



Flash

103rd International Educational
Conference

June 26 - 29, 2016

Buffalo, New York

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Welcome to Buffalo International President James Thomas

I am pleased to welcome each of you to the 103rd IAWP International Educational Conference being held at the Hyatt Regency in beautiful Buffalo, New York. The Conference Planning Committee has put together a spectacular event. We will have a warm welcome by the Mayor of Buffalo followed by excellent speakers. You will have the chance to meet our International Delegates. We will have many general sessions, workshops and speed sessions filled with information to be shared during and after the conference.

The conference will have an exciting Awards Brunch. Everyone will be filled with anticipation of who has been nominated and who will be the winner. The excitement continues with the chapter awards and which chapters will take home the awards. The Awards Program will have singers and many other surprise events. We will visit Niagara Falls for New York night.

We will have a business portion where everyone will be updated on what has taken place at the International level. You will be introduced to our new executive director and be updated on the Administrative Office.

The Banquet and Ball is always an event to remember. You will have the opportunity to hear from the outgoing president and be introduced to the new incoming president. Everyone will have the pleasure of meeting the new Board of Directors. Let us not forget the famous and enjoyable entertainment that follows.

I know this will be the conference that everyone will be talking about from the beginning to the end of this event. Let us share this experience with those who were not able to attend. I look forward to seeing you at the 104th International Educational Conference in Costa Mesa, California.

I am IAWP, You are IAWP, We are IAWP

Welcome to Buffalo!!!

George Barthalow, Conference Chair

Welcome to the 103rd annual educational conference of the International Association of Workforce Professionals in Buffalo, New York, or, otherwise known as “the city of good neighbors,” and, “the city of light!” As you will see, our committee has truly captured our president’s theme of “building bridges through technology, partnership, and innovation.”

This week each of you will experience a number of historic milestones, as well as, have an opportunity to create some treasured memories. The first milestone is that we are honored to have in attendance the President of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies, Commissioner Dale Peinecke of the great state of Washington. Commissioner Peinecke will be our closing speaker on Wednesday morning, and will also conduct a workshop on Tuesday.

Our second milestone is a visit from New York Congressman Brian Higgins. We are honored that he will be joining Lee Foley on Monday morning, providing us with legislative and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act updates.

You will have an opportunity to create memories when we visit beautiful Goat Island and Niagara Falls on Monday evening. Thanks to the generosity of the New Jersey Chapter and President Thomas, buses will pick us up that afternoon in shifts as we will be treated to a nice dinner buffet on site. During your visit, you will have an opportunity to enjoy the Falls, experience a ride on the “Maid of the Mist,” enjoy the scenery, or walk across the Rainbow Bridge to the Canadian side to see the Falls from an ‘International’ perspective. Those who are thinking about visiting Canada need to have their passports in order to enter back into the United States.

Our Conference Committee consisting of coordinators Carolyn Bright, Nancy Crosby, Linda Chapman, and Richard Vitkay, have done an excellent job in planning our educational program as well as provide an array of exciting social events and tours throughout the week. I would like to take this time to thank each of them for a job well done, and, if you get an opportunity, please feel free to thank them as well! One important thing to note: We are honored that our talented and creative coordinator (Richard) has donated a beautiful painting of Niagara Falls that we are auctioning off at the silent auction. He has generously asked that the proceeds from the painting be donated back to the conference.

I would also like to thank our other committee members Paige Stodghill, James Thomas, Terri Pasternik, Cheryl Brown, Chris Crawford, Pat Thornton, and Audrey Baker who participated on monthly conference calls, provided their input, and provided much needed support in many, many ways. Another major thank you is extended to Grant Axtell who again provided us his talented expertise in formatting our wonderful conference program book and set up our detailed conference app.

Finally, whatever you choose to do, from milestone to memory, I hope you have a fantastic adventure here as we learn, collaborate, and communicate with each other throughout the week!

Welcome to the 103rd IAWP Educational Conference Carolyn Bright (New York)

The local planning committee has spent a great deal of time planning a conference that we hope will be everything that our members will want. This will be a conference that you will never forget as you visit Buffalo Niagara for the 103rd Education Conference.

As you get settled in your room, get ready to enjoy great weather (no need for boots and gloves!!) and an exciting time in a city that is seeing a renaissance. Here are just a few suggestions to get you started...

Elmwood Village - In recent years, Elmwood has become a popular site for mixed-use residential and commercial sites. It features over 300 small local shops, coffeehouses, restaurants, bars, and art galleries. In 2007, Elmwood Village was named one of the 'Top 10 Great Places in America' by the American Planning Association. Café Roma or SPoT Coffee has a location at 765 Elmwood or closer to the hotel at 227 Delaware (corner of Delaware and Chippewa). Do you like chocolates? Have you heard about Sponge Candy? Stop at Watson's Chocolate - 738 Elmwood - and after tasting this Buffalo inspired candy, you will want to take some home with you!!

