



NAAC NEWSLETTER

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www.alternativecertification.org

The voice for alternative certification in education

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President's Column



It's hard to believe that we are four months beyond April's very well-attended, well-executed, and informative conference in Atlanta! Thanks to everyone who organized, participated, presented and learned in Atlanta this year!

Among other work, the Board is in final planning stages for the way to the January 29-31, 2009 NAAC meeting in San Antonio, Texas. In the newsletter and via other online communications during the year, we will give you periodic updates and "snippets" about the '09 conference, state activities, special committees, the Quality Indicators Project, the Journal and other NAAC activities. So, look for NAAC in your email and don't hesitate to communicate with us about your interests!

Several years ago I was a new NAAC member, attending an annual conference in Washington, DC. The quality of members, presentations and dialogues was very impressive. In every way and every year since, NAAC has evolved substantially, as we have grown in numbers, data, practice, opportunities to refine our work and new ventures. The Board is using the feedback you left with us with from the '08 conference and is building on NAAC's strong mission in our first 19 years to embark on a "re-envisioning" for the next five to ten years. We are examining our mission, body of work and communication network among preparation providers, researchers, school and policy personnel and among teachers and teacher candidates.

Challenges are not new news in and around the arenas of education, teaching, teacher quality, leadership and school staffing, student learning and accountability. NAAC is at the table and in the mix

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Annual Conference

January 29 – 31, 2009

Proposal Deadline: August 29, 2008

San Antonio will host the National Association for Alternative Certification 19th Annual Conference. The event will be held January 29-31, 2009 at the historic Omni La Mansion del Rio, located on San Antonio's famous Riverwalk. Conference participants will be within walking distance of a wealth of shopping and dining choices, and just a stone's throw from the city's famous Alamo Museum.

The conference theme is Making a **REAL** Difference Through Alternative Routes. Strands will focus on:

- **R**ecruiting and selecting the future educator workforce
- **E**quipping educators to be highly successful
- **A**dvancing policies that support best practices
- **L**eading the way to quality performance and increased retention

Conference Highlights

The opening keynote address on Thursday morning, January 29, will be given by Mamie McCullough. Known as the "I Can Lady," Dr. McCullough has taught at every level

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Annual Conference

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from eighth grade through college, served as a high school principal and authored five books, including the I CAN course. Dr. McCullough worked with Zig Ziglar for ten years as a speaker, author, and educational director.



Stephen Peters will deliver a keynote address on Friday, January 30. Dr. Peters has been involved in the education field for over 28 years, serving as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, and director of secondary education. He is the author of several books including, "Teaching to Capture and Inspire All Learners," and "Do You Know Enough About Me to Teach Me?" used throughout the U.S. as a tool for reaching disadvantaged youth. Dr. Peters will outline his vision for the children in our schools, especially at-risk and borderline youth, and how to turn that vision into operational strategies.

The conference will also include nearly 50 break-out sessions on a diversity of topics related to the theme and strands. NAAC invites proposals for sessions from members and others. Sessions may focus on research, best practices, theory, or policy. The deadline for submitting proposals is August 29, 2009. More details and the proposal submission form are available on the NAAC website at www.alternativecertification.org.

Immediately preceding the conference on January 28, 2009 is the Texas Alternative Certification Association (TACA) annual winter retreat. By holding this event at the same venue, TACA members can take advantage of a unique opportunity to participate in both their statewide meeting and the premier national gathering of leaders in alternative certification. More information on the TACA meeting will be available at <http://www.csotte.org/taca.htm>.

The 2009 NAAC Annual Conference registration materials will be available online and mailed to members, former participants and sponsors in September, 2008. For more information, contact NAAC Director Judy Corcillo at 202-277-3600.

Quality Indicators Task Force Update

The NAAC National Task Force on Quality Indicators for Nontraditional Teacher Preparation Programs met in conjunction with the 2008 Annual Conference, continuing its progress in the development of quality indicators that will serve as a tool for program self-evaluation and for providing benchmarks to help programs improve their preparation of teachers.

To date, the Task Force has completed a thorough review of current literature and teacher education program standards, and has begun delineating the important components of high-quality nontraditional teacher preparation programs, including recruitment, selection, training and preparation, support and induction, retention, and leadership and governance. The goal is to identify indicators of quality and describe what each indicator might look like in a beginning, developing, at-standard, and/or advanced nontraditional teacher preparation program. Additionally, sources of data that can be used by programs to indicate quality performance will be described. The result will be an interactive document that programs can use for self-assessment and improvement.

