

### Forum Council Activities

The Forum Council met in Nashville during the CIEE conference and reported the following updates on committee activities. The Standards Committee met in Nashville, and, together with several other initiatives, is finalizing its work on the Standards of Good Practice for Short-Term Programs. It worked as a group on the draft of proposed Sustainability Standards, work led by Daniel Greenburg. The committee changed the name of this proposed new section of the Standards to "Environmental and Cultural Responsibility," and suggested other edits. A draft will be available to Forum members in the coming weeks. Another Standards sub-committee, the Ethics Working Group, chaired by Michael Morrison, also met at CIEE; it discussed the State of the Field Survey responses with respect to the Code of Ethics, and future tasks in light of the Code of Ethics as a living document. The Data Committee will soon be reporting results of the 2008 State of the Field Survey; is readying a summary of quantitative and qualitative responses to the Pathways to the Profession Survey; and will soon be publishing the *Education Abroad Glossary*. The Advocacy Committee will be chairing the Wollitzer Awards. The Curriculum Committee is focused on its sessions for the Portland conference. The Outcomes Committee is working on a monograph as a follow-up to the *Guide to Outcomes Assessment in Education Abroad* that focuses on the implementation of program improvements based on assessment results. Each of the Committees is sponsoring sessions at the Portland conference.

### The Forum on the Road

We are pleased to note that our members have been representing the Forum at several conferences and meetings over the past few months, including the following: IES Annual Conference; CIEE Annual Conference; Financial Models Workshop sponsored by the University of Texas System; ISEP Conference; Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities Meeting; DAAD Meeting of German Universities in Berlin; Health and Safety Workshop, New Delhi, India; and several NAFSA Regional Conferences. The Forum appreciates this outreach! If you are attending a meeting or conference and think that a presentation on an aspect of the Forum's work would be valuable, contact the Forum offices to discuss opportunities and resources ([info@forumea.org](mailto:info@forumea.org)).

#### WELCOME!

To these new Forum members:

Plymouth State University

Studio Arts Centers International (SACI)

Salve Regina University

#### DATES TO NOTE

December 15, 2008  
Early-bird conference registration ends;

Wollitzer Award nominations due

February 15-17, 2009: Fireside Dialogues, Portland OR

February 18-20, 2009: Fifth Forum Conference, Portland, OR

**A few spots are still available in the Fireside Dialogues!**

**Visit the Fireside Dialogue webpage for further details**

### Conference Highlight: Plenary Speaker, Mike Reddin

The Forum is pleased that Mike Reddin, retired from the London School of Economics, will address conference participants at Friday's breakfast plenary. Having enrolled as a student of social policy at the London School of Economics in 1963, he proved unable to salve his curiosity and stayed on as a researcher and then Lecturer in Social Policy. In 1987, he took on the additional role of Senior Tutor to the General Course (the School's full-year program for visiting undergraduates), and in 1994 he was asked to run the General Course full-time, which he did until 2001. Mike now writes, researches, occasionally teaches, travels, sings in choirs, and runs, increasingly slowly.

His talk, "*Existential Reflections on Education Abroad: Some Things to Do before You Get Fired, Resign, Retire or Die*" will challenge the audience to consider a range of questions that point to the heart of our work in education abroad. Is what I'm doing, or trying to do, important? How much does it matter? How do I know what is best for my students and what programs are of greatest value to them? How can we comfortably use the words "foreigners," "fear" and "culture" in describing our work? What is likely to be "foreign" in another place/language/space? What is there to be afraid of? Do we spread the message that without our care and support students will fail? Should we feel obliged to foster anxiety among students and teach them to experience the foreign as truly foreign? Drawing on his experience in education abroad as well as in other fields, Reddin will provoke the audience to reexamine its assumptions about education abroad.

### Limited Conference Sponsorships Remain !

Thanks to the generosity of our members, only a few conference sponsorship opportunities remain. Just one exhibit space remains, so act now before it is reserved! Please contact Jen Brown, Assistant Director for Conference and Events, (717-245-1718) for details.

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