

MAACCE MATTERS

Summer 2016
Volume 16, Issue 2



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Notes from the President

Summer 2016



Happy SUMMER MAACCE Members!

Dear MAACCE Members,

I am excited that my first newsletter as MAACCE President is also a celebration of the 2016 MAACCE annual conference. This year, we ventured to a new location and had an excellent group of presenters, speakers and attendees. Barbara Oakley, the keynote speaker, reminded us how to learn and helped us find new ways to train our brains. Representatives from state and national levels took the time to share their experiences with WIOA. We had presenters from across the state, covering topics from technology to teaching strategies to testing. Take a look at the photos scattered throughout the newsletter and see if you or a colleague were captured on camera. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

In June, the 2015-2016 MAACCE board had their final meeting, where we said goodbye to our outgoing board members Cindy Fischer, Todd Elliott, Michael Elonge, and Sonia Socha. Many of them have served on the board for a number of years, and we owe them a huge debt for their hard work on behalf of adult education. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

MAACCE is also pleased to welcome our new board members for the upcoming 2016-2017 year. Please say congratulations when you see these people around – Regina Boyce, Kimberly Bohnet, Kimberly Brown, Melanie Chapman, Debi Edick, Herbert Malveaux, Mark Pettis and Nettie Schubel.

During our summer retreat, MAACCE board members worked in one of four committees: Organizational Structure, Professional Development, Outreach/Membership, and Advocacy/Communications. The groups developed goals focused around our strategic plan. We welcome your input and are always looking for members to join one of our committees. Do you have suggestions for the 2017 conference or a local professional development activity? Would you like to advocate on behalf of adult learners? Have you started to think about how to celebrate NAEFL week? Do you know of any organizations or individuals that may be interesting in joining MAACCE? Please email us at maacce@gmail.com with questions, thoughts or comments.

Sincerely,

Shelley Alter



Thank you for attending the Conference!

We had a successful conference at the new location, The Conference Center at the Maritime Institute, on May 12-13, 2016. The varieties of workshops presented were well attended; the vendors were heavily visited; the food was delicious and plentiful, and our recognition of individuals for their work with Adult Education was special.

FABULOUS KEYNOTE SPEAKER

During the conference, our keynote speaker, Barbara Oakley, PhD, PE, wowed everybody with her extensive knowledge of how to learn effectively, drawing on experience as both an engineering professor and a linguist, as well as from research insights from cognitive psychology and neuroscience. We hope everybody enjoyed this presentation.



AWARDS

We awarded a Presidential Award to Johan E. Uvin, Acting Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education. The award was given to Dr. Uvin for his work in adult education, especially for efforts to reach out and listen to those working on the ground; his focus on data, including PIAAC, and ensuring continual awareness of the need in the U.S.; his passion for professional development; and consistent efforts to build teams across federal departments. Dr. Uvin's work has been critical to professionalizing the field of adult education and better serving adult learners.



Johan Uvin and Heather Ritchie

We also awarded a Presidential Award to Kavitha Cardoza, Special Correspondent to WAMA for her work in the field of journalism for adult education. Ms. Cardoza broadcasted a series of adult education stories through *Breaking Ground*, "a documentary series dedicated to stories you won't hear anywhere else, with a special focus on children, education, and poverty." The documentary "Yesterday's Dropouts" focused on high school dropouts in the U.S. Unfortunately, a family emergency arose and Ms. Cardoza could not make it to the lunch to receive the award. For more information on her series visit: <http://breakingground.wamu.org/>.



Student/Volunteer Award Winners

Lillian Dinkins, Baltimore City Community College
Rox-Roy Edwards, Howard Community College
Penny Guyer, Harford Community College
Margaret Jefferson, Strong City Baltimore
Nakia Jordan, South Baltimore Learning Center
Dennis Szabelski, Howard Community College
Peter Watt, Baltimore City Community College
Wanda Carter, Community College of Baltimore County

Congratulations!!



