The original documents are located in Box 2, folder “Education - FICE Convention” of the Bradley H. Patterson Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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November 30, 1976

Mr. Brad Patterson  
Assistant to the President on Indian Affairs 
The White House 
Room 134 
Washington, D.C.  20500 

Dear Brad: 

It was very good to meet with you yesterday. I would like to thank you for your support. 

Enclosed are some additional information which you suggested that I send you. 

Sincerely, 

Sylvia Wederath  
Assistant Planning Officer  
Office of Indian Education 

Enclosures
I. Purpose: The purpose of the FICE National Convocation on Native Americans will be to:

A. provide a forum for the Indian community (i.e., Indian tribes, organizations, departments or agencies, and individuals) to present goals and priorities related to education;

B. seek suggestions for improvement of Federal administrative and regulatory policies affecting Indian education;

C. consider legislative, administrative and regulatory changes relating to Indian education; and

D. recommend an appropriate role for the Federal Government to play in responding to the education goals and priorities identified by the convocation participants.

II. Goals and Objectives

A. Seek consensus on general goals and priorities of the "Indian community"; specific recommendations for change in administrative and regulatory policy and legislation ranging from early childhood to postsecondary and adult education from convocation participants.

B. Clarify the programmatic responsibility required for each pertinent Federal agency so that all branches of government will act in concert to create a situation by which each local community can best carry out its own education programs.

1. Identify expressed community needs.

2. Identify the Federal agencies and their programs which currently have the responsibility for and the capacity to meet these needs.
   a. Review the extent to which community needs are being met.
   b. Determine the parameters within which Federal agencies are currently able to meet needs.

C. Recommend ways by which those Federal agencies which currently do not have the capacity to meet the programmatic needs identified by the community might develop and implement programs through policy and/or legislative changes.
III. Pre-Convocation Procedures

A. Notify national Indian organizations prior to their Fall, 1976 conferences in order that they may:
   1. Develop reports and recommendations for legislative and/or policy changes to be presented at the FICE National Convocation.
   2. Request each national Indian organization to recommend one or more key persons who would be invited (by the Assistant Secretary and FICE Chairperson) to participate in the FICE Convocation.

B. Identify representatives from the community of researchers, practitioners, students involved in Indian education; and further, designate private individuals involved in Indian education as participants in the Convocation.

C. Conduct a legislative needs analysis to develop areas for change and innovation in Indian education.

D. Conduct a workshop at the National Indian Education Association Conference (September, 1976), convening education researchers and practitioners to discuss their views on legislative and administrative or policy changes needed to be made to enhance and improve Indian education.

   1. Distribute to all convocation representatives prior to convocation. (Draft if final not completed and published.)
   2. Request comments and suggestions on strategies to implement report’s recommendations.

IV. Convocation Procedures

A. In conjunction with “Goals and Objectives” (II A & B above):
   1. Examine the nature of the programs conducted by Federal agencies in terms of:
      a. legislative and regulatory amendments and reform
      b. administrative policy
   2. Recommend the legislative amendments and administrative policy
changes necessary to assure that programs are most effectively administered.

B. Recommend approaches to assure monitoring and follow-up on recommended actions for Federal agencies including a report on progress available to all convocation participants.

V. Convocation Speakers

A. Federal agencies (as identified above) will be asked to send one (1) representative each to the Convocation:
   1. To speak on his/her agency's intended role in issues involving Indian education; and
   2. To lay forth the agency's current capabilities.

B. Each national Indian organization (and others as in II above) will be invited to send one (1) delegate to the Convocation:
   1. To present the needs of the community; and
   2. To deliberate with the Federal representatives in determining legislative, regulatory and policy changes.

C. Papers on major issue areas will be commissioned for completion in advance of the Convocation to provide background for Convocation participants.

VI. Convocation Format

A. The Convocation would be scheduled for approximately three (3) days.

B. Day I
   1. General Assembly
   2. Participants divided into workshops led by a consulting expert to explore the recommended changes resulting from the pre-convocation application of the Delphi System.
   3. Re-assembly of groups for debate and dissertation on issues evolving from workshops.

C. Day II
   1. Participants divided into workshops led by a consulting expert to explore the recommended changes resulting from the pre-convocation application of the Delphi System.
2. Re-assembly of groups for debate and dissertation on issues evolving from workshops refining the areas of concern.

