

# TECSCU

## Spring 2009 Newsletter

### President's Column

Cathy Barlow, TECSCU President &  
Dean, Watson School of Education  
University of North Carolina Wilmington

#### The Politically Prepared Leader

As all of you know, schools and colleges of education all across the country are under attack for not having seasoned, experienced teachers ready for the classroom the first day of their employment. We are under attack by persons who remember another time in education and teacher preparation. These individuals are reflecting upon a time before "Second Life", WiFi, "Twitter", and texting that requires educators to stay current with technologies to best prepare the teachers of tomorrow to work with the students of tomorrow. The TECSCU colleges and universities are providing this type of teacher preparation, but we are so busy doing the work that we forget to tell the story.

During our summer and fall conferences we worked on strategies to assist us with ways to "tell the story". We have developed the first two drafts of a brochure that each of us can use to tell the national story with sections that we can insert our specific unit's "points of pride". This brochure format will be available soon on our website. Our organization has been steadily moving in a pattern of assistance and group voice, and we hope this will be another way to assist each of you.

I am pleased to serve as your new President and look forward to working with you on many more projects. I would be remiss if I did not thank Susan Meyers for all of her work in helping us get to this more proactive point. She did an outstanding job as the leader of this organization for the last year, including having our newsletter now online thereby saving expenses for the organization. I also want to thank Larry Daniel, the new President Elect. He is planning a terrific program for our conference. He will need help from all of us, and I know we can count on you to volunteer if called upon.

See you this fall at our conference!

## **Past President's column**

Susan Meyers, TECSCU Past President &  
Dean, Connie L. Lurie College of Education  
San Jose State University

A Day On The Hill...A Day to Remember!!

It's time to take all of your accomplishments and good ideas to Washington DC and let our lawmakers hear your voice!! If we are not at the table we will surely be the meal...so let's make sure we are well represented this year at the AACTE Day On The Hill event. If you have participated before, I hope you will be there again, and if you have never participated... this is a great time to get started.

This year the focus is "Innovation and Reform in Teacher Preparation". The event starts on June 17<sup>th</sup> with an orientation, federal update and guidance from our colleague Dr. Jane West from AACTE after which we celebrate with a congressional reception! On the 18<sup>th</sup> AACTE hosts a congressional briefing followed by your individual visits and a final debrief. This is a wonderful opportunity to inform your congressional representatives of the contributions your college makes to your communities, to help them understand the issues from your perspective and develop collaborative relationships with the people who will be involved in the re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (NCLB).

Before you leave home, remember to take plenty of your business cards and descriptive materials that highlight your programs. If you have responded to one of the federal RFPs, inform your congressional representative, their support can be very helpful. All of the information you need to register is on the AACTE web page. We hope to see you there!

## **Election Results**

The fall 2008 TECSCU election results were announced at the winter 2009 conference in Chicago: President Elect is Larry Daniels, Dean, College of Education and Human Services, University of North Florida; Region IV Representative is Michael Miller, Dean, College of Education, Minnesota State University, Mankato; and Region VI Representative is Patricia Manzanares-Gonzales, Dean, School of Education, Western New Mexico University. It was announced that the AACTE election resulted in the election of Mary Gendernalik-Cooper, Dean, School of Education, Sonoma State University as the TECSCU representative to the AACTE Board.

## Winter Conference

The program of the TECSCU 2009 winter conference in Chicago on February 6, 2009 focused on: (1) The sharing by Dee Hopkins, Dean, College of Human Resources and Education, West Virginia University, of a new case study book, *It's All About People: Case Studies in Higher Education Leadership*. Participants had an opportunity to engage in small group discussions and to share the ideas generated; (2) An update from AACTE by Sharon Robinson, AACTE President and Chief Executive Officer; and (3) An update of sample talking points for legislators developed at the fall conference in San Antonio and refined by the TECSCU Executive Committee.

Ways to integrate the sample talking points with local institutional information were examined and shared. Sample TECSCU talking points included:

TECSCU Institutions prepare educators who stay in the profession for the long term:

TECSCU institutions prepare a significant proportion of all educators including educators coming through different pathways:

- Alternative routes:
- Career Changers:
- Intern and Emergency  
Certificated Individuals:
- Teach for America:

TECSCU institutions' educator preparation is not your grandmother's teacher training:

- Integrates cutting edge technology
- Committed to educating all students to their fullest potential
- Preparing education leaders and counselors as well as teachers
- Contributes to professional knowledge system that informs supporting learning and achievement of all students
- School partnerships provide extensive systematic field experiences in our educator preparation programs

TECSCU institutions prepare teachers to know their content and how to help students learn it – deeply and with the skill to use it.

- Content Preparation
- Pedagogical Content Preparation

TECSCU institutions' educator preparation is:

- accessible
- affordable
- accountable

## **Fall Conference**

The fall 2009 TECSCU conference will be October 11-13, 2009 at the River Street Inn, Savannah, Georgia. The conference will begin at 5:30 pm. Sunday, October 11 with a President's reception and will conclude by noon, Tuesday, October 13. Larry Daniel, TECSCU President Elect is making arrangements for the program and the summer newsletter will provide information regarding the program content. Reservations for sleeping rooms must be made with the River Street Inn (912-234-6400) by September 18 to receive the conference room rate. A preliminary program schedule and a pre-registration form are available at <http://tecscu.org> in the new postings.