Student/Volunteer Award Winners

Joseph P. DeSantis and Judy Costa Nagel Scholarship Awardees

Carroll Community College
Harford Community College
Howard Community College



MAACCE Professional Awards

Congratulations to our fantastic workers in Adult Education. You are appreciated!

Instructor Award: *Carolyn Berlin*, Howard County Library System's Project Literacy
Aide/Assistant Instructor Award: *Jennifer Chapman*, Calvert County Public Schools Adult Education

Support Staff Award: *Denni Cassidy*, Calvert County Public Schools Adult Education

Leadership Award: *Patty Silver*, Chesapeake College

Partner Award: *Martha Chrismer* and Harford County Public Schools' Reconnecting Youth Program



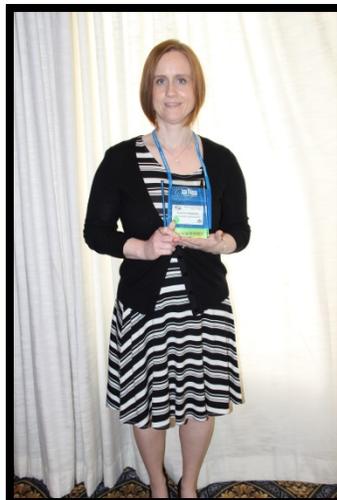
Patty Silver and staff



Brandy Naughton and
Martha Chrismer



Beryl Hall and Denni Cassidy



Jennifer Chapman



Carolyn Berlin and
Emma Ostendorp

A look back at the conference.....





GO GREEN 2016 is Coming!

National Adult Education and Family Literacy Awareness Week will be Sept. 25-Oct. 1, 2016, and MAACCE is planning our Second Annual GO GREEN Campaign.

Last year, we distributed over 6,000 wristbands, and we received over a hundred photos from programs around the state. We even had a governor's proclamation! See photos from the 2015 campaign at www.MAACCEmd.org

Now we are gearing up for the 2016 GO GREEN Campaign! The revised FREE mini-kit will come out by September 1, with NEW tools to help you build awareness of adult literacy in your community!

At this time, we are also checking with programs to see who would like green wristbands this year. As you make your request, please keep these two things in mind:

1. In the spirit of being "green" please re-use wristbands from last year if you still have them.
2. When you make your request, please understand that we may have to set limits for programs and give you all the wristbands you would like. The wristbands will be provided **free** to each program, but if you wish to give a donation, we would be grateful.

Please use the link here to request your wristbands. Would you make your request by **August 1, 2016**, so we can make our order?

Thanks so much,
The MAACCE Advocacy and Communications Committee

Contact MAACCE@gmail.com if with questions and ideas!



LinkedIn?

NEW!

MAACCE members on LinkedIn, you are invited to join the MAACCE group. Please sign into LinkedIn and request to join today:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8562183>

ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE FY 16 WRAP UP REPORT

Since the last MAACCE newsletter, the committee has been very busy with several projects.

COABE Day on the Hill

On April 26, MAACCE joined in with COABE for Capitol Hill Day. Representatives from several states visited with their Senators and Congress members to help build awareness for the importance of adult education, to explain the need for more funding in support of WIOA, and to thank them for past support.

Sonia Socha and Cynthia Campbell (Chair and Co-Chair of the FY 16 Committee), met with legislative aides for U.S. Senators Mikulski and Cardin, and House Representatives Harris, Sarbanes, Edwards, Hoyer, Cummings, Van Hollen, and Delaney. Sharon Bonney, Executive Director of COABE, joined Sonia and Cynthia in the meeting with Tim Daniels, Congressman Harris's Legislative Assistant, since the Congressman is on the House Appropriations (and Labor-HHS subcommittee) Committee which handles adult education funding levels.

