

AAACE Newsletter

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education

March 2012

Notes from the President

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Commission of Affiliated
Organizations (CAO)

Gary Eyre
Joanne Kantner
Commission for Adult Basic

Henry Merrill, AAACE President

Dear AAACE Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to share with you the news that Marcie Boucouvalas, Director of the Commission for International Adult Education, is currently in Greece as a Fulbright Scholar. Marcie is Chair, Adult Learning & Human Resource Development Program, Department of Human Development, College of Liberal Arts and Human Science, Virginia Tech—Northern Virginia Center, in Falls Church, VA. Marcie's Fulbright research project is "Adult Learning for Societal Development: A Collaborative Exploration of the Driving and Restraining Forces in Understanding and Applying UNESCO Conference on Adult Education VI Results." She will be working at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Thessaloniki, Greece, from February – June 2012. This link will assist anyone interested in information about applying for a Fulbright Scholarship: [Fulbright Scholar Programs](#).

Last November, during the same week as the AAACE International Conference in Indianapolis, AAACE was also one of 26 national partners with ProLiteracy to sponsor the [2011 U. S. Conference on Adult Literacy](#). USCAL "explored what these challenges mean for program managers, service providers, and adult learners, with a focus on how to build collaborations among adult literacy, workforce training, social service, and education programs and providers to expand and improve services. By working together, organizations across many fields can build stronger communities, establish a stronger economy, and help people find and keep jobs, lead healthier lives, and thrive socially and culturally."

Many useful materials from keynote presentations and 121 workshops are available at the above ProLiteracy link. The next USCAL is scheduled for October 2013 in Washington, D.C. AAACE plans to continue as a partner in USCAL 2013.

Finally, here are updates on some organizational aspects of AAACE. First, the contract for *Adult Learning* to be published and distributed by Sage is complete, effective January 2012. Subscribers will see some cosmetic changes, but the content is still under the editorial direction of Mary Alfred through 2014. Mary has done a great job of getting the journal caught up during the last few years and we look forward to seeing continual improvements.

Second, the Membership Services Committee has been reactivated and charged with the task of developing a membership survey to be available later this spring. Shelly Glowacki-Dudka, Director-at-large, has agreed to chair this committee. Third, Clare Klunk is providing leadership for an ad hoc committee reviewing the AAACE Policy & Procedures Manual. We plan to have any revisions that need membership approval ready for the Annual Meeting at the 2012 International Conference in Las Vegas. Fourth, speaking of conferences, the draft budget report on the 2011 International Conference held in Indianapolis shows net income of about \$40,000.00. This continues to be an important revenue stream that supports the work done by AAACE throughout the year.

Henry



Henry Merrill, AAACE President

AAACE President Quoted in New York Times

"Henry Merrill, president of the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education, sees a common denominator in what schools are offering and students are pursuing. "People have really been going where the money is," he said. "The liberal arts and humanities kind of continuing-education programs haven't been as attractive to people. Schools haven't worked as hard to keep them alive and enroll people in them, not nearly as much as programs that have some connection to workplace skills and professional development."

[Click here to see the entire article](#)

Mark Your Calendar! Viva Las Vegas!

AAACE Annual Conference,

Education and Literacy
(CABEL)

Deborah LeBlanc

Commission for Community,
Minority and Non-Formal
Education (CCMNFE)

Marcie Boucouvalas

Commission for International
Adult Education (CIAE)

James Sweizer

Commission for Military
Education & Training (CMET)

Howard D. Walters

Commission for Professors of
Adult Education (CPAE)

Lisa Kozicki

Commission for Program
Management (CPM)

Margaret Eggleston

Commission for Workforce
and Professional
Development (CWPD)

Watch for a
downloadable version of the 2011
AAACE Conference Program
Guide on the website this month!

