAUW and its education foundation:

- Grew from 80,000 to 160,00 members.
- Focused its mission from 70 legislative priorities to promoting education and equity for women and girls.
- Launched a multi-faceted research and action agenda around girls' self-esteem (1990), girls' achievement in math and science (1990), their acceptance as equal achievers by teachers (the *AAUW Report*, 1991) and sexual harassment in schools (*Hostile Hallways*, 1993).
- Initiated a series of state level and local roundtable symposia attended by leading educators, researchers, and state and locally elected officials to drive action policy.
- Saw the foundation's assets grow from \$44 million to \$100 million.
- Dispersed \$4 million (from under \$2 million) per annum to American and international foundation fellows and for community action grants.

Vice President, Professional Education Division

1974-1986

P. M. Haeger and Associates, Chicago, IL

P.M. Haeger and Associates was a multiple association management firm whose clients include both professional societies and trade associations.

This company was a spin-off from Smith Bucklin and Associates, the largest multiple association management firm in the U.S. Bryant and Haeger negotiated their departure from Smith Bucklin with three clients and 25 staff to enable a focus on their professional association clients versus trade associations. Bryant became vice president in 1978 and helped grow the firm to eight associations and 65 staff with budgets over \$20 million. Clients included: the National Association of Bank Women and its foundation; the International Association of Auditorium Managers; the Association of Diabetes Education; and the American Association of Physicists in Medicine.

PRIMARY BOARD EXPERIENCE

Trustee

2004-present

The National Teachers Hall of Fame, Emporia, KS

The Hall of Fame is committed to drawing the public's attention to exceptional PreK-12 teachers through a museum, teacher resource center, and recognition program that honors five of the nation's most outstanding PreK-12 educators each year. Bryant was named a member of its National Board of Trustees in May 2004.

Member

2004-present

cMarket, Cambridge, MA

cMarket, Inc. was founded in 2002 with the mission to become the leading provider of Internet based auction and special event services that enable non-profit fundraisers to efficiently secure incremental capital from donors, sponsors, and their supporting community. With the completion of its launch in February 2004, Bryant was named a member of its Board of Advisers.

Director, Vice Chair

1997-present

Universal Service Administration Company, Washington, D.C.

Established by the Federal Communications Commission and Congress to assist in the collection and distribution of approximately \$3.9 billion annually. Provides discounted telephone, Internet, and wiring services to all public and private K-12 schools and libraries, rural hospitals, and high cost, low-income rural telephone customers. As one of three education members on the board, Bryant rose to treasurer in April 2000.

Trustee and Board Chair

1973-present

Simmons College, Boston, MA

A women's undergraduate liberal arts college with a specialty in the professions. Graduate schools and programs are co-educational. Approximate size: 3,000. Bryant chaired numerous committees, has consistently been a member of the executive committee, and became chair of the board in 2001.

Member, Co-Chair

1997-2001

CEO Forum on Education and Technology, Washington, D.C.

An organization of 20+ technology CEO's assembled to report to the nation on progress in technology and education. Bryant twice co-chaired the forum, as its first co-chair and its final co-chair. The chairmanship is shared with an industry CEO.

Director, Vice Chair, Management Committee

1991-1993

Independent Sector, Washington, D.C.

Established by John Gardner in 1980 to promote the role of foundations and associations in American society. Membership includes 177 foundations and 469 volunteer organizations. All major philanthropic foundations are members. As chair of the Management Committee (also Executive Committee), Bryant played a leadership role.

Director, Committee Chair **1988-1997**
United Nations Association, New York , NY
A citizen's organization that promotes the work of and advocates for the United Nations through 175 local chapters nationwide.

Overseer **1999-2001**
Malcolm Baldrige Board of Overseers, Washington, D.C.
In 1999 Congress expanded the Baldrige Business Quality Awards Program to include education and health, along with business. Bryant was one of two education representatives.

Director **1993-1994**
Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), Nashville, TN
HCA, a major health care provider, was merged with Columbia in February 1994, thus the brief service.

Director, Committee Chair **1985-1988**
American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), Washington, D.C.
An organization designed to promote professional development of executives in the trade, professional, and non-profit fields. Bryant has been a member since 1975. She rose from Education Committee chair to member of the national board of directors. She also served as treasurer of the ASAE Foundation.

SELECTED AWARDS

American Society of Association Executives Foundation **2002**
Association Executive of the Year
Each year the foundation solutes two leaders, one from industry and one from the association community. These leaders are honored at a 1,000 person fundraising event.

University of Massachusetts **1999**
Chancellor's Medal for Accomplishment in the Field of Education

The United Nations Association of Greater Boston **1995**
Achievement Award for Leadership

Simmons College **1993**
Alumnae Achievement Award for Professional Accomplishments

American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) **1992**
ASAE Key Award for Outstanding Leadership in the Profession
An award given annually to one association CEO.

HONORARY DEGREES

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 1998
Doctor of Education

University of New England, Portland, ME 1996
Doctor of Humane Letters

EDUCATION

Simmons College 1971
BA, English and Education

University of Massachusetts 1978
Ed.D., Higher Education and Labor Law