A. Area of Responsibility: (brief summary of responsibilities of the office/committee)

The Underrepresented Racial, Ethnic, and Ability Groups Committee (UREAG) shall conduct activities to increase participation and representation of under-represented groups in the CIES, and promote scholarship. (Article IV, section 5, subsection f of the CIES Constitution)

B. Summary of Activities, Initiatives, Meetings and/or Events:

CIES 2010: UREAG Business meeting, UREAG Global Village Dialogue


C. Specific Goals for the Year:

1) Revitalize UREAG within the CIES community by increasing visibility and membership;

2) Recruit more outside organizations to send members to attend the CIES annual conference with the sponsorship of UREAG;

3) Bring more attention to underrepresented groups which have been neglected within UREAG, including broadening the scope to include sexual minority groups.

D. Progress report on the Goals:

1) Created a UREAG listserv for members to receive announcements and to serve as a place for dialogue; Actively recruiting new members via the CIES listserv; Hosting two highlighted panels at the upcoming CIES conference; Co-organizing the Opening Plenary for the upcoming CIES conference; Collaborating with the Gender & Education committee for the UREAG Global Village Dialogue for the upcoming CIES conference.

2) Sent out invitations to approximately forty HBCUs, tribal colleges, LGBTQ centers, and other minority organizations, which resulted in new presenters at this upcoming CIES conference.

3) Partnering with the Gender & Education Committee for the UREAG Global Village Dialogue which will focus on the issues of Gender and Sexuality in education

E. Budget/Financial Issues: (brief summary and explanation of any income or expenses accrued)
UREAG has been allotted $4000 USD for our Travel Grant program which was distributed in its entirety at the 2010 CIES conference. The same amount has been designated for the 2011 conference and will be distributed accordingly.

**F. If a committee, please include a list of committee members and institutional affiliations.**

Please see the accompanying list.

**G. Proposals for the CIES Board: (provide a list and description of any proposals you would like the CIES Board to consider – you will be contacted for additional information if needed).**

**UREAG VILLAGE DIALOGUE: PROPOSAL FOR FUNDS**

The Underrepresented Racial, Ethnic, and Ability Groups (UREAG) Committee has hosted the Village Dialogue as a special conference session at the annual CIES meeting for the past several years. During that time, the committee has brought speakers that highlight major issues relating to underrepresented groups and help UREAG fulfill its mission of increasing the participation of scholars from underrepresented groups at CIES.

The current UREAG leadership has set new goals of revitalising member participation in UREAG and creating a membership base that will remain involved from year to year. The Village Dialogue provides a vital opportunity for conference attendees to witness the work UREAG is doing at CIES and for UREAG to accomplish these goals of increasing member involvement at the annual meeting.

At the 55th annual CIES meeting in Montreal, UREAG plans to partner with the Gender Committee for the Village Dialogue, focusing on education issues relating to the LGBTQ community, an underrepresented group that has not yet been included in UREAG’s mission. Some specific topics suggested by a colleague on the Gender Committee and by a prospective Village Dialogue speaker included “Women Crossing Borders in Field Research: Issues of Race, Religion and Beyond,” and “Education to Be, to Become, to Belong: Sexual Minorities Challenging and Changing the World.” Both topics and others are subsumed under the main title: *Can Education Liberate ALL?: Gender, Sexuality and International Human Rights.* We hope that the upcoming Global Village Dialogue will be one of the most meaningful yet, not only in allowing CIES conference attendees to become involved in discussions of issues relevant to underrepresented groups, but also in establishing a new, more inclusive direction for UREAG.

Another function of UREAG for the past several years has been distributing travel funds to help facilitate conference attendance by scholars from underrepresented groups or whose work is relevant to underrepresented groups. In 2010, we were able to provide support to seventeen conference participants, many of whom presented their research. We would very much like to be able to supply similar funds to the speakers we invite to the 2011 Village Dialogue. We would like to invite a total of three speakers, and are requesting $1000 (or at least half the amount) per speaker to cover airfare and accommodation in the conference hotel for two nights.

These funds would allow UREAG to invite the scholars whose work is most relevant to our planned session topic, and who might otherwise not be able to attend CIES because of a lack of institutional support during this period of widespread university budget cuts. We deeply appreciate the CIES Board’s interest in UREAG, and are grateful for any additional financial support that can be allocated to helping UREAG fulfill its mission and contribute an insightful and engaging Village Dialogue session to the 55th annual meeting of CIES in Montreal and after.

With sincere thanks for your consideration,

Emefa Amoako
UREAG Vice-Chair
Global Village Dialogue Coordinator

Kelly McFadden
UREAG Chair

Lesley Graybeal
UREAG Secretary
H. Future Goals: (list any suggested goals you have for next year’s committee or office holder)

As the position of chair and vice chair will not come up for re-election until CIES 2012, we plan to continue on our current path of revitalization of UREAG within the CIES community. We will continue building a stable membership base, encouraging dialogue and working in cross-committee partnerships. We will also continue to reach out to organizations outside of the CIES community to increase the participation of underrepresented groups within CIES as a whole.

I. Feel free to provide other comments for the Executive Committee.

While the proposal included in this document is specific to the upcoming meeting of CIES, the UREAG leadership team would like for the Executive Committee to consider awarding annual funds for speakers of the Global Village Dialogue.