

Minutes
COCAL International Advisory Committee Meeting
September 9, 2014

Attending:

David Rives

Maria Peluso

Maria Teresa-Lechuga

Arturo Ramos

David Milroy

Mary Ellen Goodwin

Betsy Smith

Joe Berry

Marcia Newfield

Kane Faucher

Jonathan Karpf

Judy Olson

Alyssa Picard

Note-taker: David Rives

1. Appointment of Kane Faucher to COCAL International Advisory Committee

Kane had requested serving on the Committee and the e-mail discussion among Committee members was supportive. He teaches at the University of Western Ontario and other colleges in Canada and attended COCAL XI. He is working on the Democracy Index that was endorsed at that conference. He also mentioned that he was "in love with COCAL." All members on the teleconference supported his appointment to the Advisory Committee.

2. COCAL XII Location

Activists in Calgary will be contacted to see if they are interested in holding COCAL XII in 2016 in their city. Calgary is a conservative province. If they have not formed the germ of a conference committee by November, other sites to consider include Winnipeg (strong labor presence), Athabasca, Regina, or Ottawa. Committee members voiced concerns about availability of affordable rooms (e.g., dorms), expenses, and regional considerations, with the consensus was listen to the Canadian members of the Advisory Committee for advice on the most appropriate site.

For purposes of planning the conference sites, Canada is divided into three regions:

West (which has limitations for possible sites)

Central (Ontario and Quebec)

East (Maritime Provinces)

COCAL has a document, The Critical Path for Organization of COCAL Conference, which should be consulted throughout the process of conference planning. The local conference committee makes many decisions about the conference.

3. Evaluations for COCAL XI Conference

The Advisory Committee members discussed the draft evaluation forms for the conference. Some were satisfied with the current draft and others wanted it revised. It was based on the evaluations used for COCAL X and the input of the post-conference discussion at COCAL XI. There was some critique of the methodology and a suggestion to use a Likert scale for responses and to be clearer about what worked and what didn't work. The evaluation includes comment section. Possible additions could include a call for volunteers for committees and questions about scholarship. There has already been a month's delay in getting the evaluations sent out and they should be finished with urgency. David Milroy will work with Kane Faucher to finish the revisions and send out the evaluations.

4. Governance

The Governance Report was approved earlier this year and now we need to move toward its implementation and build our governance structures. The next Advisory Committee teleconference will focus solely on those points.

The Governance Report calls for discharge of Advisory Committee members who are no longer active. David Rives will contact those members who have not been on the teleconferences in the last six months and notify them that they will be discharged if they do not participate.

In addition to the COCAL International Advisory Committee, these are the committees of COCAL:

- Secretariat and Communications Committee
- Orientation Committee
- Finance Committees
- Finance Committee: COCAL Conference
- Fund-Raising Committee
- Scholarship Committee
- Governance Committee
- COCAL Conference Advisory Committee

The Governance Committee consists of Maria Peluso (Chair), Mary Ellen Goodwin, Betsy Smith, Mayra Besosa, and Maria-Teresa Lechuga. Jonathan Karpf would like to chair the Finance Committee. Mary Ellen Goodwin would like to chair the Scholarship Committee.

David Rives will send out a call for serving on the committees.

5. Betsy Smith is retiring and is therefore resigning from the COCAL International Advisory Committee. Her knowledge and advice will be missed.
6. Reports of the interest groups from COCAL XI will be posted on the website.
7. Committee members were asked to publicize the Working USA Call for Papers on Contingent Academic Labor (deadline September 15, 2014). For more information, see: <http://www.cocalinternational.org/>
8. Joe Berry wanted to discuss “the status of the cover letter to go out to the whole list and what is to be in it.” Unfortunately, Joe was disconnected before that could be discussed. Discussion can be on the e-mail list or it can be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
9. Mary Ellen Goodwin mentioned problems in sending and receiving posts to the Advisory Committee group list.
10. Next meeting will be beginning of October. A poll of possible dates and times will be sent out. The meeting agenda will be on implementation of the governance report. A note-taker will be determined prior to holding any future meetings.