



The Coalition Of Lifelong Learning Organizations

Executive Committee Meeting 3/21/11

Present: M. Buckner, M. Boucouvalas, P. Greasley, K. Peno, T. Kowalik

Notes:

On growing COLLO

M. Boucouvalas suggested establishing a Past Presidents Advisory Group to help offer guidance in growing COLLO into the future and to further develop archival records. T. Kowalik will check online resources and with A. Charters to see if COLLO archives have been digitized and to compile a list of past presidents. M. Boucouvalas may stop at Syracuse University to check the COLLO archives on her way to Toronto this spring, if digital records are not available. M. Buckner will lead this initiative, contacting past-presidents and seeking their assistance once a list has been developed. M. Buckner and M. Boucouvalas will contact past presidents with direct and personal appeal.

P. Greasley suggested that COLLO achieve critical mass and offered several ideas to assist with that effort.

1. making the meetings cheaper, more accessible and requiring only a low level of commitment by making all meetings conference calls each centered on a single topic that has achieved large numbers of interested/concerned organizations, with resulting committees and other task forces working electronically between sessions,
2. routinely polling organization leaders for their biggest problems/issues and the area where they think they would benefit by working together with other organizations,
3. making COLLO their direct tool for enhancing leadership effectiveness by collaborative thinking and strategies,
4. dropping any membership fees until such time as we have critical mass and can show a continuing record of accomplishment,
5. sending all correspondence to the Presidents of organizations, not someone lower in their organizations, asking those presidents what their organizations need most, where they would benefit most from additional collective muscle, etc., and having the Presidents themselves participate in specific conference calls on topics where they have interest/need, Hmm. What about executive director?

6. including participation on individual topics by people from government where they too have interest/focus/need on those given topics,
7. actively involving/recruiting unions, state public assistance organizations, and pre-college adult education programs as natural allies and entities having the same focus/mission, 8) when we get a hot issue that all the organizations are concerned with, checking with organizations like the Johnson Wax Foundation and see if they would set a “Wingspread” conference by invitation to national leaders. If not, then do a “standard” in person meeting somewhere with reasonable rates, cheap, easy flights from everywhere, and focusing solely on that hot topic

T. Kowalik suggested that COLLO sponsor quarterly or regularly scheduled webinars. He offered to use Binghamton University’s technology, i.e., Elluminate to deliver the programs. The group generated some ideas for topics and speakers and decided to spend more time thinking about additional topics. Topics and potential “speakers” identified at this meeting were:

1. Impact of Charter Schools on Adult Education - M. Buckner
2. Creative Problem Solving in Teams in Higher Education – T. Kowalik
3. Connecting with Customers, using social media – C. Fabrizi from Binghamton U
4. State Authorization for Online Education
5. How to do a webinar
6. Developing partnerships and how to do collaboration well

Succession Planning

M. Boucouvalas asked about a strategy for identifying COLLO’s next vice president. M. Buckner volunteered to move into this role if no other member of COLLO is interested this year. P. Greasley suggested that T. Kowalik email members and offer them an opportunity to nominate themselves or others for this position by a certain date. Then once nominations have been received, send a follow up email with nominations for a vote or announcing M. Buckner’s appointment if no one else steps forward. T. Kowalik will draft call for nominations and send to executive committee for review prior to emailing to members.

Finances

K. Penno reported that there has been little activity in the COLLO account since the January report. There is \$11,998 in the accounts, with a few outstanding invoices and expenses for the January meeting. K. Penno will receive another statement in early April for the first quarter of 2011 and will submit a report to the committee at that time.

ICAE Membership

M. Boucouvalas reported that COLLO was member of the International Council of Adult Education in the past but has not been since prior to 2000. Annual membership dues are \$150. The committee decided to reapply for one year membership. At the end of the year, the committee will assess the value of membership. M. Boucouvalas will complete the application. She will also seek COLLO representatives to attend and participate in the ICAE World Assembly June 14-17, Malmo, Sweden. She will copy Alex Charters on communications to keep him informed of COLLO’s membership status and asking him to represent COLLO in Sweden.

Partnerships

M. Boucouvalas asked committee members their impressions of partnering with ProLiteracy on their 2011 national conference on adult literacy (USCAL). ProLiteracy appears eager to work with COLLO. It looks like a good collaboration and there is no fee for partnership. The committee decided to move forward with the partnership. M. Boucouvalas will check on language regarding revenue sharing, sign the partnership agreement, and tell ProLiteracy that M. Buckner and K. Peno (financing their own participation) will represent COLLO at the conference.

M. Boucouvalas raised the issue of how COLLO might respond to the request from the virtual Franklin School to show its weblink on the COLLO site. T. Kowalik asked that the group consider establishing a policy for dealing with issues like these. M. Buckner will see if she can find more information about the Franklin School to deal with this request. T. Kowalik will draft a policy statement and send to committee for review.

September Meeting

M. Boucouvalas suggested the September meeting address the topic of Community Colleges. They serve a tripartite mission, i.e., (1) offering Associates degree and articulation with 4-year institutions, (2) offering Certificates and vocational, nondegree education, and (3) delivering Community-based education. The agenda and presentations might address the following:

- The impact of Obama legislation on Community Colleges and CC education
- The role of CC's in US higher education, issues, challenges, opportunities
- Successful partnerships and collaborations

Possible speakers include: Robert Templin (President, Northern Virginia Community College), and Emily Spencer (Community College initiative at the State Department M. Buckner will check dates, room availability. The committee decided to table a final decision on date, location, and agenda to its next meeting.

Next Executive Committee Meeting

T. Kowalik is to arrange another phone conference meeting in approximately in two weeks.