3. Workshop: Develop statements on appropriate Federal agency roles in meeting identified Indian community needs.

D. Day III

1. General Assembly
   a. Recap

2. Divide into workshops: Develop recommendations on new or revised approaches Federal agencies should take to meet Indian education needs.
   a. Substantive recommendation
   b. Strategic recommendations
   c. Follow-up Plan and Monitoring Group

3. General Assembly
   a. Review and discussion of recommendations

VIII. Mechanisms for Convocation Development and Execution

A. Sole Source

B. Convocation funding

1. Contributions by OIE, BIA, ONAP, and other Federal agencies
   a. By September 1, 1976, identify contributors and dollar amounts.
   b. Administration of funds for Convocation will be through FICE with direction from Indian Education steering committee members funding Convocation.
Sylvia Wenderoth
245-8236
Bernie Mitchell
Bill Dunn
The Federal Interagency Committee on Education (FICE), which I chair, is planning a National Convocation on Indian Education, to be held in March 1977. The purposes of this conference are to:

- provide a forum for the Indian community (i.e., Indian tribes, organizations, departments or agencies, and individuals) to present goals and priorities related to education;
- seek suggestions for improvement of Federal administrative and regulatory policies affecting Indian education;
- consider legislative changes relating to Indian education;
- recommend an appropriate role for the Federal Government to play in responding to the education goals and priorities identified by the conference participants.

I have asked Dr. William Demmert, who serves as Chairman of the FICE Subcommittee on Indian Education, to chair the conference. Dr. Demmert was formerly the Office of Education's Deputy Commissioner for Indian Education and is currently Director of Education at the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Representatives of Indian organizations will be invited to participate, as will selected officials from all Federal agencies concerned with Indian education. The size of the Convocation will be small enough to allow thoughtful interchanges of views.

Because I know that the National Indian Education Association is meeting in Albuquerque next week, I want you to know of our plans so
that you might allocate time at your meeting to consider the issues, goals, and priorities for Indian education which you feel might be appropriate for discussion at the Convocation next March. I would be pleased to receive your recommendations on these matters when your Conference concludes.

As plans for the Convocation near completion, I shall contact you again with further details. I look forward to your participation and that of the National Indian Education Association in this important activity.

Sincerely,

Virginia Y. Trotter
Assistant Secretary
for Education

cc: Dr. Andrew Lawson
Mr. David Gipp  
Executive Director  
American Indian Higher Education Consortium  
1626 High Street  
Denver, Colorado 80218

Dr. Rick St. Germaine  
President  
National Indian Education Association  
Ivy Tower Bldg.  
1115 Second Avenue, South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403

Mr. Douglas Sakiestewa  
Executive Director  
National Indian Health Board  
Brooks Towers Bldg.  
Room 4-H  
1020 15th Street  
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Mr. Thomas W. Fredericks  
Executive Director  
Native American Rights Fund  
1506 Broadway  
Boulder, Colorado 80302

Mr. Wendell Chino  
President  
National Tribal Chairmans' Association  
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Suite 207  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Mr. Mel Tonasket  
President  
National Congress of American Indians  
1430 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Mr. Eddie Tullis  
Acting President  
Coalition of Eastern Native Americans  
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Ms. LaDonna Harris
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Mr. Herschel Sahmaunt
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Coalition of Indian Controlled School Boards
811 Lincoln Street
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COPIES OF LETTER ALSO SENT TO:

Dr. Andrew Lawson  
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Mr. Mel Tonasket  
President  
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Washington, D.C. 20005

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ANNUAL SUMMARY OF FICE ACTIVITIES

During the last year, the Federal Interagency Committee on Education has dealt with nearly all aspects of education and training. Thirty-two Federal agencies are now members of FICE. In addition to the plenary Committee, ten standing subcommittees, with twelve work groups are active. In all, approximately 250 Federal agency staff persons participate in FICE activities. A directory listing FICE and subcommittee members is in preparation and will soon be available. This FICE REPORT summarizes recent achievements and ongoing activities.

