

California Federation of Teachers
Civil, Human & /Women's Rights Committee
10-13-07

INTRODUCTIONS

Andy mentioned that the Youth Activism Awards from CTA Peace & Justice Caucus National Award was being planned.

At the Bonaventure Maricela Guzman is speaking today concerning women in military and veteran's benefits

UTLA Ann Wright ambassador who resigned immediately following the Iraq Invasion.

Murakami will email CFT resolutions to follow up for next meeting. The committee would like to track socio-political resolutions to make sure that they are addressed.

We will also be working on new resolutions for presentation at the CFT Convention.

EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS REPORT

Rosemary & Andy reported on the Indigenous Rights Conference and the resolutions passes, available on web. Some of the resolutions include:

A UN resolution was passed on indigenous issues. US Australia, Canada, & New Zealand have signed on along with disabled & women's rights.

Anti war resolution was passed. NEA abstained 3 years ago, but now support a strong statement on US occupation of Iraq. The Anti-war resolution was based on a strong resolution from AFT...but edits made it weaker. Wound up to develop an exit strategy.

There were 2000 delegates in Berlin for the conference with a theme on social justice. Cuban rep could only be an observer. Also issues were made on the attendance of the reps from Venezuela.

Resolution passed on Oaxacan teachers.

Gender issues concerning teachers, and immigrant students were discussed. For example a large percentage of girls do not attend school in Africa, and there are safety issues with girls in schools.

AIDS education, Child labor/slavery, goals concerning education for all falling short.

Resolution passed concerning vocational & tech ed.

Shortage worldwide of teachers, in part due to lack of pay & benefits

Immigration issues were discussed.

GAT, 80% of economy is services, need adequate education of the workers, and concerns about the working conditions.

Privatization of education & loss of teacher rights was a worldwide concern.

Our discussions also looked at a report CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE COOPERATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN ICE RAIDS...NEED MORE INFO AND MAY BE A POTENTIAL RESOLUTION FOR THE CONVENTION.

Many found it troubling concerning the anti-immigrant attitude seen at the AFT convention in Boston. The committee felt strongly that we need to try and change the attitude/dialog concerning immigration of many of our brothers & sisters, particularly those from New York.

One way is to coordinate our efforts on resolutions, and find ways to better educate our colleagues through speakers or workshops.

ALSO, TRY TO MEET WITH FOSTER STRTINGER AT THE AFT CHWR CONVENTION. Peter & I will get together with Marty and get in touch with Foster to have a meeting. Marty has agreed to help with the letter, but will not be attending the convention.

TRINATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Rosemary

8TH meeting will be in LA. Concerned with the effects with NAFTA and outsourcing of education, social justice (Canada strike, Oaxaca, racism in school, parent community participation).

April 18-20, 40 years since student protest in Mexico, and what has happened since.

Speakers such as Sal Castro, Bob Moses (algebra project), & many expressed concerns about false accountability such as testing. Want a working conference with concrete proposals. What do we see what would be best to move forward in education.

Opening night on Friday to publicize the event.

Gabriel

Attack on public education has occurred over a long period of time as in right to work states. Happening more in Latin American countries. Seen in trying to privatize pensions.

Need CFT support to sponsor teachers from Oaxaca to attend. Suggesting \$500 from each local.

REVIEW CHWR BUDGET

Murakami presented the budget and that the budget will be worked out with Dennis Smith.

CFT CONVENTION

\$139/night, no registration fee, plus travel

Potential Resolutions to work on-email resolutions for editing

Child Soldiers (Dean)

Immigration Issues (Gabriel)

Columbia University

Equal Justice

ICE Raids cooperation schools

JENA 6

Karen Bass, Mark Ridley-Thomas may have resolutions from LA groups

Slavery

Push out of students

60th Anniversary of Westminster vs. Mendez (1947) case-challenge the segregation of Mexican children be placed in the curriculum. (Frank)

Potential Workshops-ask Margaret for more than one

Privatization of public education (TriNational)

Nondiscrimination Article in contract

Later email suggested a workshop with Ken Burt on his book on the rise of latino politics in California. Can be combined with the 60th Anniversary of Westminster vs. Mendez (1947) and how that political influence has moved to its role in the TriNational Conference today.

Film series concerning human rights and labor unions. Get together with AFT on the display looking at AFT & civil rights.

Comments page for each film remember evaluation forms
Fever Wallace Shawn

Film maker may want to work with us.

Literature Table-

Work on Amnesty International literature that is free.

Other DVD's for sale?

Ken Burt's book for sale

HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

Will occur in 2009 at the same time as the CFT Convention. Workshops will include those that can't be done in 2007. Other workshops might include those that were done in the Women's Rights Conference. We will work with AFT to try to get speakers.

OTHER UPDATE & TASKS

Website still needs updating and expanding. Murakami presented some human rights websites. Combined with the websites obtained from the Women's Rights Conference we can make a useful web page.

ADJOURN