

## **Standing Committee Against Censorship**

**Charge:** *To solicit and receive reports of [censorship](#) incidents from NCTE members, constituent groups, and sources outside the Council; to serve as a resource on current patterns of censorship; supporting the anti-censorship service office at headquarters; to develop written guidelines for students' Right to Write, including advice for schools dealing with situations in which student writing is taken as threatening to the safety of other students, where freedom of expression must be weighed against individual or school security; to develop a written position on whether the narrowing of the curriculum that occurs in response to high-stakes testing can be understood as censorship. Such a position may be related to your Right to Write work, but it may also warrant a separate statement; and to develop a written position on whether the restriction of student language to English may be an act of censorship, and whether schools in which students speak multiple languages but where only English is evident in print materials is an instance of censorship.*

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

- We have 3 programs on the 2011 convention dealing with censorship including one that is with our sister organizations: ALAOIF and NCAC.
- We have appointed new members and one member to finish the term of a committee member who passed away this summer.
- We have written letters as individuals to the various places where there has been challenge made about classroom materials.

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

- We want to develop a policy statement of sorts for the use of classroom libraries.
- We hope to draft a new resolution on Exemplar Texts for the 2011 conference.

*Teri Lesesne, Chair*