Research, Development, Dissemination and Evaluation

One of FICE's newest standing subcommittees, with representation from twenty-five agencies, the Subcommittee on Educational Research, Development, Dissemination and Evaluation is focusing initially on the following:

1. Producing a descriptive summary of Federal education research, development, dissemination and evaluation efforts. (Project is about three-fourths completed; summary report should be available by late summer.)

2. Promoting an interagency effort toward more uniform definitions of educational R&D and a study aimed at providing more accurate and complete data on Federal educational research and development.

3. Studying the problem of protecting human subjects in education research with a view toward recommendations for guiding Federal agency activities.

4. Reviewing Federal agency efforts in curriculum development and implementation to identify common problems and concerns, and to recommend ways of dealing with them.
Population Education

Another new FICE working group, the Subcommittee on Population Education, is preparing a report which will examine the need for population education in the nation's schools and present recommendations for Federal agency actions to meet these needs.

Consumer Protection

The FICE Subcommittee on Consumer Protection has been working toward actions to implement recommendations included in its report Toward a Federal Strategy for Protection of the Consumer of Education issued last summer. Since its release the report has been in great demand and has stimulated efforts throughout government to promote consumer protection efforts in education. The Commissioner of Education, for example, established a working task force to coordinate CE activities in consumer protection. Further implementation steps suggested by the Subcommittee in April 1976 and approved by FICE include:

1. Establishment of an interagency working group comprised of representatives of the Federal agencies which receive the bulk of educational consumer complaints to analyze and share information on complaints received, suggest ways to improve complaint handling procedures and develop an "early warning" mechanism on potential problem areas.

2. Development and dissemination of a pamphlet or brochure that would inform students and prospective students of the specific kinds of information they should seek when choosing an educational institution.

3. Development and dissemination of improved fact sheets outlining the rights and responsibilities of students applying for and receiving Federal aid such as a Federally Insured Student Loan, and/or Veterans Administration payments to attend a postsecondary institution.

4. Endorsement of a State-level approach to tuition insurance and actions to stimulate State efforts in this direction. (A summary of the Subcommittee report including these recommendations and supporting rationale will be included in a forthcoming FICE report devoted solely to the recent activities of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection.)

Education and Work

The FICE Subcommittee on Education and Work has been working toward opening up Federal agencies to permit secondary and postsecondary students to obtain unpaid work experience as volunteers for the government. Working closely with the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, suggestions have been furnished for strengthening proposed legislation to ease restrictions on use of volunteers by Federal agencies. The proposed legislation would allow Federal agencies to accept the unpaid services of students for short periods. It would provide basic protections for both the students and the employing agencies and would try to assure the student a meaningful learning experience.

The subcommittee is now working on a project to identify and describe education and work projects which successfully obtained funding from multiple Federal and non-Federal sources. The emphasis is on identifying creative packaging efforts and the end product sought is a publication which would help those with ideas for useful projects learn how others have obtained funding from more than one source.

Graduate Education

Since publication last June of Federal Policy and Graduate Education, the report prepared by the Subcommittee on Graduate Education, the FICE office has distributed more than 1200 copies on request to officials in graduate schools, government agencies, educational associations, and other interested parties. This report, which has received much favorable attention from the academic community, makes a reasoned plea for consistency in Federal support of graduate education. It also calls for development of programs to produce knowledge and manpower relating to national needs.

As it prepared the report, the Subcommittee was aware that the Federal fiscal climate was not conducive to implementation of its recommendations, but members nonetheless felt it appropriate to document trends and needs in this important area of education.

With the acceptance and publication of its report, the Subcommittee's plans call for scaled down activity with occasional meetings to exchange information and consider the implications of current educational trends for graduate education.
In line with its longstanding involvement in addressing the needs of this country's minority groups, FICE has initiated a number of projects under the aegis of its recently reorganized Subcommittee on Education for the Disadvantaged and Minorities.

Activities of several of the active work groups of this Subcommittee include:

**Indian Education Work Group**

FICE is expected to endorse the report, Indian Education and Federal Responsibility, whose recommendations include holding, in March 1977, a national conference at the highest levels of government to work with Indian leaders to establish short and long range Federal goals and priorities for Indian Education. This and other recommendations included in the work group report will be summarized in a separate FICE REPORT to be issued shortly. This Work Group has requested that it be allowed to continue its efforts as a standing Subcommittee of FICE.

