



February 2009 e-NEWS President's Report Cheryl Moose, CI and CT

Dear Friends:

The time is fast approaching for interpreters and stakeholders to gather together for the 2009 RID National Conference in Philadelphia. We expect record breaking numbers in every area again this year – attendees, exhibitors, forums, workshops and presentations. The dedicated and passionate members involved in conference planning are hard at work to ensure your conference experience is everything you expect it to be. In the spirit of continued partnership, communication and collaboration, take note of NAD sponsored events and presentations in your conference program. The RID Board of Directors has also been hard at work planning member forums to ensure we take advantage of the opportunity of having such a large number of dedicated members gathered together in one place to dialog and gather feedback on matters important to members, issues essential to the profession and topics significant to the successful future of the association.

Extended Business Meeting

Monday, August 3 and Tuesday, August 4, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.

In the past, the chair of the business meeting experimented with a motions discussions forum. This was done to educate members on the issues before the start of actual business, in essence, a way to play catch up over the last two years and to save time during the business meeting. This year, we have scheduled a full eight hours to conduct the business of RID. It is crucial to attend the business meeting fully informed on the motions that have been pre-submitted by regions, committees and/or members that address the matters before the association. You can do this by regularly checking the RID Web site on the front page, under "RID Highlights" and "Latest News." You can also get up-to-date local, regional and national information on the Web site by clicking on "Member Center" at the top of the front page and then choosing "SIGs/Member Sections," "Chapters" and/or "Regions" in the drop-down menu. You can read past president's columns by clicking on "About RID" at the top of the front page, "Leadership" in the drop-down menu and "Board of Directors." And finally, if you are interested in the business of RID and plan to attend the 2009 business meeting, I encourage you to make sure you are caught up on your RID *VIEWS* and *e-NEWS* subscriptions.

Member Forums

- **A Community Forum** – modeled after the highly successful forum in San Francisco, in 2007, sponsored by the Interpreters with Deaf Parents and Deaf Caucus Member Sections and the Deaf Members in Leadership Committee.
- **The Future of Member Voting** – A forum to gather member feedback and discuss ways technology can be used to ensure all members' voices are heard on issues significant to the future of the association.
- **The RID Strategic Challenges and Bylaws Review Task Force, SCBRTF, Forum** – The SCBRTF members will share the work they have accomplished addressing 2007 motions "E – S," as well as outlining future goals and gathering member feedback. The board recognizes the work of the SCBRTF could not be completed in a mere 18 months and is committed to funding its continued work. You can read more about the work of the SCBRTF and Motions "E – S" in the President's Column in the March 2008 issue of *VIEWS* as well as an update article in the April issue of *VIEWS*.
- **The Philosophy, Mission and Goal of RID: A Values Discussion** – RID Motion #2008.25 states that the RID Board of Directors appoint a work group to conduct an analysis of how best to elicit member input in reevaluating the overarching direction of the association through a review of the philosophy, mission, goal and diversity statements, and other relevant documents with recommendation due back to the board by March 2009. At this forum, members will weigh-in on whether the philosophy mission and goal of RID continue to remain the measures of its existence. You can read more about the philosophy mission and goal work group at: [http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/VIEWS_articles/PresidentColumn1008\(1\).pdf](http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/VIEWS_articles/PresidentColumn1008(1).pdf)
- **The NIC Task Force and the Future of RID Testing and Certification** – RID Motion #2008.17 states that the board of directors accepts national office recommendation #2008.01 to convene a task force to review the current National Interpreter Certification (NIC) paradigm, as recommended by psychometric standards. The task force will look at all aspects of the testing system and will determine if there are psychometrically sound alternative approaches that are feasible, practical and supportable. You can read more about the NIC Task Force at: [http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/VIEWS_articles/PresidentColumn09-08\(1\).pdf](http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/VIEWS_articles/PresidentColumn09-08(1).pdf)
- **Deaf Friendly Conferences – How Do We Measure Deaf Friendly?** In the November 2008 *e-NEWS* President's Report, Deaf Members in Leadership Chair, Lewis Merkin wrote about the RID 2009 Conference and "What does it mean to be deaf-friendly?" The board of directors would like to explore this further via a member forum and gathering your thoughts and ideas so that the commitment is one we make together. You can read more about Lewis Merkin's work in this area at: http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/VIEWS_articles/PresidentColumn1108.pdf

- **Developing an Official Communication Protocol** – A member forum to discuss best practices in communication and to make certain members are knowledgeable on issues significant to the future of the association

Executive Director, Clay Nettles, and I have started scheduling, during conference week, individual and group meetings with key stakeholders to discuss ongoing communication and collaboration and identifying parallel goals that unite us and ensure strong ongoing partnerships.

Your feedback is vital to allow us to provide you with an extraordinary conference experience. If you see any areas lacking please contact Mr. Nettles at cnettles@rid.org, or me at president@rid.org. Your feedback and opinions are important to us.

With the tremendous growth the profession is experiencing, we must **“Embrace Change,”** however I have learned that by **“Honoring Tradition”** we can avoid repeating past mistakes and honor past, current and future leaders who have great insights into what can make RID great - an association that provides excellent resources to its members. I appreciate each and every one of you who contribute to this philosophy. Talking about the issues in forums, large and small, virtual and live, formal and informal ensures *member input* and *member driven* and I am dedicated to make that happen.

Membership Rulemaking Opportunity

Finally, please weigh-in with your comments on the following RID motion #2008.30

That states the board of directors will accept the document, “Protocol for RID to Communicate with Other Interpreting Membership/Certifying/Testing/Assessing Entities,” which was developed in response to 2007 Conference Motion C2007.04.

You can read more about this membership rulemaking opportunity at:

[http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/RID_Highlights/Motion2008-30\(1\).pdf](http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/RID_Highlights/Motion2008-30(1).pdf)

You can submit your comments to admin@rid.org by March 31, 2009.

Thank you.