

# NCHE News

Vol. XXIII No. 2 National Council for Higher Education June 2010

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: CHANGE HAS ARRIVED!



In my last editorial for the *Newsletter*, I wrote about *Time for a Change*. Well, things have changed! As we head into the NEA Representative Assembly, I would like to recap a few of the major issues we have been working on over the past ten months.

At each NEA Board meeting, NCHE Vice President Cathy Boudreau and I met with Dennis Van Roekel, and this spring, we met with John Wilson to talk about the direction of higher education and the filling of vacancies. We were pleased to welcome Bryant Warren at the NCHE RAM in March, and we then focused on who would replace Con Lehane, our former higher education editor. Then, unexpectedly, Constituent Relations found itself without a manager or director.

The new Director of Constituent Relations is Dan Rivera, who replaces the long term Director, Dorothy Harrell, who retired on June 1. The new higher education area will function as a “self-directed team,” and once an associate director is hired, the team will consist of Valerie Wilk and Bryant Warren, Organizational Specialists, Mark Smith, Senior Policy Analyst; and Phadra Williams-Tuitt, Organizational Specialist (Emerging Leaders Academy Coordinator). The higher education editor position will also be part of

this team. Aurora Arcilla remains as the Senior Program Assistant and Gina M. Lewis-Carmon, Senior Program/Financial Assistant, is assigned to the NCHE/ELA databases.

NCHE welcomes these structural and personnel changes, and it looks forward to this new concept while servicing the rapidly expanding and diverse higher education membership of NEA.

We now head to the RA with some major issues on the agenda. Also, the NCHE will have its summer retreat that will include two new Executive Committee members. Our major focus will be putting together a recommended national organizing strategy for higher education and working with NEA staff to finalize and bring forward a recommendation to the NEA Executive Committee for approval. Our goals are not just to increase membership; they also include strategies for reversing the decline of full-time faculty and increasing higher education funding at the state and national levels

I look forward to seeing all the higher education delegates at our NCHE meetings beginning on July 1.

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## NEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY—NEW ORLEANS

Expect a very active RA this year in New Orleans. Many issues confront all of education, preK-graduate school, which will make for an exciting annual meeting. For higher education, the frustration is greater since it appears that we may not be part of the jobs bill, even though NEA is working mightily to get higher education money restored. In addition, there is the Medicaid bill, the Race to the Top issues, the reauthorization of ESEA, and the mid-term elections.

On the NEA front, delegates will deal with a number of proposed amendments to the Standing Rules, Bylaws and Constitution. A major amendment incorporates a bylaw and constitutional amendment called the **Gateway Amendment**. This amendment attempts to bring the bylaw that passed a couple of years ago allowing states to be the gateway for membership together with the constitutional amendment that has not passed. A two-thirds vote must be met for passage.

- Anyone interested in helping the Executive Committee with our membership drive, please contact NCHE President Jim Rice.

### NCHE Schedule for the RA\*

- Thursday, July 1: 4-6 p.m.
- Saturday, July 3: 9:30-11 a.m.
- Sunday, July 4 – Tuesday, July 6: meeting only if there is a 30 minute or more lunch break.

\*All meetings in Room 283  
Morial Convention Center

## Conference Keynote Speakers



Melissa Harris-Lacewell, Assoc. Professor of Politics and African American Studies, Princeton University and noted TV Commentator, NCHE President Jim Rice, and NEA Vice President Lily Eskelsen



Martha Kanter, Undersecretary of Education, U.S. DOE., Valerie Wilk, NEA Organizational Specialist, and Jim Salt, president, community college association, OR

**Lillian Taiz**, president of the California Faculty Association welcomes NCHE



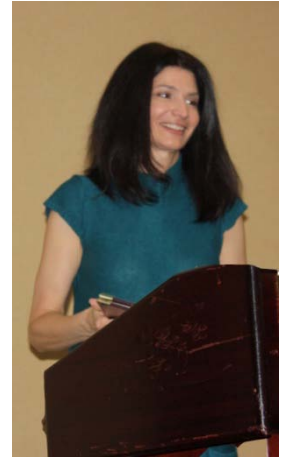
**NEA Executive Committee Members**  
**Len Paolillo** congratulates the Emerging Leaders, and **Christy Levings** highlights higher education organizing victories.



**Left: DeWayne Sheaffer,** president, Long Beach City Coll., brings greetings from the CCCA  
**Right: Andre Sims,** 2010 ELA Grad; 2011 ELA Trainer



NEA Vice President  
**Lily Eskelsen**  
Kicks off the session



## NEA Excellence in the Academy

The **Democracy in Higher Education Award** went to **Kimberly Lynn Emery**, University of Florida, for her article "Academic Freedom Requires Constant Vigilance" published in the Fall 2009 *Thought and Action*. Kimberly was unable to attend the conference.

NEA Executive Committee member, Princess Moss, presents **The Art of Teaching Award** to **Dave Iasevoli**, SUNY Plattsburg, for his article " 'A World of White and Snowy Scents': Teaching Whiteness," published in the Fall 2009 *Thought and Action*



### **James M. Davenport Awardees**

**Left: Gloria Wagener**, Saginaw State University, MI, served as NCHE Secretary/Treasurer and on NCHE Executive Committee.

**Right: Barbara Payton**, Oakton Community College, IL, served as part-time representative on NCHE Executive Committee.



### Goodbye and Hello!

NCHE said farewell to Con Lehane, NEA’s Higher Education Editor, who has been responsible for overseeing the publications of *Thought and Action* and *The Advocate* for many years. His diligence and ability to produce such high quality publications has allowed NEA higher education members to receive, what NCHE believes, is the highest quality juried publication for higher education in the United State education community.

But as we said goodbye to a good friend, NCHE welcomed new members and re-elected members to its Executive Committee for the 2010-2011 year.



*Thought and Action* Review Panelists Robert Oden from California State University, Sacramento, and Lisa Ossian, Des Moines Community College, and Jim Rice, NCHE President celebrated and thanked Con.



**Newly elected:**  
Andrew Sako,  
Membership Chair  
Cynthia Schneider, Exec.  
Committee.  
**Re-elected:**  
Christine Domhoff  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Beverly Stewart E. Com.  
Catherine Leisek E.Com



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