**Hispanic Work Group**

The Hispanic Work Group has prepared a work statement for a contract, to be awarded to a minority firm, for a study of the Federal role in meeting the higher educational needs of Chicanos and Puerto Ricans. Funding for this study will come from three agencies as well as from FICE.

Other working groups of the Subcommittee on Education for the Disadvantaged and Minorities are investigating aspects of a number of Federal programs which target on the needs of the disadvantaged. One is coordinating the several Congressionally mandated evaluation studies of Title I in the Elementary and Secondary Act. Another recently reported to Congress on the implications of alternative measures of poverty which may be implemented to determine distribution of funds under programs for the disadvantaged.

Another is identifying criteria against which to measure the effectiveness of selected programs targeted at the disadvantaged, while yet another is concerned with gathering available data which can help identify types of disadvantaged groups.

**Racial and Ethnic Definitions**

In April 1975 FICE endorsed the report of its Ad Hoc Committee on Racial and Ethnic Definitions, which recommended the following five basic racial and ethnic categories to be used throughout government for collecting and reporting racial and ethnic data:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America.
- Asian or Pacific Islander: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines Islands, and Samoa.
- Black/Negro: A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- Caucasian/White: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, or the Indian subcontinent.
- Hispanic: A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

Although the original purpose of this group was to develop categories for educational data, committee members recognized that such data must be compatible with those from other government sources to which they would be compared. As a result, the categories they recommended have received widespread attention throughout government; for example, they were the basis for the recommendations of the Federal Agency Council on the 1980 Census concerning the racial and ethnic questions to be included in the next decennial Census. In addition, the Office of Management and Budget, the HEW Office for Civil Rights, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the General Accounting Office have agreed to use these categories, with slight modifications, for one year of collection of civil rights compliance data by observer identification, after which OMB will review and amend them as appropriate. Since the year of use has ended, the FICE Ad Hoc Committee will be providing input to OMB as it reviews the categories.

**Black Colleges**

FICE staff has completed the fifth and sixth of an annual series of studies of Federal aid to black colleges which will go to press within the next month. The National Science Foundation has collected data for the FY 1974 and 1975 studies as part of its annual survey, Federal Funds for Colleges, Universities and Selected Nonprofit Institutions.
Postsecondary Education Definitions and Classifications

One of the oldest FICE subgroups is the Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Definitions and Classifications. This Subcommittee has been working on a revised system for classification of higher education institutions. An adjunct group, the Ad Hoc Work Group on Classification of Noncollegiate Postsecondary Institutions has completed development of a related system for the noncollegiate sector. Plans call for these two systems to be reviewed with representatives of the postsecondary education community, whose comments will be used to refine any problems after which general endorsement will be sought.

Environmental Education

Fundamental concepts about the environment have been the concern of the Subcommittee on Environmental Education. This Subcommittee has spent much of the last year developing a paper outlining them. Recently FICE convened a small conference of distinguished experts in areas relating to the environment to review and validate the concepts expressed in the paper.

As the concepts paper is being revised, a task force of the subcommittee is planning a survey of Federal activities in environmental education. Analysis of survey results are expected to identify gaps and overlaps, point up areas needing improved coordination, and lead to recommendations for program changes or additions.

Educational Technology

Almost a year ago, FICE, on the counsel of its Subcommittee on Educational Technology, supported and actively participated in the 2nd National Conference on Open Learning and Nontraditional Study, joining with the University of Mid-America and the Joint Council on Educational Telecommunications. Copies of the Conference Proceedings, "Designing Diversity '76" were distributed to FICE membership. An analysis of the implications of conference papers and discussion for Federal policy and programs was prepared by Bert Cowan, Consultant. The resulting paper, "Some Observations on Open Learning and Nontraditional Education," is available from the FICE office.

The Subcommittee participated again this year, organizing a session for the 1976 Conference held in Lincoln, Nebraska, June 15-17.

Additional activities in which the Subcommittee is currently engaged include an examination of the Federal role in educational technology, teacher training in use of technology, the implications of a national library network, the use of satellites for education, and the impact of TV and other technologies on education.

