

Coalition of Lifelong Learning Organizations Executive Committee

Conference Call Meeting Notes

May 12, 2008

2:30 p.m.

Present: Phil Greasley, Marjean Buckner, Michele Shinn, John Henschke, Thomas Kowalik

- M. Buckner reported on her conversation at a recent meeting of COABE [Commission of Adult Basic Education]. She also reported meeting with the MAACCE [Missouri Association for Adult Continuing and Community Education]. Final conversation she had was with the president of Pro-literacy. During these conversations, Marjean was challenged to explain the COLLO mission statement. At first glance, it appeared similar to the mission statement in place for the NCL [National Coalition for Literacy]. The National Coalition for Literacy lobbies government officials and the only focus is on literacy issues; COLLO lobbies for all adult learning and adult education. Marjean reported that her meeting with Pro-literacy indicated that Peter Waite, the president of Pro-literacy, believes their organization belongs to COLLO. Pro-literacy wants to become involved in the national literacy scene and is interested in participating in UNESCO's 2009 Adult Education Conference in Brazil, CONFINTEA VI.
- J. Henschke reported that the UNESCO regional conference preparing for CONFINTEA VI, in which the United States and European countries are to participate, is scheduled for December 3-5, 2008 in Budapest, Hungary. It is his understanding that this conference is an open conference and participation is not by invitation only. John asked about the efforts of other adult education organizations in response to the State Department's call for feedback as they prepare the national report for CONFINTEA VI. T. Kowalik indicated that feedback from the State Department showed they were pleased with the way information about the report preparation was distributed throughout the country. There had been many visits to the State Department's website and responses from a few organizations to the questions posed at that site. State Department officials indicated that the report prepared by AAACE [American Association of Adult and Continuing Education] appeared to be the most comprehensive report submitted by nongovernmental organizations. John reported that he had heard from numerous professionals about the UNESCO effort to reach out to organizations and it appeared national associations and organizations did receive information about the call from the State Department to respond to questions pertaining to CONFINTEA VI.
- A brief discussion was held about the next face-to-face meeting of COLLO in Washington, DC. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at the end of summer. Prior to announcing the meeting date, the executive committee agreed that they would spend time developing the agenda and a program that would be attractive to COLLO members. In addition to the programs/workshop component of the meeting, additional information may be available about the Budapest Conference and State Department efforts to select US Representatives to the CONFINTEA VI Conference.
- A brief discussion was held about COLLO incorporation. M. Buchner reported that there may be advantages to working with attorneys in the DC area to move the reincorporation along quickly.

Decisions/Actions

- Thomas Kowalik is to contact the US State Department to request what process is going to be used to select US delegates for the CONFINTEA VI in Brazil. He is to copy Marcie Boucouvalis in his e-mail communication so that she is informed of our actions.
- Phil Greasley is to send a letter to Bob Weng, Peter Waite, and the current president of MAACCE -- Gina Ganahl, inviting each to join COLLO.
- Marjean Buchner is to provide contact information for Gina Ganahl to Phil.
- Michelle Shinn will prepare logistics to hold the executive committee's next conference call scheduled for Monday, May 19, 2008 at 10 a.m. The primary agenda and topic is to be the date of the next face-to-face meeting in Washington, the workshop topic, meeting agenda, and strategy for contacting COLLO members.
- Phil Greasley is to follow up with the Delaware attorney to whom he has sent COLLO incorporation materials and questions. If the attorney is not interested in continuing to work with us in a timely fashion, Phil will explore attorneys in the Washington, DC area. His first contact is to be the Director of The National Council of State Directors of Adult Education (NCSDAE) Dr. Lennox McLendon.
- The executive committee agreed to meet by conference call on Monday May 19, 2008 at 10 a.m. The call in conference number is 1- 800-250-2600 and the participant code is 897162 followed by the # sign.