

COCAL INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
COCAL XI . John Jay College, New York City
8/6/14 . 2:30-4:30 pm

GIFTS

Gifts from Marcia to the committee.

Gift from the committee to Marcia.

AGENDA; MODERATORS: Vinny and Weldon

1. Reports from COCAL XI
2. Survey for COCAL XI
3. Location of COCAL XII
4. Special media for next COCAL
5. Campus Equity Week (CEW) 2015, next steps
6. Right to Work Panel, COCAL XII
7. Fundraising for translation services
8. Support for Mexico in 4 years

1. REPORTS FROM COCAL XI

David Rives: Send reports to David R. using contact link at website,
webmaster@cocalinternal.org
5 Working Group reports to be posted at website.

Marcia: more than posting of reports, can this be an opportunity for folks to respond and post additional info?

Maria P: this should be posted on the Adjunct (AdjL) List.

Suggestions:

- Incorporate to/with the CEW website?
- Bob Samuels to coordinate the Democracy Index Committee?

Anne Weigard (NFM): perhaps toolkits at website to provide resources as well as contact info of individuals who have a particular expertise.

David R: posting responses should be on COCAL FaceBook page, as website not set up to accommodate these; Mary Ellen coordinates the COCAL FaceBook page.

Holly (Local NY Committee): change documents into 1) best practices, 2) warnings/things to avoid, 3) actions plans.

Sylvain: need to translate all Working Group docs into French and Spanish.

Helene: facilitators tasked with producing 100-word statements, but are unequally situated to continue after COCAL.

Elena [Quebecoise}: It would be good to have statistics on first-time attendees, and who attended (men, women, countries, unions, etc.).

Niloo: thinking of creating listserve for the Bargaining for Equity group; has created a DropBox to share info.

Maria P: Governance policy to work on certain tasks in non-conference year. Agrees with Sylvain, need to be able to communicate with our own union membership to see who is willing to work on which topics.

David Milroy: with our registration information ,we have info on who attended, which Working Groups they signed up for, etc.

Joe: who will coordinate this for the Steering Committee?

Vinny: Steering Committee will follow up by posting materials and making them available. Sylvain will translate them into French and Maite will translate them into Spanish.

2. COCAL XI SURVEY

David M: survey based on 10-question Survey Monkey, in all 3 languages.

Helena: has access to larger Survey Monkey survey with opportunity for more than 10 questions.

Anne: question on orientation session on history of COCAL. Also, question about timely communication during conference re: how to get to where we need to go, etc.

Helena: maybe a one-day pre-conference on the history of the country hosting the conference?

Marcia: This history can be sent via email because of cost of extra night, the time involved, room rentals, etc.

Elena (Quebecois): why not a workshop on this during conference?

Holly: Break Question 3 on survey into 2 questions: like/dislike.

Sylvain: information about host country/region could be provided by the host country.

David M: please send all suggestions for new questions to David Milroy.

Joe: Kudos for new format. However, the way we divided the topics not the most useful to lead to actions. We did it in terms of how we could implement actions: through media, contract bargaining, legal, etc. There would be less wasted time and more effective discussion if the groups had been structured around specific issues, such as job security, health/retirement benefits, Unemployment benefits, etc.

U. Laval man: facilitators should supply docs to attendees before conference so that attendees can prepare and think about the issues they will be discussing. As it was, only during the third session did we begin to be more focused and efficient.

Holly: There's a difference between a conference of seasoned activists and one with a number of new attendees with less experience. Also, sees potential problems/tradeoffs no matter how we structure it into groups.

Niloo: problems with emails used to register that were union emails and not the personal emails with which to communicate between facilitators and participants. Also, we can change the configuration going forward.

Maite: we met as the Mexico group in advance and unified our approach; same PowerPoint logos, and we all did prior research. Those who were research people had prepared presentations and were frustrated due to 2-3 minutes to present what was on their mind. All our presentations had a clear strategy of how to achieve our goal and all were also translated into English. We will translate all of it into all 3 languages.

Anne: real work and unique to COCAL was the work we did in the interest groups -much more than the plenaries; we've all heard about power and neoliberalism.

Argentinian man: need to have info in advance, especially coming from different nations where all public universities are on same pay scale. So need more preparatory info prior to COCAL. But gracias a COCAL, it won't be my last.

Joe: Marcia and Joe will be co-editors of a Working USA edition; the translated papers of the Mexican presentations can be published there. The deadline is 10/15/14.

Sylvain: almost no ability for French speakers to connect at this COCAL. He prepared a 15-minute presentation and then was told he had only 5 minutes to present.

Helena: one resolution occupied about 40 minutes of our time; this is because in COCAL there are no by-laws, no constitution, no Roberts Rules of Order, etc.

Arturo: David Schmidt was willing to come without any support. His translations were essential and this needs to be encouraged and compensated.

Marcia: there is a problem of how to resolve the balance between panels [plenaries?] and interest groups.

3. LOCATION OF COCAL XII

Canada, western Canada, Winnipeg, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta. CUPFA folks not so keen on this. Athabaska folks were keen on holding it in Banff.

U. Laval man: Ottawa, FNEEQ can help, and Ottawa is a central place in Canada.

Sylvain: was told the next COCAL should be in eastern Canada, the Maritime Provinces.

Weldon: The charge of the steering committee is to find a willing union/university to hold COCAL. Dalhousie would work well, as would Alberta.

Marcia: About \$100,000 needed to hold a COCAL.

Maria P: Because COCAL IX was held in Quebec, CUPFA feels that COCAL XII shouldn't be held in Central Canada (Ontario, Ottawa, Quebec). Why don't we have proposals from the Maritimes and Alberta, and then evaluate which location offers the best possibility?

Maite: supporting Maria P's proposal, using the 2010 Mexico switch to 2012 as an example.

Weldon: Due to time, we should move on to CEW.

4. Agenda item #4 was not discussed.

5. CAMPUS EQUITY WEEK.

Joe: now that COCAL XI has endorsed CEW, we should hope that NFM willing to coordinate it again. Also, our resolution did not have specific dates suggested.

Maite: mid-late October is good.

Joe: Craig Flanery to investigate and finalize dates.

Maria P: FNEEQ has done CEW forever and does it the last weekend in November.

Joe: NFM will investigate to see if a single, unified date is possible.

Sylvain: November 22 = the national day of contingent faculty in Canada, recognized by the state.

Marcia: we could dovetail with the Quebec timing and do the previous week or even 11/22 itself.

Anne: NFM is open to coordinating CEW again, but needs input as to timing and other matters.

Sylvain: it doesn't have to be coordinated with FNEEQ.

6. Agenda item #6 was not discussed.

7. FUNDRAISING FOR TRANSLATION SERVICES

Marcia volunteered to be on the translation committee and will speak with the service used this year about reducing costs. Also, will approach foundations that might fund translation services.

David M: can also assess language ability of attendees upon registration and their willingness to serve as unofficial translators in local (breakout) sessions.

8. Agenda item #8 was not discussed.

Meeting Adjourned

[Respectively submitted by Jonathan Karpf, who notes that due to the fact that he takes notes by long hand and not by computer, this is the last time he will agree to serve as secretary :)]