

FALL E-NEWS & VIEWS: Released October 17, 2007

From the President: Dear AILACTE Friends and Colleagues:

It's hard to believe that our annual meeting is only a few months away. Please mark your calendars for February 7 and plan to join us for the 2008 annual meeting. This year, we're delighted to announce that Xavier University, a marvelous independent HBCU in New Orleans, will host our meeting.

The theme of this year's meeting, "Framing the Outcomes Question," is designed to focus our attention on a critical issue – the impact that we are having, not only on our candidates, but also on the schools, communities, learners, and the larger policy arena. The program will give us the opportunity to learn about the various ways our institutions are assessing their work and demonstrating that we – in higher education – have a valuable and critical role to play in transforming the learning and life chances of young people.

This year's annual meeting will also offer another opportunity for state representatives to meet and craft an action agenda for AILACTE and for their work. We are keenly aware that the next year – with the focus on the 2008 elections – will be a time of deep conversation about a number of important policy issues, and our state representatives will be planning ways that we can keep a focus on issues that are important to our faculty, our institutions and to the educators and children whose interests ultimately define our work.

I – and my colleagues on the Executive Committee – hope that you will be able to be with us in "the Big Easy" as we celebrate our accomplishments and plan for the opportunities and challenges of the next few years.

Most sincerely,

Lynn Beck, University of the Pacific (CA)- President

Transitions: The American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE) recognizes three dean-alike groups in their organizational and governance structure. These three groups are the research one universities, the state colleges and universities, and the private, independent colleges. Our organization AILACTE is recognized as the official convening group of the privates and we have equal

representation on the AACTE Board of Directors. Our representatives on the Board at this time is Carleen Vande Zande from Marion College of Fond du Lac and Andrew Brulle from Wheaton College. According to our by-laws, in order to represent us, the person who represents us must be from an AILACTE member institution. The by-laws also states the same for elected officers to the AILACTE Executive Board.

This summer, I was offered a job as the Associate Dean of the Teacher Education Program at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. This being a state institution, it was in a different deans-alike group; therefore, I would no longer be eligible to serve as President-elect of AILACTE. Before taking the job, I asked the institution to join as an affiliate member of AILACTE. Affiliate status is granted to any institution that is willing to embrace the values of the liberal arts and the AILACTE mission. By becoming an affiliate member, I was able to maintain the President-elect position and continue to serve an organization that has been an integral part of my professional development. I am honored to have this opportunity to continue to serve.

My best,

Dwight C. Watson (President-elect)

Western Regional News: Thank you to our three Western Regional State Representatives who offered valuable insight regarding challenges facing education preparation programs. Nancy Sorenson from Saint Mary's College, CA, Charlotte Mendoza from Colorado College, and Karen Eifler from Linfield College, OR each shared issues in their states. The State Representatives position allows AILACTE members to connect at the annual meeting, and to offer insight and ideas from their respective state perspective. If you would like to serve as a Western State Representative from Idaho, Alaska, Arizona, Nebraska, Oklahoma, North Dakota, Kansas, or Texas, please contact me at bsanders@whitworth.edu. I look forward to conversations with you about our shared challenges in preparing effective and caring educators.

Sincerely,

Barbara Sanders (Western Regional Representative)

AILACTE Scholar Award: The application deadline for the AILACTE Scholar award is November 1, 2007. Please encourage faculty who are in their first five years of

teaching to apply for this \$2500 award to further their research efforts. The application and qualifications can be found on the AILACTE website at: <http://www.ailacte.org/scholaraward.shtml>. Applications can be sent to Barbara Sanders, Western Regional Representative.

Congratulations to our 2007 AILACTE Scholar Stephen Woolworth of Pacific Lutheran University. Stephen's research proposal was titled "Charting a Different Course: The Infusion of Social Policy and Community Studies Curricula into Teacher Education." Look for Stephen's presentation of his results at the 2008 AILACTE annual meeting in New Orleans.

Sincerely,

Barbara Sanders (Western Regional Representative)