



Lasallian Education Council Executive Summary July 2017 Meeting

The Lasallian Education Council (LEC) held its annual summer meeting July 17-19, 2017, at the Christian Brothers Conference (CBC) office in Washington, D.C. The LEC welcomed two new members: Sulema Modesto, dean of studies at Cathedral High School in Los Angeles, California, and John Vitek, president of Saint Mary's Press in Winona, Minnesota. Dr. Kurt Schackmuth, vice president for Mission and Academic Services at Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois, officially began his term as LEC chair. Red Sieve, AFSC, consultant to the Midwest District, continues in his role as vice chair. Dr. Scott Kier, superintendent of Lasallian education for the Midwest District, started his term as secretary. Schackmuth formally thanked Charlie Legendre, AFSC, director of the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis in the District of San Francisco New Orleans (SFNO), for his years of service as chair. LEC members expressed great appreciation for his leadership.

Highlights of the LEC's meeting include:

- A meeting of the executive committees of the LEC and Regional Conference of Christian Brothers (RCCB) took place prior to the start of this LEC meeting. These new joint meetings are designed to enhance communication between the two bodies, explore opportunities to align agendas and priorities, collaborate on projects, and share ideas.
- The LEC has created task forces to advance progress on two key strategic directions of the LEC: Evangelization and Catechesis, and Advocacy. Task force membership will feature LEC members as well others from around the country.
- Dr. Mike Daniels, director of Office of Education in SFNO, was named the new chair of the LEC Finance and Advancement Committee.
- As part of its own ongoing formation and efforts to better understand the diversity of the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN), each LEC meeting features a formation session. At this meeting, LEC members were briefed on the mission, vision and goals of Instituto Fe y Vida (Institute for Faith and Light), a Lasallian ministry now based at Lewis University. Executive Director Dr. Carmen Cervantes participated via phone. Instituto Fe y Vida is a nationally known organization that focuses on Catholic, Hispanic young adult ministry.
- Mark Freund, executive director of the Office for Lasallian Education, provided an update on the status of summer formation programs and his efforts to network and connect with other education and Catholic school leaders, among other items. He also provided an update on his interest in learning more about the Gateway Catholic School



Leadership Academy at St. Louis University, a national formation program for aspiring Catholic school leaders. The LEC voted to allot funds to send three people to the program next summer to gain more insights and explore possibilities for future collaboration.

- Jim Lindsay, CBC director of administration, provided a budget update.
- Each of the three LEC committee chairs gave updates relative to their areas: Spirituality and Mission (Sr. Doris Gottemoeller, RSM); Finance and Advancement (Daniels) and Governance (Brother James Martino, FSC).
- Dustin Perry, a member of the Regional Council of Young Lasallians, joined the meeting by phone to describe current projects and priorities related to Young Lasallians.
- The LEC was introduced to Basecamp as its new online platform for sharing meeting materials, enhancing communication, and fostering collaboration.
- Schackmuth presented the LEC with plans that he and Liz Jodice, CBC communications director, developed to further promote and advance the Region's understanding of the LEC. These plans include an enhancing the LEC's website presence, posting executive summaries of each meeting, and developing stronger communication with the Region about LEC's plans and accomplishments.
- Chris Swain, director of the CBC Office of Lasallian Vocation and Ministry, presented an update on plans for the Year of Lasallian Vocations in 2019, which marks the 300th anniversary of Saint John Baptist de La Salle's entry into eternal life and celebrates the Lasallian mission.

The next meeting of the Lasallian Education Council will take place in November in conjunction with the Huether Lasallian Conference in Denver, Colorado.