Arts and Humanities

An active exchange of information on agency activities in the arts and humanities has occurred over the last year. This Subcommittee is now considering ways to support a proposed project on folk arts and crafts in the Americas in cooperation with the Organization of American States (OAS). This project would not only display native and folk arts and crafts from the various countries of the Americas, but also demonstrate how they are made. Three phases of activity are now in the planning stage:

1. A seminar with policy level leadership from the member OAS states (to be held in Washington, D.C.).
2. An exposition and demonstration of outstanding crafts (also to be held in Washington, D.C.).
3. An exposition and demonstration of outstanding crafts by OAS member states (site to be determined).

The planning phase for these activities began in June.

Other FICE Activities

Throughout the rest of calendar 1976, and into 1977, FICE plans to implement the efforts of its Subcommittees and to expand its coordinating role into the area of Federal data policy in education.

Future areas for review suggested by FICE members or non-Federal groups include a review of international education, women's problems, ways to coordinate Federal agency activities for improving recurring educational opportunities for our adult population, and education for the handicapped.

Bernard Michael
Executive Director
Federal Interagency Committee on Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 3021
Washington, D.C. 20202
(202) 245-8220
FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Chairperson: Virginia Y. Trotter
Assistant Secretary for Education, HEW

Subcommittees

Consumer Protection in Education
Chairperson: John Proffitt
Acting Director, Division of Eligibility and Agency Evaluation
Office of Education

Education and Work
Chairperson: William Pierce
Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Occupational and Adult Education
Office of Education

Education and the Arts and Humanities
Chairperson: Harold Arberg
Director, Arts and Humanities Staff
Office of Education

Environmental Education
Chairperson: Beatrice Willard
Member, Council on Environmental Quality

Education for the Disadvantaged and Minorities
Chairperson: Robert Hanrahan
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Education, HEW

Graduate Education
Chairperson: Frank Hansing
Director, Office of University Affairs, NASA

Educational Research, Development, Dissemination and Evaluation
Chairperson: Harold Hodgkinson, Director, National Institute of Education

Population Education
Chairperson: Louis Hellman
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs, HEW

Educational Technology
Chairperson: Robert Hilliard
Chief, Educational Broadcasting
Federal Communications Commission

Postsecondary Education Definitions and Classifications
Chairperson: Theodore Drews
Chief, Higher Education Surveys Branch, National Center for Education Statistics, HEW
Briefing: Mr. Brad Patterson
Assistant to the President
on Indian Affairs
Monday, November 29, 1976 @ 3:00 p.m.

Subject: FICE National Convocation on American Indian Education

When: March 3-7, 1977

Where: Washington, D.C.

Participants:

1. Representatives of the American Indian community of the following categories:
   - National Indian Organizations
   - Researchers
   - Practitioners
   - Students
   - Private Persons

2. Representatives of such Federal agencies as:
   - HUD
   - DOL
   - Agriculture
   - BIA
   - ONAP, OPBE, OIS, OCR

Purpose:

- provide a forum for the Indian community, (i.e., Indian tribes, organizations, departments or agencies, and individuals) to present goals and priorities related to education;

- seek suggestions for improvement of Federal administrative and regulatory policies affecting Indian education;

- consider legislative, administrative and regulatory changes relating to Indian education; and

- recommend an appropriate role for the Federal
government to play in responding to the education goals and priorities identified by the convocation participants.

Goals and Objectives

Within the overall purposes, the goals and objectives follow:

- seek consensus on general goals and priorities of the Indian community; specific recommendations for change in administrative and regulatory policy and legislation ranging from early childhood to post-secondary and adult education from convocation participants;
- clarify the programmatic responsibility required for each pertinent federal agency so that all branches of government will act in concert to create a situation by which each local community can best carry out its own education programs;
- identify expressed community needs;
- identify the Federal agencies and their programs which currently have the responsibility for and the capacity to meet these needs
  1. review the extent to which community needs are being met
  2. determine the parameters within which Federal agencies are currently able to meet needs
- recommend ways by which those Federal agencies which currently do not have the capacity to meet the programmatic needs identified by the community might develop and implement programs through policy and/or legislative changes.

Process

1. Conduct legislative needs assessment
2. Seek published report
3. Request actions from HSM/Interior
4. Establish linkages between Federal agencies and independent groups
Pre-convocation and Convocation Procedures
Work with those Indian representatives designated from the categories of: Researchers, Practitioners, National Organizations, Private Person and Student.
Federal workshop for Federal leadership

Convocation Format
1. Presentation of results of legislative needs assessment;
2. Convocation participants divided into workgroups led by consultants to debate and restructure legislative, regulatory and administrative issues;
3. Achieve consensus on issues to be recommended for change; and
4. Establish mechanisms to oversee follow-through.