November 4 – 9, 2012

(Pre-conferences November 4 – 6)

**Linda Morris, 2012 Conference Chair and AAACE
President-elect 2012**

Planning continues for AAACE's 61st Annual Conference to be held at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas (<http://www.riolasvegas.com>), November 4-9, 2012. The conference will include two new formats, workshops and symposiums, in addition to the concurrent sessions, roundtables and poster sessions of previous years. The purpose is to provide additional opportunities for in-depth discussion and dialogue, especially on topics where multiple presenters wish to share research, practice and insights.

The conference theme is Developing and Sustaining Adult Learners in the 21st Century as:

- Knowledgeable and skilled people, workers and leaders
- Lifelong learners working towards wisdom
- Informed citizens and change agents
- Environmental stewards

Submit a proposal. Some examples of possible topics/presentation areas include: developing informed citizens; social justice; skills for the new global workplace; career pathways and transitions; wisdom and its development; lifelong learning and development; technology and methods for effective, inclusive, efficient learning; broadening personal and student perspectives; and environmental awareness and stewardship. Check the AAACE Website www.aaace.org for information on the Call for Proposals, which are due May 12, 2012.

Send in your suggestions. Next steps for the planning team include identifying speakers for keynote and emerging conversations sessions (geared to promote dialogue and shared insights on key issues) and determining social events and formal and informal networking activities. Please send your suggestions on speakers, conference content and format to Linda Morris (linda_morris11495@yahoo.com) so that the 2012 Conference will address your interests and concerns and meet your expectations. Let us know if you would like to help as well.

Prepare to meet new colleagues. The 2012 AAACE Conference will provide some unique opportunities to network with others in the field. Conference partners include the Adult Higher Education Alliance (AHEA) (an association of people from across the country who are engaged in action learning, reflection and discussion) and the International Society for Collaborative Adult Education (ISCAE), which will hold a session in conjunction with the Commission for International Adult Education's (CIAE) Preconference.

Good Jobs, Green Jobs Regional Conferences

Henry Merrill, AAACE President

AAACE is participating as a convener sponsor of two [Good Jobs, Green Jobs Regional Conferences](#) on behalf of the Commission of Workforce & Professional Development and the Sustainability & Environmental Adult Education SIG. The two regional conferences are in Philadelphia, April 3-4 and Detroit, May 10-11, 2012. The 2012 Good Jobs, Green Jobs Regional Conferences reflect the character and uniqueness of their locations and will bring together thousands of labor, environmental, business, elected and community leaders working in their areas and around the country to promote, preserve, and build coalitions that create good jobs and preserve our economic and environmental future. These regional conferences provide a renewed focus on networking opportunities and showcase the best and most innovative ideas and strategies in the public, private and non-profit sectors. They provide unique opportunities to meet like-minded people and build coalitions that will move us forward to a cleaner, greener and more prosperous economy.

News from the Commissions

CAO: Commission of Affiliated Organizations

Steven Frye, Director

We encourage AAACE members to attend and support your state and regional affiliate organizations.

Pennsylvania Association for Adult and Continuing Education (PAACE)

March 12-14
The Penn State Conference Center
State College, PA
<http://paacesite.org/web-data/Diagrams/PAACE%20Site/conference.html>

Virginia Association for Adult & Continuing Education (VAACE)

April 9-13
Partnering with COABE National Conference
Norfolk Marriott Waterside Hotel and Conference Center
Norfolk, VA
<http://www.vaace.org/Conference12.html>

Mountain Plains Adult Education Association

April 11-14
Red Lion Colonial Inn
Helena, Montana
<https://www.mpaea.org/?page=conference>

Indiana Association for Adult and Continuing Education (IAACE)

April 26, 2012
Holiday Inn Conference Center
Columbus, Indiana
<http://www.iaace2.org/Events.html>