Sonia arranged the full day of meetings and the tight schedule. In addition, Maryland materials needed to be prepared to supplement those provided by COABE. In one short, productive day, we were able to carry out much important communication and connections with our Washington D.C. aides in support of adult education. They commented that this was the first time in quite a while that they received visits "on the hill" by adult education representatives. We accomplished all these appointments between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.—and there was even a chance to eat lunch!

On the evening before, Sonia and Cynthia met with the COABE leadership who were present, along with the representatives from the other 16 states who participated in the Hill visits. The MAACCE Advocacy Committee sent follow-up information and communication to all the Congressional aides we met with in addition to the Congressman we missed (Ruppersberger).

Overall, the time invested by all the states that day brought a good return—because adult education has thus far received level funding for next year (and not the usual 2% cut) and now has the beginning of a greater overall presence with Congressional offices. An article also appeared in The Hill newspaper on April 26 written by the President of COABE, Tom Nash, which helped with this visibility. A second COABE Hill Day will take place on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, during Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, and Sonia and Cynthia are communicating with COABE to offer their assistance. Maryland met with the most representatives on April 26 compared to other states.

Adult Education Federal Funding Actions and Updates

The committee kept the field abreast of the status of federal funding for FY 17 and 18 and asking for their call to action regarding FY 18 funding. The Chair of the Advocacy Committee (Sonia) worked directly with Senator Mikulski's and Congressman Harris's offices on the need for increased funding for FY 18 in support of WIOA. (As previously reported to members by MAACCE, funding for Maryland's FY 17 year from the feds will include a 2% bump up due to formula/population driven factors. Maryland will receive approximately \$9.3 million in federal funding in FY 17. For the FY 18 year, currently the appropriation from the Senate and House remains at level funding, but the final budget has not yet been approved.)

Adult Education State Funding Actions and Updates

The committee also worked on the restoration of the \$344,000+ to the state budget for adult education and literacy services (Literacy Works) grants that had been cut by DLLR and the Governor over the past two years. There have been no decreases in state funding before this time. A meeting was set up through the Governor's staff (with the assistance of Keiffer Mitchell) which included DLLR leadership, the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff, Chris Shank. MAACCE representatives discussed restoration of the state funding, as well as the need to increase state funding and why. MAACCE also explained the history of the adult education state funding and how and why the increases took place. Although the funding was not ultimately restored in the Governor's supplemental budget for FY 17, MAACCE was told during the meeting that "we were heard." The Advocacy and Communications Committee is continuing to work on the actions needed to increase state funding for FY 18 when WIOA will be fully implemented and the competitive grant process will take place. The amount of state funding that each of the other 49 states allocates to adult education is currently being collected to show how Maryland compares. The committee will also collect hard data on the specific need for adult education in our state, as well as specific learner and graduate stories.

WIOA State Plan Participation

Committee members participated in both the WIOA Adult Education Workgroup and Policy Workgroup to provide input for the new Maryland State Plan. The committee also worked in partnership with DLLR to get the word out to MAACCE membership during the development of the plan and encouraged member input and participation, as well as ensured that MAACCE provided feedback to DLLR on the plan. The committee also planned and executed a series of panel sessions about the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (federal, state and local) for the 2016 MAACCE Conference. The sessions received good reviews, and feedback on the evaluations showed appreciation to MAACCE for offering them.

GO GREEN Campaign (2015 and 2016)

The committee prepared items for the GO GREEN Campaign at the 2016 MAACCE Conference. This included an ad in the conference program for the upcoming 2016 Campaign, encouraging members to wear green and their wristbands to the conference on Thursday, and showing a recap slide show of the 2015 GO GREEN Campaign at the opening session on Thursday and in the exhibit hall. The committee has already begun planning for the 2016 GO GREEN Campaign, which appears in a separate section of this newsletter. A PSA by Comcast has been created and will air soon. More wristbands will be ordered and distributed in September.

