

IACLEA 2017: Under Construction AND Full Speed Ahead

By Sue Riseling, Executive Director



Sue Riseling

President Randy Burba inspires us to stretch to reach the pinnacle of our leadership capabilities – in support of each other, the officers we lead, and, ultimately, our communities. As your executive director, I am committed to providing the programming and IACLEA personnel to support you in that endeavor.

I have much positive news to share with you about how IACLEA provides exactly what you and your departments need to maximize your performance.

First and foremost, our IACLEA community is growing! In the second half of 2016, our membership campaign was wildly successful. More than 1,300 new Members joined the organization, bringing our total to nearly 3,000! To all our new Members: Welcome! We believe our programs will benefit your work and your career, and in these pages we present many opportunities to learn, collaborate, and participate.

Additionally, **our programs are expanding** to better serve you. The expansion is so widespread that you might say IACLEA is Under Construction.

The **2017 Annual Conference and Exposition** is not to be missed — and not just because it's in my home state of Wisconsin. Based on your feedback, we have modified the program. We have expanded on day one, starting with a full day of programming on Friday. Attendees will hear from nationally recognized keynote speakers at each of the four general sessions. The enthusiasm is already evident: we had the most workshop submissions of any year. From the more than 80 proposals, we have selected the best 30 for the weekend schedule. **Registration is now open at iaclea.org.**

To answer President Burba's call "to candidly review our training, our standards, and our practices and find a higher form of service" we are ramping up our **Accreditation program**. Knowing your organization meets or exceeds national standards can help keep your officers and campuses safer. Additionally, using accreditation standards can assist you in convincing your institution's leaders to increase your funding, support a new program, and enhance training. Peer review and appraisal is one of the best forms of professional development. Among other tactics, we will increase the number of trained assessors to better meet Members' needs.

I invite you and your officers to participate in our new, distance-learning program — via our **popular and timely Webinar series**. These monthly, online sessions draw national experts to address current law enforcement issues. They are free to Members; non-Members may find this educational series a reason to join. At \$149 for non-Members, participants could quickly "earn back" the cost of their membership dues.

IACLEA has created a **Task Force to update our Loaned Executive Management Assistance Program (LEMAP)**. Current users find the program valuable and rate it highly. Our priority is to revamp the program to make it more

available for all Members. To better serve Members we are evaluating the assessor teams, rates, and ways to initiate a management review. And to attract and retain expert assessors,

IACLEA hopes to increase their honorarium. Watch for more details on this valuable program.

As the **federal administration changed**, IACLEA was in the mix immediately, working to inject campus safety issue priorities into the Trump administration's policy agenda and upend unhelpful legislation. In early January, collaborating with inside-the-Beltway strategists at The Hoffman Group, IACLEA's Past President and I met with administration officials on a range of issues. Participants in IACLEA's March 8 Capitol Hill Day will press their Members of Congress on the same issues. I hope you will join us in Washington, D.C., for that event.

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So much activity! Who's going to do all this work?

Since joining IACLEA in August as its first fulltime executive director, I have hired several experienced professionals to partner with me to advance IACLEA's mission.



Gwen Fitzgerald

Gwen Fitzgerald is IACLEA's first Director of Communications. Gwen has more than 30 years' experience as a communications strategist at associations and national, non-profit organizations. She is particularly skilled in reaching new audiences and developing communications strategies to advance advocacy objectives. She is based outside

Washington, D.C., in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Maddie Gosser is IACLEA's new Executive Assistant to the Executive Director. In addition to supporting me, she will support IACLEA Corporate Partners. These companies are integral to IACLEA's success, and our previous structure did not allow staff to focus effectively on them. She graduated Cum Laude from IACLEA Member institution Edgewood College in May 2016 and double majored in Spanish Literature/Language and Communication Studies paired with a Business Minor. Maddie lives in Madison, Wisconsin.



Maddie Gosser

On March 1, Jeff Allison will join IACLEA as Government Relations Director. Jeff has significant experience within the federal government — he worked in several offices at the Department of Justice and served in the Department of Homeland Security. Recently, Jeff retired from the federal government and worked for the National Center for Campus Public Safety. Jeff will join Tom Netting, IACLEA's current Government Relations Director, in conducting our Capitol Hill Day on, March 8, 2017, in Washington, D.C.



Jeff Allison

These in-house employees join the excellent management company and longtime staff members who have carried the torch for IACLEA for more than 30 years. As IACLEA grows in numbers and services provided, the Board of Directors decided it was time to supplement the management company services with full-time, dedicated staff to

improve IACLEA's agility and expand our productivity.

So, you could say IACLEA is Under Construction, with all this programming being expanded and so much more to come in 2017, including a fully redesigned and rebuilt Website and an App. Or you could say we are "cooking with gas" and will continue to provide outstanding programming and numerous ways for Members to collaborate, learn, and grow professionally.

Regardless of how you see it, the Board and I are glad you are engaged with IACLEA. And we look forward to conducting all this public safety work together.



Sue Riseling and Maddie Gosser

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