Post Convocation
1. Legislative Writer/Editor to produce final recommendations based on convocation proceedings and reports;
2. Proposals for changes placed through to Congress via Offices of Legislation, HEW, and Interior.
AIPRC EFFORT VS. FICE EFFORT

AIPRC
1. Mandated by Congress under P.L. 93-580 "to make a comprehensive investigation and study of Indian affairs ..." (Section 2)
2. Is a congressional activity, conducted by a Congressional Commission.
3. Recommendations for the enactment of legislation "shall be referred by the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives to the appropriate standing committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and such committees shall make a report thereon to the respective house within 2 years of such referral." (Section 5b)

FICE CONVOCATION
1. Mandated by Congress under P.L. 93-638. Legislative assessment and recommendations required specifically of BIA and OE.
2. Is an Administrative activity which will include not only OE and BIA, but a large portion of the rest of the Administrative board. It is being conducted by the Federal branch itself, cooperatively.
3. Recommendations for change in policy, regulation and legislation shall be made to the BIA's Office of Legislation and to OE's.
4. The AIPRC report will be used in conduct of this activity.
FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Virginia Y. Trotter, Chairperson
Assistant Secretary for Education
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Members
*Commissioner of Education
*Director, National Institute of Education
*Department of State
*Department of Defense
*Department of Agriculture
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ACTION
Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration
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Department of Commerce
Department of Housing & Urban Development
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Department of Justice
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National Endowment for the Arts
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Office of Child Development
Social and Rehabilitation Service
Veterans Administration

Observers
*Office of Management and Budget
*Council of Economic Advisors
Council on Environmental Quality
National Academy of Sciences
Smithsonian Institution

Bernard Michael
Executive Director
FICE

*Agencies named in Executive Order 11761

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202
WHY FICE WAS ESTABLISHED

The Federal Interagency Committee on Education (FICE) was established by presidential executive order in 1964 to facilitate coordination of education activities of Federal agencies. Its mandate was updated and reaffirmed by Executive Order 11761 of January 17, 1974.

WHAT FICE DOES

FICE advises the HEW Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Education on their responsibilities under Executive Order 11761. Under the Order, the HEW Secretary, with the assistance of the Assistant Secretary for Education, identifies the Nation’s educational needs and goals and recommends to the President, policies promoting the progress of education.

HOW FICE OPERATES

Representatives from the 30 FICE member agencies meet once a month to exchange information, resolve common problems, reinforce each other’s activities, receive briefings on major issues, review reports and recommendations of Subcommittees, and develop a coherent approach to Federal education programs. Where appropriate, advice and recommendations are transmitted to the Secretary of HEW and to the heads of agencies for implementation.

Subcommittees and other working groups are appointed as needed by the FICE Chairperson to focus on particular areas of interest and concern and provide reports and recommendations to the Committee.

A FICE staff, headed by an Executive Director and attached to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Education, provides administrative and other support for the Committee. The FICE staff also works closely with subcommittees and working groups.

AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

Through participation in FICE, Federal agencies meet responsibilities assigned to them by Section 3 of the Executive Order. These are:

- Making sure their programs conform to national educational goals and policies, as identified by the HEW Secretary, and that administrative policies and practices are consistent with those of other Federal agencies;

- Keeping each other informed in order to achieve coordinated planning and prevent unnecessary duplication of activities;

- Providing information requested by the HEW Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Education in conducting studies and analyses necessary for meeting responsibilities and duties under the Executive Order.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The Assistant Secretary for Education is responsible for:

- Studying the effects of Federal activities on State, local, and private educational institutions;

- Developing recommendations for Federal educational activities and for coordinating such activities;

- Assessing trends in Federal education activities;

- Resolving differences of opinion on Federal administrative practices affecting educational institutions;

- Making appropriate arrangements for obtaining advice and information on educational matters through establishment of ad hoc working groups or existing inter-agency groups;

- Exercising initiative in obtaining data permitting an overview of Federal educational activities.