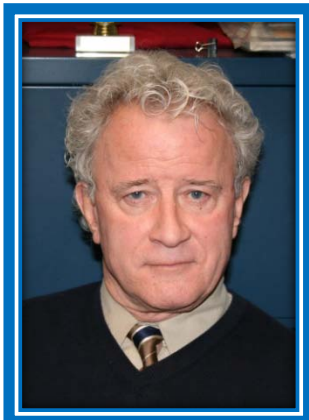


NCHE News

Vol. XXII No. 3 National Council for Higher Education June 2009

President's Message



As our fiscal year comes to a close soon after the 2009 NEA RA, it is a good time to catch up on what we have accomplished and what remains. Internally, NCHE continues to advocate for services, program expansion, and organizing opportunities for higher education, while collaborating with NEA on legislation, national trends, and international issues.

Since the September NEA Board meeting, NCHE Vice President Cathy Boudreau and I have met with President Van Roekel to discuss higher education issues. These meetings have been productive and have provided an opportunity to clarify concerns.

The main focus of this past year, and which culminated in a two-day meeting in mid-May at the NEA, centers on our agenda. For these two days, Cathy Boudreau and I met with over 30 NEA staff in two days. Rather than go into a lengthy explanation, I have put together a short chart to highlight some of the folks we met with and the purpose of the meeting. It provides you with the scope of where higher education integrates across the NEA.

Highlights of MAY 19-20, 2009 NEA Appointment Schedule

CONTACT	TOPIC
John Wilson, NEA Executive Director	Posting of Organizing Specialist position—position vacated by Mark Smith
Dorothy Harrell & Malcolm Staples	NCHE issues and an update on our two-day meetings
Aurora Arcilla	Preparation for RA , including folders and materials to be shipped
Barbara Fine Tom Blanford from NEA Academy	NEA Academy: Discussion concerning direction of NEA Academy toward using for profit or non NEA member institutions to deliver professional development and on line courses to NEA members. NCHE will work to find NEA institutions to offer courses.
Jill Christianson and David Edwards	Education International (EI) and UNESCO Appointment
Moira Saucedo, responsible for NCHE publications and higher education Web page	Creating accurate membership lists for NCHE using common program with compatibility with Lyris list. Establish a process to post NCHE News and E-Letter, and discuss higher ed Web site.
Pat Thompson	Confirm UNESCO appointment in writing
Edith Jefferson	NEA higher education membership lists and NCHE Lyris list compatibility
Shilpa Reddy	Update on Employee Freedom of Choice Act activities at Capitol
Valerie Wilk	NCHE Agenda
Mark Smith	NCHE Agenda
Gina Louis-Carmon	Membership, NCHE, NEA, Lyris
Andy Linebaugh	NEA Coverage of ballot initiative results from California
Kim Anderson	Student Program assignment and workshops at RA.
Con LeHane	Higher education publications
Darrel Drury	EI & Research
Bonnie Gardner	Status update on higher education's web page migration

New Higher Ed Policy Person

Higher education's new policy person is Mark Smith, previously an Organizing Specialist for higher education, effective June 1, 2009. NCHE has advocated for this position as higher education needs a voice at the policy desk for NEA. Mark, who came from AAUP, has worked in higher education for three years. He is steeped in higher education issues and policy, and we welcome a higher education voice in the policy arena.

NCHE President Jim Rice met with John Wilson, NEA Executive Director, to encourage him to post and fill Mark's replacement as quickly as possible. Higher education staff is now one person, Valerie Wilk, and she should not be expected to do all the work herself. John Wilson assured Jim that the replacement process would happen quickly.

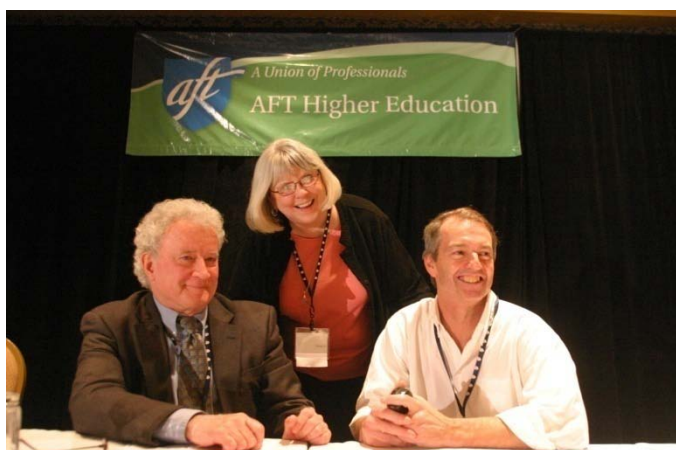
Post RA Events

NEA Education International will sponsor one higher education staff and one higher education representative to the UNESCO Conference, June 2-9. An additional NEA higher education member will represent NEA on the Department of Education team headed by Dr. Jill Biden.

The **National State Legislative Conference** is scheduled for July 20-23 in Philadelphia.