Elmwood Village is a vibrant busy area. You will have a wonderful time checking out the shops, having lunch or just people watching. Keep walking to Bidwell on Saturday afternoon and pick up fresh fruit/veggies at the Farmer's Market to enjoy in your hotel room.

Stop at the Founding Fathers Pub at 75 Edward Street, on your trip back to the Hyatt, for a beer/glass of wine. Check out the artifacts regarding various U.S. presidents. Looking for a nice dinner before the activities begin at 7pm, stop at the Dinosaur Barbecue. You can walk or take the train outside the Hyatt to Canalside, enjoy sitting on the waterfront in the colorful Adirondack chairs, or visit the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park, rent a water bike or a kayak. Stop for dinner at 716 Sports Bar or the Liberty Hound or the newest restaurant – The Dish.

At 7 on Saturday night, the festivities begin... We will start with a presentation from Visit Buffalo Niagara about some of the local tours that are a must see in the area. Later, DJ Norm will spin some of his 70k songs!! Wear your dancing shoes because we plan to dance the night away. We are planning a hula hoop contest, we have prizes!!

We will have hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and wine tasting from Black Willow Winery in Niagara County. We have many events scheduled during the week that will make this a good time and a unique experience. Some of the other highlights of the week include taking a ride on the Moondance Catamaran- departs daily at 12:30, 3pm, 6pm and 8:15. Cost is \$23.00 per person, Seniors - \$3.00 off. You will not forget the great time that you will spend in Buffalo, so attend the workshops, (speakers are very interested in sharing their ideas and information). However, also plan to have a wonderful time!!!!



As is usually the case the hotel provides more soap and other sundries than can reasonably be used at one of these conferences. Rather than tossing them in your bag, bring them down to the Exhibit Hall table and donate them to the various shelters in the area. They will accept all of the soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, etc. that you see fit to donate.



Shhhh!! The Auction Is Silent

This year, as in years past, there are a number of things up for bids...check out in the Exhibit Room and then check back to make sure that someone did not snatch a bargain away from you. Results will be announced and payment collected after closing ceremonies. The proceeds of the auction will be used for support of International Development.

Corsages and Boutonnieres

Get your fleurs from Past-President Linda Barnes for Wednesday's banquet and ball. Corsages are \$5.00 and boutonnieres are \$3.00. All monies will support our International Delegates.



Voting for 2019 Conference Site

DO NOT LOSE YOUR GREY BALLOT TO VOTE FOR THE 2018 CONFERENCE SITE. WE CANNOT REPLACE THOSE BALLOTS. WE WILL VOTE DURING THE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS MEETING.

NOTES from the Executive Office

- Those of you who did not vote on-line for 2016-2017 officers, please submit your vote using the white ballot included in your registration packet. The Executive Office staff will be manning the IAWP booth in the Exhibit Hall to receive your ballot on Monday, June 27 and Tuesday, June 28. Please stop by the registration booth in the Exhibit Hall to cast your vote.
- On Monday, June 27 and Tuesday, June 28 at the registration desk, reservations for banquet and ball seating may be made. Please bring your place card with you and be prepared to select your table number. Groups that want to sit together should designate one person to turn in their place cards to reserve their seats as a group.

Monday Night – New York Night Carolyn Bright (New York)

After a great day of workshops and networking, we will hop on the bus and go to Niagara Falls – dinner will be served at the Top of the Falls Restaurant, which will offer you a spectacular waterfall views. Located on Goat Island, overlooking Terrapin Point, this Niagara Falls restaurant delivers a memorable dining experience with panoramic views of Horseshoe Falls through floor-to-ceiling windows and outdoor dining decks.

We plan an entertaining trip to the Falls, party animals from the NYS Chapter will keep you entertained on the 25 minute bus ride across Grand Island Bridge and on the Robert Moses Parkway to stop on Goat Island. Yes, it is called Goat Island because in the 1700's, there were actually goats living there. (They have since moved on to greener pastures). Also, check out the Tesla Monument which was given to the U.S., by the Yugoslavian Government in 1976 to honor Nikola Tesla, the Serbian American inventor.

Our plan is to have 2 buses rotating across the bridge. Beginning at 4:30 and last bus will return to the Hyatt at 11. A buffet dinner is planned with Buffalo specialties on the menu. Mayor Dyster from Niagara Falls will greet the first group and talk about the progress that has been made in Niagara Falls.

After dinner, you will have time to take pictures of the falls, walk around on Goat Island, go over to Seneca Niagara Casino for a few pulls of the slots or stay on the scenic side, if you really adventurous, walk across the Rainbow Bridge to Canada. (Please don't forget your passport or enhanced Driver's license). Get back on the party bus headed back to Buffalo and dream away the night remembering the spectacular views of the Niagara Falls and the great time you had with colleagues!!!



Top of the Falls – Goat Island, NY

EARLY BIRD RECEPTION

Phillip Arazny (IL)

WOW, what a shindig. It was more than I was expecting. Food, spirits, dancing and camaraderie. Some food highlights were Buffalo wings, BBQ sliders, beef wrapped bacon, pretzels and deserts. And let's not forget the wine tasting.