New York Association for Continuing/Community Education

April 29 – May 1
Albany Marriott Hotel
Albany, NY
<http://www.nyacce.org/>

Missouri Association of Adult Continuing and Community Education

June 20-22
Tan-Tar-A Resort
Osage Beach, MO
<http://www.maacce.org/>

CABEL: Commission for Adult Basic Education & Literacy

Gary A. Eyre and M. Joanne Kantner, Co-directors

Celebration of Adult Education and Literacy System: The Commission for Adult Basic Education & Literacy celebrated the 45 years of the Adult Education and Literacy System (AELS) in United States (November 1966- November 2011) at the AAACE Conference in Indianapolis. In recognition of this achievement, CABEL's emerging conversations centered on the problem *What adults need for 21st century has changed and there is a new threshold*. How do we evolve to meet this new threshold? Highlighted were the evolution from a high school credential to a transitions-based system which creates pathways to postsecondary education and training, the new model of postsecondary readiness (Conley, 2009), and the impact of the adoption of the Common Core Standards (www.commoncore.org) to the adult education standards for English and mathematics.

Adult Education Partnership meetings: CABEL is participating in a series of collective conversations between 14 national associations, convened in response to this problem by Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier and OVAE Director Cheryl Keenan. The purpose of these meetings is to facilitate conversation among leaders of adult education organizations and leaders in the Department of Education to articulate possible strategic issues that will benefit from collective action planning and yield greatest impact on improving outcomes for adult learners. CABEL is well represented at these meetings. Gary Eyre, Director of CABEL is the official AAACE representative and is assisted by M. Joanne Kantner, the new Co-director of CABEL. Federico Salsa-Isnardi, the representative from adult ESOL to the Partnership Meetings, is also a CABEL member.

Reauthorize WIA? Education stakeholders have been pushing federal lawmakers to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act and thus far their efforts have not paid off. Congress continues to increase focus on siphoning federal dollars away from non-defense discretionary programs into lowering the federal deficit for 2012-13. The current environment may mean funds for workforce development will continue to be on the chopping block. A WIA bill for this session seems remote. Maybe 2013.

There has been some encouraging activity to address WIA's expiration. This past summer, the Senate HELP committee released a bipartisan discussion draft of legislation to reauthorize WIA; however, hearings to mark up the bill were postponed several times.

Because of re-election politics, the second session of this congress will be less ambitious than the first because lawmakers will be campaigning and spending less time in Washington. Any legislation this year will take place in the shadow of \$5 trillion in deficit reduction.

AAACE needs to continue to partner with other adult/continuing education associations and the U.S. Office of Education as any efforts go forward to address new WIA legislation and adult education funding for workforce development.

Membership: As of January 2012, 166 AAACE members have identified CABEL as a commission of choice. As CABEL members, we do not have to be limited to seeing each other only at the AAACE Annual Conference or CABEL meeting. When you are attending regional adult education gatherings, seek each other out, meet for coffee, or have dinner together.

THANK YOU to CABEL member Federico Salas-Isnardi for representing AAACE at the United States Conference on Adult Literacy (USCAL).

CCMNFE: Commission for Community, Minority and Non-Formal Education

Deborah LeBlanc, Director

CCMNFE and Community Family Educational Services Foundation, Inc (CFES) are co-hosting "Salute to the Urban Valedictorian" youth luncheon on Saturday, June 2, 2012 in Compton, California.

CCMNFE and African American California Community College Trustees (AACCT) are co-sponsoring a 2nd Regional Conference from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Thursday, July 12, 2012 at National University San Bernardino, CA. The theme is "Community Engagement: To ensure Accountability in Adult Literacy for Minorities." More information and a flyer for distribution are available at www.aaace.org.

CWPD: Commission for Workforce and Professional Development

Margaret Eggleston, Director

With the installation of new board members at our November 4, 2011 business meeting at the Conference, Margaret A. Eggleston assumed the CWPD director's position, and Linda Morris moved from the position of CWPD director to that of President-Elect (Congrats Linda!).

It was decided at the business meeting that we communicate via email using AAACECWPDP as an identifier in the subject line.

