

IIMC NEWS UPDATE – SEPTEMBER, 2006

Greetings from your IIMC Region V Directors, Kathy Dornan and Sally Oglesby. We hope you all enjoyed your summer and are looking forward to a sunny, colorful Fall! Of course we are all looking forward to the Region V Conference being hosted by the Kentucky Clerks in Covington on December 1 and 2nd. I'm sure they will kick off the session with some Thursday evening welcoming activities and that it will be a fun-filled, educational couple of days. We hope that all the clerks in Region V will be able to attend. We look forward to seeing you all there and providing up-to-date IIMC information from our mid-year meeting.

Basically, things at IIMC have been status quo since our conference in Anaheim in May, which doesn't mean that work isn't being accomplished! Committees, of which many of you are on (and we thank each and every one of you for your time and effort spent on your respective Committee – you ALL do great work!!), are continuing to meet and work hard, with committee reports being due the end of September. The Board will review the committee reports at our mid-year Board meeting which will be held in New Orleans on October 27-28th. We have two full days of meetings planned, with some strategic planning and lots of Board work to complete. We have been advised several times that New Orleans is ready and anxious to put on a grand conference for us so we will see the City in person and stay at the same hotel where the May 2007 conference will be held and, hopefully, reassure all of you personally that things in New Orleans are just fine!! By the way, the Preliminary Conference Program will be mailed to members in early November.

While the IIMC Executive Committee has met several times, the entire Board has had two telecom meetings since May. We have discussed many things in these phone meetings and wanted to update you on some of the things done:

Interim Director, Chris Shalby, continues to lead IIMC with great effort and capability. With so much on his plate, Chris requested that contract negotiations for the full-time Director Position be delayed until after the mid-year board meeting. The Board agreed and we look forward to formal negotiations starting with Chris again after October.

The NCSA Access office (IIMC Satellite office in Arlington) was closed and Dr. Eftekhari has his office full-time in Rancho Cucamonga along with the other IIMC Staff members. This was a careful, thoughtful decision and felt the best for IIMC.

Year 2011 Conference RFP's were mailed to over 60 cities requesting this document. What a great response. The review committee received 19 potential bids and have narrowed these down to five – with all providing excellent, complete proposals. They are Nashville, TN (yes, our own Region V Nashville!); Omaha, NE; Reno, NV; Portland, OR; and Spokane, WA. Reps are doing pre-qualifying site visits now which will be completed by the mid-year Board meeting where the Board will hear formal presentations and hopefully make a decision. It's great to have good, healthy options for future conferences!

Interim Director Shalby presented a proposed balanced budget to the Board for review and consideration. The Staff worked hard on making the necessary cuts and reductions to get to this budget. The Board members are currently reviewing this document which will be fully discussed at the mid-year meeting. We thank the staff at headquarters for their hard work. President Elect Tokar acknowledged the help and good work of all members of the Budget and Planning Committee, especially Acting Chair, Mel Smigielski and Member Terry Tripp for their contributions and efforts.

The Education Department is staying busy with MANY different things such as resolving educational policy issues, developing the department's budget and necessary cuts, and has drafted a proposal for establishing an

online learning institute. They continue to review documents already submitted and new incoming proposals for various Institute changes for several different states and are reviewing suggestions made by members related to the conference educational programs for May, 2007. Also being considered are recommendations for changes to IIMC's educational programs as discussed last May during the Institute Directors and State Association Chairs meetings, of which some of you most likely attended.

Education also received, reviewed, and approved a course proposed by the British Columbia Institute, entitled Clerks and Corporate Officers Forum 2006 to be conducted in Parksville, BC, October 18-20, 2006.

Yes, the IIMC is still dealing with legal issues. As you all know, past Director Tiernay and two previous staff members of IIMC have lawsuits pending with us. The Executive Committee and Board are diligently dealing with these. The new Board members elected last May have asked for a complete history, update and briefing of these suits so that they can be brought up-to-speed on the nature of these complaints in order to make good, sound decisions on the resolutions for these cases. Please be aware that the entire Board wants to resolve these matters as soon as possible, at the least amount of expense and exposure to IIMC as possible. The majority of the legal costs are now being covered by IIMC's insurance. Consequently, they guide the direction and process toward ending the disputes.

During the last telecom Board meeting on August 30th, the issue of providing the *News Digest* in an electronic format was discussed. Several Board members feel the IIMC can save considerable money by providing this document on-line, with hard copies being sent to those who do not have computer access or have other issues. It was discovered that most State Associations have already moved to this technology. Your Region V directors support this move as we feel thousands of dollars could be saved each year. Staff is researching

this issue and information will be provided to the Board at the mid-year meeting.

Two budget items that have been requested via a letter to the Board by Region XI members is for those members to receive 50% off their membership dues and to reduce their conference registrations to \$300 USD. The reasoning for these requests is due to the high cost of travel for those members outside of North America. After Board discussion, these requests were sent to the International Relationship and Membership Committees for review and recommendations to the Board. We will consider these requests again at the mid-year board meeting.

Athenian Dialogues: There is a Dialogue scheduled for October 13 and 14 in Springfield, IL. The deadline to register for this is September 25, 2006. The cost has been reduced from \$150 to \$125, which the participants purchasing their own books. If we are interested in scheduling a Dialogue for Region V, IIMC can help with this issue. Perhaps this is something we can talk about in Covington.

While this newsletter is not inclusive of everything the Board has dealt with since May, I hope you find it informational and of value. If you have any comments on any of the items listed, especially those scheduled for further discussion or decision at the mid-year board meeting, please feel free to let Sally or I know at any time. We work for you; make decisions based on your feelings; and want to represent you to the very best of our ability. So...make your feelings known to us! Again, we look forward to seeing you in Covington!

Sincerely,

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