

NACASSW Regional Report
of Activities to IASSW Board
Seoul, South Korea

Date: May 24th, 2016

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The North American and Caribbean Association of Schools of Social Work (NACASSW) held its most recent regional meeting at the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in Denver, Colorado in October 2015. Since that time NACASSW has been involved in assisting CSWE in collecting examples of practice, policy, social work education and research relative to the Second Pillar document of the Global Agenda on Promoting the Dignity and Worth of People. CSWE, along with NACASSW's assistance has made a strong effort to include submitted materials from Canada, the Caribbean and the United States that reflects both social work educators and social work practitioners from our region.

The activities from Fall 2015 until May 2016 are as follows:

<u>Administration</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
• Further development and updating of the NACASSW Constitution has occurred.	• NACASSW Executive Committee and Regional membership have discussed the importance of updating the Constitution. Throughout 2015 and 2016 local meetings in Canada, the Caribbean and the USA have permitted member input. Still unresolved is the establishment of an annual dues for NACASSW membership as well as the rate of the dues.
• Development of a NACASSW logo	• Currently, the logos in the competition have been sent electronically to the NACASSW members for a final vote. We are hopeful this will be finalized by mid-June, 2016 and the organization will have an official logo.
• The continuing importance of increasing membership has been stressed.	• All of the discussions at the regional meetings in Canada, the Caribbean and the USA have focused on increasing both University and individual membership. Some gains have been made both in Canada and the USA. However, membership in the Caribbean has remained unchanged. Perhaps the new President (July 1 st) who is coming from the Caribbean Region can focus on membership development and full IASSW Board representation from the region.
• NACASSW Partnership Presentations	• The Partnership presentations at all three Social Work Educational Associations (CASWE,

- Regional collaboration on the 2nd pillar document of the Global Agenda to be distributed at the Seoul meeting

- Succession Planning (4 year leadership rotation)

CSWE and ACSWE) have been helpful in promoting awareness between individual schools of social work about what is being done in the regions around topics of concern to NACASSW. For example, migration, immigration, disaster management and services to the increasing elder population. I would hope the new NACASSW President would continue to host regional meetings at all three of the regional social work education conferences.

- As written earlier, NACASSW assisted CSWE who has taken the lead position in this project. Several attempts were made across our region to stimulate the submission of examples of practice, publications, reports, research, class/course projects/assignments, or case examples that focused on the worth and dignity of individuals. I want to publically acknowledge one of the staff at CSWE, Ms. Andrea Bediako, the International Program Coordinator/Research Associate for all of her efforts in the electronic survey development and the multiple times she emailed the survey to regional members. Andrea was also instrumental in assisting to draft the final report. Thank you, Andrea, for all of your support of NACASSW.
- Plans are still being made to hold the election for the next President of NACASSW at the Seoul NACASSW meeting. The next President is to come from the Caribbean region. The Caribbean schools were tasked with developing the ballot and putting forth candidates for the June 2016 Seoul meeting.

I want to end my report by reminding folks this is my final action as a member of the IASSW Board. It has been a deep pleasure for me to meet and work with all the members of the IASSW Board and the NACASSW region. Unfortunately I cannot attend the Joint Congress meeting and IASSW Board meeting. I wish you well in our continuing global work and please know it has been an honor to work with and get to know all of you.

Mark