

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT CONSORTIUM FOR LANGUAGE ACCESS IN THE COURTS

2011 – 2012

Background

The Executive Committee was comprised of the following members:

- Brenda Aiken (Alaska), At-Large, Chair
- Janica Bisharat (Idaho), At-Large
- Carmel Capati (Wisconsin), Chair, Professional Issues Committee
- John Goerd, (Iowa), At-Large, Vice-Chair
- Emy Lopez (Colorado), Chair, Technical Committee
- Mara Simmons (Arkansas), Chair, Annual Meeting Committee
- Lucy Smallsreed (California), At-Large through May 2011
- Katrin Johnson (Washington), At-Large, filling Lucy Smallsreed's seat.

Meetings

Since the 2011 Annual Business Meeting, the Executive Committee held one face-to-face, strategic planning meeting on April 7, immediately after the 2011 Annual Business Meeting and conducted 11 teleconference meetings. At the face-to-face meeting, the Executive Committee focused on the three priority areas identified at the April 5th membership planning session:

- discussed the strategic implications of the priorities identified by the Consortium membership;
- assessed the implications for the Consortium of current national trends shaping demands for language assistance and the Consortium's limited capacity to provide the services needed; and
- proposed ways to address the priorities identified by the membership.

Teleconferences over the remainder of the year addressed issues concerning the planned restructure of the Consortium, providing comprehensive recommendations for COSCA's consideration to help clarify the Consortium's relationship with COSCA and NCSC, secure adequate Consortium staffing to respond to the burgeoning language access needs in state courts, respond to the critical needs of Consortium members' program managers, and ensure adequate financial and human resources in cooperation with COSCA to sustain the Consortium's mission.

Progress on those issues has been swift, with COSCA making the Consortium's issues a priority for the year. A special Language Access Advisory Committee (LAAC) under the auspices of COSCA's Access, Fairness, Public Trust, & Confidence Committee has been appointed and currently consists of Pat Griffin, as chair, Daniel Becker (UT), Sue Dosal (MN), Steven Canterbury (WV), Marla Moore (GA), and Jeff Hall (WA).

Budget Process

The Executive Committee developed a new budget for 2012 which was approved unanimously by the members. 2012 revenue generation is uncertain and will only be able to forecast after the LAAC and NCSC decides when it is appropriate to invoice the members for the 2013 annual dues. COSCA and CCJ approved the method for calculating those dues, which includes a base of \$7,000 plus \$2.25 per 1,000 LEP individuals in the state.

Organization Newsletter – Member communications

The Executive Committee distributed its second newsletter in December 2011. In addition, Executive Committee members hosted regional teleconferences with members in January 2012 for the Western, Midwest, Southern, New England, and Mid-Atlantic regions. A summary of the teleconferences was shared with the membership in February 2012.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The 2011 Executive Committee meeting minutes are available at the Consortium's website under "Members Only." Please check the minutes for a complete report on the 2011 work of the Executive Committee. For more information about what kept the standing committees busy in 2011, please read the annual report that was submitted by each committee chair.

Please feel free to contact any Executive Committee member with your questions about this report.