The **NCHE Annual Retreat** is scheduled for July 23-26 in Boston. This time of year is our planning time and is very important to all NCHE members. If you have any suggestions for the agenda, please contact Jim before the retreat at NCHE@nea.org or jimr@gcc.mass.edu

NEA/AFT/AAUP Agree to Conversation



L-R Jim Rice, NCHE President; Sandra Schroeder, AFT Vice President, and Gary Rhoades, AAUP Executive Secretary

Jim, Sandra, and Gary participated in an AFT Plenary Session, each talking about their respective organizations

President's Activity Calendar

Date	Activity	Location
April 26-27	Monitor NEA Executive Committee	DC
April 30-May3	Monitor NEA Directors Meeting	DC
May 14-16	Plenary Speaker: NSEA Conference	Lincoln, NE
May18-20	NEA Building: NCHE President & Vice President	DC
May 30	Address Emerging Leaders Academy	DC
May 31-June2	Monitor NEA Executive Committee, covered by NCHE VP, Cathy Boudreau	DC
June9-11	National Membership Strategy Review Task Force, covered by NCHE VP, Cathy Boudreau	Denver, CO
June 10	Mass. Teachers Pre RA Convention	Marlboro, MA
June 30 July 7	NEA RA	San Diego, CA

and how they can work together, as well as what individual campaigns each organization was involved in.

The major activity that came out of this conference was an agreement that the three organizations would begin a conversation around the issue of academic staffing. This will be the first time these organizations will collaborate on an issue that affects all higher education institutions.

High Ed Web Page Moving to NEA Site

Higher education's web site has existed on a separate platform for a number of years. It will be migrated onto the new NEA web page by early fall.

NCHE President Jim Rice, Vice President Cathy Boudreau and Valerie Wilk and Mark Smith, NEA higher ed staff, have met with staff responsible for migrating our website. The IT staff held interviews with leaders and members and will do a field test before the site is completely moved to the NEA. We have asked that NEA pay particular attention rotating pictures showing higher education members, linking to legislation, and ensuring an intuitive and user-friendly site. The staff said it will do its best.



NEA Leaders Host Opening Session

NEA began its Higher Education Conference with a panel presentation before the graduates from the Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA) were recognized and graduated.

NCHE President, Jim Rice, Jim Salt, OR, NEA President Dennis Van Roekel, and NEA Executive Committee members, Princess Moss and Mark Cebulski all brought their unique perspective to the session and then conducted the ELA graduation.

Schwarzenegger: Solve the budget; hire more part-timers!

According to **Inside Higher Education**, “Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has a new solution to the budget problems at California’s community colleges: more part-time instructors. The governor has asked legislators to suspend for five years state requirements that 50 percent of a community college district’s educational expenditures be used for instructors’ salaries, and that set a goal that 75 percent of instructional hours be taught by full-time faculty members. The Sacramento Bee reported that the community college system is currently facing hundreds of millions of dollars in cuts--with the prospect of turning students away all over the state. The California Federation of Teachers, the largest union of community college faculty members, is opposing the idea. Fred Glass, a spokesman for the union, told the Bee: ‘Nothing the governor says these days surprises us. He seems to be using this [fiscal crisis] as an opportunity to slash-and-burn education.’ ” *What a guy!*

Nota Bene

NCHE Elections

Jim Rice was re-elected NCHE President and Cathy Boudreau, MA was elected NCHE Vice President. In addition there were four candidates for NEA Executive Committee. Joyce Powell, NJ and Michael Evans, PA received the NCHE endorsement. NCHE endorsed Becky Pringle for NEA Secretary/Treasurer.

Textbook Issue

Mark Smith will update delegates on the HEA proposal concerning when textbooks have to be ordered per the Higher Education Reauthorization Act. He is waiting for official regulations from the U.S. DOE.

Higher Education Members of the NEA Board



Back row: L-R Bob Gillies, MA; Britt Hall, alternate WI; Susan Brown, AL; Cathy Boudreau MA.
Front L-R: Gilda Bloom, CA; Ann Shadwick, CA; Leslie Richards, DC; Theresa Montano, CA; Sally Pestana, HI

Taxing Health Care Benefits?

The U.S. Senate Finance committee chair, Max Baucus, has proposed

taxing benefits as a way to pay for health care. Dennis Van Roekel met with him as well as with Senator Dodd, who is chairing this committee for Senator Kennedy and the HELP Committee. Dodd said this issue is a non-starter for them. We have a long way to go before we get to how we pay for health care. The labor community is strongly united in its opposition to the proposal, according to. Diane Shust, NEA



*****Mark Smith & Con LeHane



NCHE RAM 2009

One state that brought a number of members was MAHE, Michigan Association for Higher Education. This year's NCHE Regular Annual Meeting (RAM) in Portland, OR drew over 500 attendees.

Standing L-R: Matt Dunckel, Ed Bryant, Cynthia Schneider, Peter Badry, Leo Sell, Barry Sterns, Tony Baracco, Alec Thompson, Aaron Sheposh, Nick Valenti **Seated L-R:** Herman Theeke, Colleen Pilgrim, Randy Ston, Maurice Koffman, David Schneider, Gerry Faye. Not shown: Yvonne Williams

NCHE News is published four times a year by the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE). NCHE is an independent association of higher education organizations affiliated with, and higher education employee members of, the National Education Association. Permission is granted to reproduce original material from this newsletter. Questions or suggestions should be addressed to James Rice, President, or Catherine Boudreau, Vice President/ Editor, NCHE, c/o NEA Constituent Relations, 1201 Sixteenth St. NW, Suite 410, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 822-7910 or Ext. 7162 or nche@nea.org.

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NCHE Meeting Schedule--Executive Committee June 30 TBD; July 1, 4-6 p.m. Manchester Grand Hyatt, Molly AB; July 3, 9:30-11a.m. Convention Center Room 4; July 4-6, for lunch breaks longer than 30 minutes, Convention Center Room 4.

NCHE E-Letter—will be out by June 25 with RA information.