The draft document will be released at the 2009 NAAC Annual Conference. The conference has been designed so the session strands align with the components of the quality indicators.

The draft quality indicators will be subjected to peer review over the following year. After pilot testing at several sites, the quality indicators will be revised and finalized. The project is scheduled for completion, including publication and dissemination of the project, in 2012.

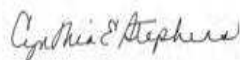
President's Column

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of national discussion. Alternative route teachers comprise a significant and growing population among all teachers nationally. The demand for high-quality candidates to staff schools from a range of sources and experience is ever increasing. NAAC's future is focused on the quality and availability of alternate route teachers and administrators. Our Board's mid-year meeting later in August will also focus on these important challenges and strategies as we envision NAAC's future.

We look forward to communicating with you throughout the year and to seeing everyone (and more) for the January 29 – 31, 2009 NAAC Annual Conference in San Antonio. We learn from every participant and presenter about the growing body of national, regional, and local work in the development of pathways, preparation, recruitment and retention of alternate route educators, so let's all plan to contribute and learn at the conference.

With respect for all you do and until our next communication,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cyndy Stephens". The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, personal style.

Cyndy Stephens, EdD

Call for Manuscripts

Journal of the National Association for Alternative Certification

The Journal of the National Association for Alternative Certification invites members and non-members of NAAC to submit manuscripts on issues related to alternative certification. The research manuscripts should focus on quantitative and/or qualitative research that has implications and applicability for practitioners and/or policy makers involved with alternative certification. Featured article manuscripts should focus on issues related to policy, positions, and methodology. Manuscripts will be double blind peer reviewed.

There is no set date for manuscripts submitted to be considered for publication in the *Journal of the National Association for Alternative Certification*. Every attempt will be made to notify authors of the decision of the double blind review within three months. If a decision to publish is offered, the manuscript will be scheduled for publication as soon as suggested editing is completed by the author and accepted by the editor assigned to the manuscript.

Include in the Submission:

- 1) **Cover page: List** Title of Manuscript, topic, date of submission, main author's name, mailing address, home and work phone numbers, e-mail addresses, institutional affiliation, and biographical information about author and any co-authors (30 words or less per author).
- 2) **Abstract:** Describe the essence of the manuscript (100 words or less). Do not include your name on the abstract or the manuscript.
- 3) **Manuscripts must use the American Psychological Association (APA) style** throughout. References, charts, tables, figures, and graphs must be written on separate pages. Manuscripts must be no longer than 25 pages, including charts, tables, etc. Use single space between lines, 12-pt. font size, and 1.5" side page margins.
- 4) **Manuscript Submission Address:** Send two copies of the manuscript in Microsoft Word as email attachments to **Dr. Bill Neal, JNAAC** Managing Editor, Southeastern Louisiana University, SLU 10671, Hammond, LA 70402; **bill.neal@selu.edu**. In one copy, please include contact information and affiliation; in the other copy, omit that information for blind review.

NAAC Membership Application

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Membership Category:

- ☐ Regular Membership: \$50
- ☐ Discounted Membership for current State Association members: \$25
State affiliation:
California Louisiana Texas

Submit form and check or purchase order to:

Judy Corcillo, Director
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PO Box 5750
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FEIN # 54-1822255

For more information please contact Judy Corcillo at 202-277-3600 or judyc@alternativecertification.org



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Or email your news and
announcements to:
Info@alternativecertification.org.

**Please visit the NAAC website at
www.alternativecertification.org
to find an electronic version of
this newsletter and more.**

NAAC REGIONS

Region 1: Alaska, Arizona,
California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho,
Montana, Nevada, New Mexico,
Oregon, Utah, Washington,
Wyoming

Region 2: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa,
Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota,
Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota,
Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

Region 3: Arkansas, Louisiana,
Oklahoma, Texas

Region 4: Alabama, Florida,
Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi,
North Carolina, South Carolina,
Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Region 5: Connecticut, Delaware,
Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts,
New Hampshire, New Jersey, New
York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island,
Vermont, Washington DC

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NAAC Board Election Results

At the 2008 annual conference, the NAAC membership elected several new officers and regional representatives to the board of directors.

Cyndy Stephens, Director of Educator Recruitment and Transition to Teaching Programs at the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, was elected president. Dr. Stephens previously served as the board's Region 4 Representative.

