



REGION VIII DIRECTORS' NEWSLETTER

Gloria Leija, MMC, Casa Grande, Arizona

Buster Brown, Omaha, NE

The IIMC Executive Committee and Board of Directors met for the Mid-Year Conference on November 11-12, 2005, in Arlington, Virginia.

We had the opportunity to visit the IIMC satellite office, which is located in Arlington and housed in the ACCESS Center. We had the opportunity to meet Dr. Eftekhari, our New IIMC Education Director. The below letter regarding the hiring of Dr. Eftekhari was issued by President Sue Morrow.

“It is with great enthusiasm that I announce the hiring of the Director of Education and Research for the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Dr. Mohammad Eftekhari joined the staff in early November 2005. He is presently working at headquarters in Rancho Cucamonga CA but will soon move to the satellite office in Arlington VA.

Dr. Eftekhari brings a diverse background, which will solidify the existing programs and offer opportunities to explore new concepts, to IIMC. Prior to joining IIMC he was a Senior Consultant for Global Academic Network in Oakland, CA where he was involved in educational reform in a Middle Eastern country transforming K through 12 into a modern program

modeled after the US Charter School and the UK foundation and Community Schools. He has served as Assistant Dean for Business, Technology, and International Studies for the University of California at Berkley. Dr. Eftekhari served as President of Smart Data, Inc. that was cited as the 23rd fastest growing company in the United States. Dr. Eftekhari is fluent in at least three languages.

Dr. Eftekhari received his Ph.D in Economics from the University of London. He is an American citizen who has lived in the United States for more than 30 years. The Personnel Replacement Committee found him to be articulate, informed, creative, competent and personable.

IIMC welcomes Dr. Eftekhari to the staff and looks forward to many interesting years working together on projects, which will benefit our current members and expand the membership base with new programs.

Dr. Eftekhari's email address is: Mohammad@iimc.com

*Susan L. Morrow
IIMC President 2005-06”*

Dr. Eftekhari will be locating to the Arlington office next month. He will be evaluating the technology available at the center to determine how it can be applied to our current and future educational programs.

The Board confirmed an agreement to hire Chris Shalby as Interim Executive Director. The Executive Committee is working on a Plan to hire an Executive Director. They will present this plan to the Board at the Annual Conference. Additionally, the Board confirmed an agreement to hire Richard Klabunde as the IIMC Accountant. He reported that IIMC is in good financial standing.

The Board was informed that the Lawsuit filed by former IIMC employees is on-going.

We sent ½ day on Strategic Planning, and came up with some goals and action plans to work on.

The 2007 IIMC Annual Conference is scheduled in New Orleans, LA. The Hotel and host Clerk have informed IIMC that they are moving forward with plans to host the conference. However, due to some Louisiana sponsors having to pull their support for the conference, due to the Katrina disaster, the Host Clerk is asking State Organizations for assistance by making a financial contribution in any amount to assist with cost associated with hosting the conference. **Our hats go off to New Orleans for their courage and strength.**

Dale Barstow, President, Municipal Clerks Education Foundation (MCEF) offered a presentation to the Board. He reported that this year MCEF awarded five grants/scholarships to cities to fund educational sessions. We encourage other cities to apply for grants to fund educational programs. Additionally, we ask that State Association consider making a contribution to MCEF.

Two proposals were received for the 2010 IIMC conference: Australia (?) and South Africa. The Board elected to request that additional information be submitted, and release a New Request for Proposals to solicit additional proposal from Region XI to host the 2010 Annual Conference.

Marked Your Calendars

2006 IIMC Annual Conference – May 14-18, 2006, Anaheim, CA.

2007 IIMC Annual Conference -

Region VIII Conference – Tentatively scheduled for July 2006 in Henderson, NV at the Green Valley Ranch Resort

Should you have any questions, please call Gloria Leija, MMC, and Region VIII Director at 520-421-8600, Ext. 110, or Buster Brown, CMC,
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