There were several contests conducted by the DJ. The Hula Hoop winners were Janice Burley-Black (GA) and Crystal Caison (IL). The Electric slide winner was Misti Hodges (KY). And one of the Limbo winners was President James Thomas (CA).

Three time attendee Judith Bailey (IL) summed up what we are all feeling, "What a great start to the conference and I'm looking forward to a great experience once again."



IAWP Leadership Boot Camp

Cheryl Brown, Washington State Chapter

Current President James Thomas welcomed the attendees for the 2016 Leadership Boot Camp. He encouraged the group to meet as many attendees as they can at the conference. He said to be prepared for hugs.

Grant Axtell, current Secretary/Treasurer and candidate for Vice President, gave an overview of what attendees could expect at this training. It will be more interactive with less talking heads. With that we moved into an "Intake Interview" exercise. Everyone partnered up and interviewed one another and then introduced them to the group. A sample of the interview questions were "what is your greatest strength as a leader", "your greatest opportunity to grow as a leader" and "what can IAWP be doing better?" This was a great way to meet incoming officers and find out more about them and where they came from. One of the great quotes from one of the attendees was: "Each one, reach one."

Terri Pasternik, President Elect led us through the following:

- Our Mission
- IAWP: The Basics
 - *Membership
 - *WE: Network, Inform, Celebrate and Educate = NICE (Terri Pasternik gets credit for this)

Our new Executive Director Steve Bent led us through the following:

- Integrity
- Legal Obligations
- Code of Ethics
- Confidentiality
- Conflict of Interest

Continuing on we were led through:

- By-Laws
- Policies and Procedures
- Handbook
- Where would we find information
- Revenue Streams
- Tax status
- Fiduciary responsibility
- Current financial state
- Parent organization
- Chapters
- Leadership Structures

IAWP: My Role

- Responsibilities
- What is your role

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Administrative Office Role

- Executive Director
- Business Manager

We talked about the goals for the year ahead, association priorities, committee goals and Making a Plan.

What's next:

- Hard work
- Change

Steve shared that one of his goals is to "Provide more value to our member."

Comments from attendees:

"It was great to see the interaction and participation of the group." – AWESOME TRAINING– Cheryl Brown, Washington State Chapter

"Boot camp was a very informative session that shared not only where we are now but provided an in-depth look at where the Association is headed." – Mikell Fryer, Georgia State Chapter

"I appreciated the overview of Integrity piece. It gave the group plenty to think about." – Sheila Johnson Teeter, Washington State Chapter

"Excited about the upcoming changes. Looking forward to the re-branding of our organization. I can't wait to get to work helping grow the association." - Suzanne Nichols, Washington State Chapter



FLASH STAFF

The FLASH is published during the conference under the guidance and direction of the communications committee of the association. Items included in the publication do not reflect any official position of the Association.

This year's staff includes:

Editor: Pat Thornton

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Shuffling Off to Buffalo People Scene

Welcome to Buffalo! Early arrivals included many of the usual suspects: Linda Barnes (KY), Cheryl Brown (WA), Grant Axtell (OR), Terri Pasternik (IL), Stephanie Stevens (OR), Mary Rogers (KY), Ray Cabrera (CA), Mikell Fryer (GA), Verna Wade (NC), and of course, President James Thomas (CA). The Conference Planning Committee was out in full force working early Saturday morning. George Barthalow (FL) Conference Chair, Linda Chapman (NY) LAC Coordinator, Richard Vitkay (NY) Program Coordinator, and Carolyn Bright and Nancy Crosby (NY) were among those helping the Administrative Office's Paige Stodgill and Debbie Cardwell and Executive Director Steve Bent fill goodie bags.

First time attendees at IAWP Leadership Boot Camp included Betty J. (BJ) Knutson (OH) Vice President Elect, Becky DeMatteis (OH) President Elect, Crystal Caison (IL) President Elect, Shellie DeLeo (MT) Vice President, Phillip Arazny (IL) Vice President, and Erika Montzko (OR) Sub-Chapter President. The Flash office was flashing with Editor Pat Thornton (CA) and her grand-daughter, Brittany, and Jenny Yarian-Scalpelli (IN) already working on this issue. Pat welcomes all volunteers, so come by the Franklin room and sign up or just to say "Hi."

Familiar faces at the Early Bird included Gerri Jimenez (NM), Val Moeller (CA), Rocio Lopez (CA), Corky Swain (OH), Freddie Jacobs (AR), and the NJ crew- Maryann Baykal, Suzanne Guibert, & Patsy Fox. Glad to see Kathy Bianco being wheeled around by Medra Reilley. Medra loves being able to board the plane first. Bill (Semper Fi) & Vicki Zimmerman (MD), Evelyn Hight-Wood (TX), and our International delegates, Jason Huang and Ia-Uen Chen (ROC) were tearing up the dance floor.

