

Summary of the Educator Certification Council meeting, November 6-8, 2008

As the official APCE Cabinet liaison to the Educator Certification Council, I attended my first meeting with the Council on November 6-8, 2008, meeting on the campus of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Even before attending my first meeting, I was given an Educator Certification exam to read and grade. All names and location of the Educator are eliminated; they are assigned a number. Three persons are assigned to read each exam.

The Council meeting was chaired by Elaine Barnett, former APCE Cabinet President and a recipient of APCE's "Educator of the Year." Certainly, I was not the only person attending this meeting who represented APCE!

As are many Presbyterian entities, we had THREE committees – Long Range Planning, Interpretation, and Certification Course Oversight. I was assigned to the Interpretation Committee, chaired by Gay Mothershed, another former APCE "Educator of the Year."

Some highlights:

--The Council met with David Chai, GAC Associate for Asian American Leadership, and Heeja Han, National Coordinator for Asian American Educational Ministries Team. Our conversation centered around developing more awareness and cultural understanding of Asian Americans, related to Educator Certification and the exam. Did you know that the Asian American Ministries Team meets during the APCE Annual Event?

--A one page summary of the Educator Certification process will be developed to assist with interpretation.

--The Handbook for Certification Advisors continues to be updated and orientation and training will continued to be offered to Certification Advisors, including at APCE Annual Events.

--Web-based resources are being explored for Educator Certification.

--The highlight of the meeting of course centers around approval of those who have passed the certification exams! Those approved for certification (and who will be honored at the APCE Awards Banquet):

Certified Christian Educators:

Tantiana Budiman – Grace Presbytery

Nadia Van Dorn – Miami Presbytery

Kara Root – Twin Cities Presbytery

Angela Washburn – Western North Carolina

Sue Youngsook Yon – Greater Atlanta (becoming one of the first Korean American Presbyterians to become a Certified Christian Educator!)

Certified Associates in Christian Education:

Kathy Gilmore – Chicago Presbytery

Tammy Moyes – Grace Presbytery

Stacey Valentin – Great Rivers Presbytery

Enrolled Educational Assistant:

Karen Gossett – Foothills Presbytery

Forrest Palmer

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