

Standing Committee on Affiliates

Charge: *In order to promote the professional competence and strengthen the public voices of [affiliates](#) and their individual members, the Standing Committee on Affiliates is charged:*

- *to seek ways of improving two-way communication between and within affiliates;*
- *to keep up-to-date with NCTE policies, structural changes, and focal issues and inform affiliate groups in a timely fashion;*
- *to organize affiliated events at [NCTE conventions](#) and encourage affiliate members to attend;*
- *to take an active role in bringing Affiliate concerns to the [NCTE Executive Committee](#);*
- *to encourage members of affiliates to [join NCTE](#) and [become active](#) in NCTE programs and projects;*
- *to encourage greater use of NCTE resources (e.g., [Pathways](#), [cosponsored speakers](#), professional development opportunities at the local level); and*
- *to encourage and support Affiliate activities in support of the 2009 NCTE [National Day of Writing](#).*

What major actions or projects have been completed by your group pursuant to your charge since July 1, 2010?

Monthly newsletters, prepared and edited by members of SCOA, are posted on the Connected Community of NCTE and made available to all affiliates. Each contains news and information important to each of the affiliates.

1. Members of SCOA “met” quarterly via conference call or web conversation, using Elluminate, to discuss important issues facing affiliates. We have found this regular communication more effective than just relying on email.
2. The Affiliate Leadership Conference was held in Denver in July 2011. Approximately 70 attendees gathered, including members of the Early Career Teachers of Color group. The three days of learning, planning, and conversation were rich—we studied together the positions NCTE is taking on the Common Core Standards as well as the new NCLE initiative. Several affiliates shared success stories of work they are doing in their respective states/regions/provinces; of particular note was the emerging focus on student affiliates of NCTE and how SCOA might continue to improve the connections between those groups, the affiliates, and NCTE. We believe that the student affiliates are a key source for future leadership in all levels of the organization.
3. SCOA sponsored a series of three web seminars this year, an initiative we are very pleased with as we refine the process. Affiliate member attendance has grown with each seminar, and plans are underway to continue this process in the coming year; the first web conversation will be focused on Student Affiliates and is planned for late September or early October.
4. Concurrent sessions at the Orlando convention were held, one focusing on those affiliates who received Affiliate Excellence Awards; those gathered learned from the efforts of those outstanding affiliates. The other session was a gathering of young educators in their early careers, sharing teaching ideas on a “national stage.” This type of session will continue in Chicago as well as a session focusing on Student Affiliates again (there’s a theme emerging!)
5. Affiliates have been invited to share their histories with others during the Chicago convention by creating posters for display.
6. New representatives have been selected for Regions 2, 7, and 8 for the SCOA committee; Glenda Daulerio (PA) will represent Region 2, Molly Berger (WA) will represent Region 7, and Jean Boreen (AZ) will represent Region 8.
7. A new chair of SCOA has been identified: Claire Lamonica (IL) will become chair during the Chicago convention.
8. The Affiliate Survey was refined and sent out with a due date of July 15, 2011. To date, only a handful of affiliates have submitted their reports.
9. SCOA continues to support participation in Advocacy Day, either in Washington, D.C., or at the state level. A number of affiliates have accepted this challenge.
10. We once again successfully recognized a number of affiliates in Orlando for their fine work with journals, websites, newsletters, multicultural initiatives, membership growth, and overall excellence.

What projects, initiatives, or studies are “in progress” at this time?

1. As noted above, we are focusing on the role that Student Affiliates might play in NCTC. While there is clearly a history of these affiliates across the country at various universities, we are interested in working toward a stronger network of these groups, connecting them more closely to their local affiliates, and nurturing leaders in English education from within their ranks. Some affiliates currently have very close working relationships with the student affiliates in their areas. We hope to extend that pattern.

Dave Wendelin, Chair