

Standing Committee on Affiliates

Charge: *In order to celebrate and cultivate the public voices of affiliates and their individual members, the Standing Committee on Affiliates is charged:*

- *To plan and implement an Affiliate Leadership Breakfast at the NCTE Annual Convention intended to celebrate the contributions individual affiliates have made in the past year;*
- *To encourage members of affiliates to join and engage with NCTE's various programs, projects, and encourage use of NCTE resources at the local level;*
- *To participate in the bi-annual affiliate leadership meeting, held every other summer, with financial sponsorship of airfare, hotel, and food costs;*
- *To keep up-to-date with NCTE policies, structural changes, and focal issues and inform affiliate groups in a timely fashion;*
- *To respond to staff and NCTE Executive Committee requests for advice on planning affiliate events, leadership meetings, and general issues.*

Major activities: What major actions, projects, initiatives, or studies in your charge have been completed by your group since July 1, 2016? In each activity describe the more important features of the work, and connect your work to the NCTE Vision Statement, if applicable.

In our ongoing effort to find additional ways to communicate with affiliates, we tried topic-driven Zoom meetings within regions. Using our own experience with Zoom for group communication allowed us to share best practices with others. A number of our regions noted successful on-line meetings and we will continue to offer these opportunities to share the wealth of information we have in our affiliates.

We continued to work with Millie Davis and for this year's leadership meeting, Susan Hauser and Franki Sibberson. The new approach to the leadership meeting was exciting to all of us since it promised us the opportunity to meet with affiliates from all regions.

We also made substantive changes to the manner in which we evaluate our newsletter, journal and website awards. Our focus will not be more on general excellence as opposed to ranking groups against each other. We feel that this is more in keeping with our desire to use named journals, websites, and newsletters as models for others to aspire to.

We attended our second Executive Committee meeting in Atlanta. We appreciated the opportunity to share Affiliate concerns with the EC and to hear about innovations from the EC that we could share with our constituencies. We were excited about to hear about the new branding and marketing efforts NCTE is undertaking and how the affiliates could be part of our part in helping to support ongoing initiatives around advocacy and the new focus on how NCTE and affiliates can work together to make both entities more useful to educators.

What actions, projects, initiatives, or studies are "in progress" at this time? What have you accomplished so far, and what is your timeline for future work?

We will always be working on offering more approaches to the affiliates in our regions to work together and/or share ideas. We continue to consider new ideas that would improve communication within and around the affiliates. At the summer meeting, for example, there was discussion regarding additional topic-driven collaborations.

We are also discussing ways to keep the ideas developed during the Leadership weekend front and center for liaisons and their affiliates. We also want to be a sounding board for any changes to the summer leadership meeting.

Jean Boreen, Chair