Adult High School House Bill 1406/Task Force

During the 2016 state legislative session, HB 1406 arose as an item for MAACCE attention and action. After discussion in the committee and with the board, it was decided that MAACCE would testify on the bill. Sonia prepared the main written testimony, and Sonia and Cynthia gave verbal testimony on behalf of MAACCE. MAACCE was in favor of the bill but only with more study first. After several meetings and communication with various legislators, DLLR, and a specific committee appointed by the lead sponsor, Delegate Luke Clippinger, the bill was amended to become a "Study Bill" with a specifically outlined taskforce group to be appointed by the Governor. MAACCE will have a representative, Heather Ritchie, on this group, and there will also be two other adult education appointees. Their work will begin very soon, and the preliminary report is due in early December. The final report will be released in the spring. The Advocacy and Communications Committee will continue to monitor the work of the taskforce and provide input.

Other Projects Accomplished in Spring 2016

The committee sent an invitation to the Governor to speak at the 2016 MAACCE Conference and secured his letter, which appeared in the Conference program.

The committee invited Senator Mikulski to speak at the 2016 MAACCE Conference. However, the Senator's schedule did not allow it for this year, but we hope to get her in the future.

Our committee participated in the development of the new MAACCE recruitment brochure by preparing the Advocacy and Communications information, which appears within the piece.

The committee recruited new members for the Advocacy and Communications Committee at the MAACCE Conference and post conference. The committee had five new members join at the conference and three more afterward.

The committee participated in all Baltimore City Workforce Investment Board (BWIB) Policy Committee meetings including several during the legislative session. MAACCE provided input and feedback on bills related to workforce and adult education related work.

The committee instituted the keeping of minutes of all of the monthly Advocacy and Communications Committee meetings to distribute to committee members and the board.

Our committee worked on newsletters throughout the year, including the special GO GREEN edition, which we have shared with various leaders and supporters. Thank you, Jay Willets, for serving several years as editor and providing guidance. We also have been busy posting updates on Facebook and Twitter. Thank you, Doug Weimer and Cynthia Campbell, for keeping the posts going.

Finally, the committee thanks Laurie Askins for all of her support throughout the year—and her special work on the MAACCE website. We could not have done it our committee work as well without your help!!

Sonia Socha, FY 16 MAACCE Advocacy and Communications Chairperson

Please join the Advocacy and Communications Committee. If you are interested (or want to learn more about being on the committee) please contact us.

Cynthia M. Campbell, Ed.D
Chairperson Advocacy/Communications Committee
campbell945@gmail.com

GRADUATION BLITZ!

It has been a busy Spring/Summer full of graduations. Please see the following links for some of the program's graduations info.

South Baltimore Learning Center celebrated its graduation. See the link in the [Baltimore Sun](#)

The College of Southern Maryland celebrated their first GED Graduation on June 30. [See the article from a local station website.](#)

Learning Is For Tomorrow (LIFT) celebrated the student successes.

If you have a graduation program that you would like featured in our newsletter, please let us know.

Thank you Board Members!

On June 30, 2016, we had to say goodbye to MAACCE Board Members who are rolling off the board. Thank you Cindy, Sonia, Todd and Michael for your many years of hard work and dedication to the field and to MAACCE! We appreciate you!



Todd Elliott



Michael Elonge



Cindy Fischer



Sonia Socha



Mark your calendars now for MAACCE 2017 on May 4 and 5 at the Maritime Institute. Watch your MAACCE emails for information about the conference. We are looking for volunteers to help us with the conference. Email us at MAACCE@gmail.com if you can help!



MAACCE

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We're on the web!

See us at:
www.maaccemd.org

About Our Organization...

The Maryland Association for Adult, Community and Continuing Education is a non-profit organization providing leadership in Maryland for those interested in advancing education as a lifelong process. MAACCE provides a central forum for a wide variety of adult, community and continuing education groups and encourages organizations and agencies in Maryland to cooperate in a broad spectrum of educational programs and activities in support of the lifelong learning concept.

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