Belinda Gimbert was re-elected secretary. Dr. Gimbert is an assistant professor of educational administration and higher education at The Ohio State University. She also serves as the co-chair of the NAAC National Task Force on Quality Indicators for Nontraditional Teacher Preparation Programs.

Judie Hayes, Transition to Teaching Director at Wichita State University was elected as the Region 2 Representative. Region 2 includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Cyndy Stephens was re-elected as the Region 4 Representative on the day preceding her election as president. Upon her election as president she vacated the Region 4 position. The board has appointed **Falicia Harvey**, coordinator of alternative certification programs at the South Carolina Department of Education, to serve in that position until January 2009, when the membership will elect someone to fill the remainder of that two-year term. Region 4 includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Michelle Dunkle, Program Coordinator at the Maryland State Department of Education, was elected as the Region 5 Representative. Region 5 includes Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington, DC.

FY 09 Transition to Teaching Competition

The U.S. Department of Education is expecting to hold a competition for grants under the Transition to Teaching program, based on funding availability, and is projecting a late Fall date for publication of the application notice. As soon as a date has been finalized, it will appear on the Department's website at www.ed.gov. As in past years, individuals interested in serving as peer reviewers are encouraged to contact the TTT staff. Application reviews are expected to take place during the month of February. For further information and to submit resumes, contact the TTT staff at transitiontoteaching@ed.gov.

NAAC Appoints State Coordinators

The National Association for Alternative Certification has appointed a network of state coordinators to serve as the liaison between the national organization and local members. The following members were named as the coordinator for their respective states.

Arkansas: Barbara Culpepper
Florida: Eileen Wetmiller
Georgia: Phyllis Payne
Idaho: Cynthia Oravez
Illinois: Jim Pelech
Iowa: Susan Fisher
Kansas: Debbie Mercer
Kentucky: Cynthia Resor
Louisiana: Michelle Haj-Broussard (co-chair)
Louisiana: Brenda Hanson (co-chair)
Missouri: John Hose
Nebraska: Larry Heck
Nevada: Jerry Barbee
New Mexico: Jesus Reveles
Nevada: Jerry Barbee
North Carolina: Millicent Rainey
Ohio: Becky Parker
Oklahoma: Derk Watson
South Carolina: Linda Mirabal-Pace
Tennessee: Karen Moody
Texas: Ron Kettler
Virginia: Lynn Bagli
West Virginia: Linda Bragg
Wisconsin: Kalyani Rai

Save the Date!

NAAC 19th Annual Conference

January 29-31, 2009

San Antonio, TX

Omni La Mansion del Rio

Scholarship Winners

The President and Board of Directors wish to recognize and applaud NAAC's 2008 Annual Conference *Outstanding Intern* Scholarship Winners. Each recipient received a \$1,000 scholarship, a complimentary registration to the 2008 conference in Atlanta, and \$500 in travel expenses. The scholarships were awarded during an awards breakfast on April 5, 2008.

Bill Smith Scholarship

Whitney Bubenzer

Kindergarten Teacher

Rufus M. Hitch Elementary School

Chicago, IL

Alternative Certification Program: Chicago Teaching Fellows

NAAC Scholarship

Joseph Selvog

Fifth Grade Science Teacher

Bayles Elementary School

Dallas, TX

Alternative Certification Program: Dallas ISD

Haberman Scholarship

Amanda Watson

Special Education Teacher

McHenry Primary School

Rome, GA

Alternative Certification Program: NW Georgia RESA

NAAC Awards \$2000 Research Grant

Ann Grall Reichel was the recipient of the 2008 NAAC Research Grant for her research study, "Beyond Certification: Building and Sustaining Relationships with Alternatively Certified Teachers." Dr. Reichel received a \$2000 grant and \$500 in travel expenses to attend the NAAC annual conference in Atlanta.

Dr. Reichel served as assistant professor and coordinator of the Chicago Teaching Fellows for National-Louis University. Her study researched ways in which educators can build and sustain on-going relationships to support alternatively certified teachers once they complete their initial certification. The qualitative study focused on five essential questions.

- Are alternatively certified teachers interested in sustaining relationships with cohort members?
- Are alternatively certified teachers interested in seeking systems of support from their initial training agent beyond certification?
- What on-going learning environments can the initial training agent create to sustain the teachers they certified through an alternate route program?
- What kinds of support do alternatively certified teachers seek in subsequent years?
- How interested are alternatively certified teachers in supporting others experiencing the program they endured?

Dr. Reichel presented her findings at the 2008 NAAC annual conference in Atlanta.



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