

ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS

AIEA Secretariat c/o Duke University Center for International Studies, Box 90402, Duke University, Durham, NC USA 27708-0402

A MESSAGE TO AIEA MEMBERS

Dear Colleagues,

As I reflect on the "State of AIEA" at the beginning of 2010, I am pleased to see an organization that is working very successfully. AIEA has accomplished much:

- We are on track to reach the membership goal of 500 as outlined in our Strategic Plan 2007-2012
- We established an endowment fund of \$350,000 which will increase over time and allow us to sponsor additional professional development opportunities and other activities
- We have undertaken a series of new professional development initiatives including the Presidential Fellows Program Under Bill Lacy's leadership, the 2010 conference promises to be our largest in terms of attendance numbers
- The attractive website redesign will make it easier for existing and new members to learn about AIEA's events and programs
- The AIEA Secretariat is stable thanks to the tireless work of its executive director, Darla Deardorff and the willingness of Duke University and Gil Merkx to provide office space and generous support.

So that is the good news and No, I do not have any bad news. However, it will soon be time for AIEA to put together its strategic plan 2012-2017 and your input will be critical to make sure that it reflects your interests and priorities. I would like to ask you to consider the following issues and share your thoughts with AIEA's executive board, its presidential stream, members of its committees and the secretariat.

- 1. AIEA is first and foremost an organization that prides itself on its manageable size and collegial connections. Is our present size optimal or is additional growth important?
- 2. With the growth in membership, is the organizational structure of AIEA still the best model? Are there other models such as a two year presidency to assure greater continuity of leadership that might be more effective?

3. What programs and events developed and supported by AIEA, do you feel are most useful to you? Are there others that you think should be given greater priority?

A Final Note:

AIEA's greatest strength is its members. I personally hope that AIEA will continue to be an organization where the executive board and presidential stream are closely connected to the membership and the secretariat provides the important administrative support. This type of organization is a two-way street; it requires that you, the members, participate actively, attend the annual conference, run for election on the executive board, bring in and mentor new members, volunteer for committees and step forward with your ideas and concerns. For my part, it has been a year to remember. My thanks to all of you!

Pia Wood, 2009 AIEA President