We discussed AAACE's newest feature, Members Helping Members (MHM). Attendees received handouts with information on how to join and search the database. They also brainstormed selectable categories for placement in MHM. Following are recommended categories:

- Leadership Development
- Nonprofit Management
- Conferencing (CPE)
- Workforce Development
- Research
- Nonprofit Management/Funding

Most, if not all, attendees agreed to review proposal submissions for the AAACE 2012 Las Vegas conference. Everyone on the master email list, including current attendees will receive an email request for help from Margaret Eggleston.

Other items of discussion included:

- Making MHM more robust by sending alerts to groups when someone posts a query.
- Creating a listserve.
- Adding publishing workshop during the AAACE conference.
- Sending out CWPDP updates (possibly on a quarterly basis); to include upcoming conferences, proposal solicitations, etc., related to CWPDP's mission. Updates would contain any books, papers, and links to resources. It was further suggested that we canvas Board members, Commissions, SIGs, and others in order to compile lists of items and events. No decision made on how or where AAACE/CWPDP would publish or distribute such updates. Suggestion made to incorporate updates in the AAACE Newsletter.

Special thanks to those who helped with CWPDP projects last year and to those who participated in the CWPDP business meeting while at the November 2011 conference.

Call for Nominations - AAACE Annual Awards

At the Annual Conference, AAACE presents five awards to honor exemplary contributions to adult and continuing education: the Cyril O. Houle Award for Outstanding Literature in Adult Education, the Imogene Okes Award for Outstanding Research in Adult Education, the Malcolm Knowles Award for Outstanding Adult Education Program of the Year, the Outstanding Service Medallion recognizing individuals who have an exceptional record of service to the profession at the state, national or international level, and the President's Award for Exceptional and Innovative Leadership in Adult and Continuing Education. These awards recognize individual and team efforts for leadership, service, knowledge, learners, and practice in the field.

Consider nominating someone you know or perhaps yourself for one of these awards. More information about each award can be found by clicking on the Awards tab on the AAACE home page at www.aaace.org. All nominations and required material should be sent to AAACE National Awards, 10111 Martin Luther King, Jr. Highway Suite 200C, Bowie, MD 20720. The nomination and required materials deadline is **June 30, 2012**.

[The Commission of Professors of Adult and Continuing Education](#) (CPAE) and the [Commission for Military Education and Training](#) (CMET) also recognize the contributions of members with several annual awards at the Conference Commission meetings. CPAE has three awards—Early Career, Career Achievement, and Curriculum Innovation. CMET also recognizes outstanding military educators and military students with three awards—Major General Kathlyn Frost Award, Tilton Davis Award, and the Leon McGauhey Award. Check out the links above for more information about the award criteria and nomination deadlines.

Call for Nominations for AAACE Board of Directors

Clare Klunk, AAACE Past President

The Nominations and Elections Committee of the American Association for Adult & Continuing Education (AAACE) is requesting nominations for the election of President Elect and Secretary. The deadline for all nominations is June 30, 2012. All Required Nomination Materials are due by July 15, 2011.

POSITION DESCRIPTIONS and QUALIFICATIONS

PRESIDENT-ELECT

The duties of the President Elect, as stated in the AAACE Policy and Procedures Manual (Revised 2008), are:

- General Coordinator of the AAACE annual conference in 2012.
- Facilitate the association's purposes through an ongoing strategic planning process.
- Serve on the Fiscal Planning Committee that develops the annual budget.
- Appoints the chairperson for subsequent year (2012) of various committees including, Awards, Nominations and Elections, Legislation, New Publications, and Conferences.
- Presides at Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings in the absence of the President.
- The term of office for President-Elect is one year, but then continues for a one-year term as President, and concludes with a one-year term as Past-President.

The qualifications for nomination as President Elect are:

- Is a member of AAACE for a minimum of five (5) years as documented by the national office. Membership does not have to be consecutive, but total five or more years.
- Have served in a leadership position in AAACE, and/or a commission, unit or affiliate organization. This will be demonstrated by a current resume submitted at the time of nomination.

SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary, as stated in the AAACE Policy and Procedures Manual (Revised 2008), are:

- Supervises recording and distribution of the minutes of all meetings of the association, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee, and other appropriate official association meetings as requested by the President and certifies their validity.
- Serves as Bylaws and Policy Chair.
- Maintains, updates, reviews, and codifies changes annually to the Policy and Procedures Manual and Bylaws with the assistance of a committee he/she appoints as needed.

The qualifications for nomination as Secretary are:

- Is a member of AAACE for a minimum of two (2) years as documented by the national office. Membership does not have to be consecutive, but total two or more years.
- Have interest in serving in a leadership position in AAACE, as demonstrated by a current resume submitted at the time of nomination.

Instructions for Submission of Required Nominations Materials:

The deadline for all nominations is **June 30, 2012**. All Required Nomination Materials are due by July 15, 2011. All required materials must be submitted by email to: Dr. Clare Klunk, Chair of Nominations & Elections, at cdklunk@vt.edu.

The deadline for all letters of nomination, including self-nominations, is June 30, 2011.

The deadline for all requested materials listed below is July 15, 2011:

- Current resume
- Vision statement concerning the contribution the nominee hopes to make to AAACE (maximum of 500 words)
- Current picture (jpeg file)
- Brief statement of background (250 words)
- Three (3) letters of recommendations. (Note: No current member of the Board of Directors may provide a letter recommendation or nomination, per AAACE Bylaws)
 - These letters shall endorse the nominee with supporting and anecdotal evidence of what is stated in the candidate's resume.
 - If a person is nominated by another person, the nomination letter will serve as one of the letters of recommendation.

All letters of recommendation and required materials must be sent independently by email to cdklunk@vt.edu. The deadline for all nominations is **June 30, 2012**.

All Required Nomination Materials are due by **July 15, 2011**.

All required materials must be submitted by email to: Dr. Clare Klunk, Chair of Nominations & Elections, at cdklunk@vt.edu.

Perspectives on the Future Rushing Towards Us

Henry Merrill, AAACE President

In case you missed the Jan. 9, 2012 Chronicle of Higher Education article '[Badges' Earned Online Pose Challenge to Traditional College Diplomas](#), here is food for thought. The opening sentence might pique your attention: "The spread of a seemingly playful alternative to traditional diplomas, inspired by Boy Scout achievement patches and video-game power-ups, suggests that the standard certification system no longer works in today's fast-changing job market."

The article goes on to describe the variety of open education sites providing a variety of new ways to "certify" informal lifelong learning from workforce providers, game sites, online networks, and other types of digital resources. The MacArthur Foundation funded collaboration with Mozilla, Duke University, and the University of California to develop the [Digital Media and Learning Competition](#).

Many developments have been made in the world of formal learning as well. Perhaps the most notable one recently is the development of [Udacity](#), an experiment by some Stanford faculty to teach free, online computer science courses to 100,000+ students – without Stanford credit. This sounds similar to the announcement about [MITx](#) in December 2011 to offer free online courses.

Scholars such as John Seely Brown in his book [A New Culture of Learning: Cultivating the Imagination for a World of Constant Change](#) and Curtis Bonk in [The World is Open](#) have been writing about these new concepts of connected learning in recent years. I encourage you to peruse these links to stimulate your thinking about how your program may need to adapt these initiatives and use digital media with your adult learners.

Help Wanted for AAACE in the Digital World

We are seeking volunteers for a Digital AAACE Team (DAT) to investigate and recommend how AAACE can represent itself in the digital world. What should the AAACE profile be in e-space, including website upgrades, social/learning networks, and content areas to further our Mission? If you are interested in volunteering for the DAT, please email Henry Merrill at president@aaace.org.