



ILLINOIS COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES

NCSS 2004 GOLD STAR COUNCIL

What is working?

- Attendance of pre-service teaching at conferences
- Programming for state conferences
- Retreat is successful planning mechanism
- Increase presence and activity downstate
- The idea of the summer retreat is a great idea! I've gotten to know members over this timeframe better than over the past two years. Some great ideas were shared. I hope we can continue to do something similar in the future.
- Our ICSS website and the electronic publications are a major improvement. My compliments to Dave, Fred, and Jason.
- Website looks great!
- The spring conference and the website
- Website – very well done and work in progress. Dean – excellent leadership/organization/vision. Inspiring board to redefine/redirect itself. Jason – professional journal is outstanding.
- Building partnerships is going in a great direction!



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What needs to be revised/tweaked?

- Ramp up promotion of conferences, particularly in region where it is held.
- Timing that works for keeping K-12 people updated on membership status
- The constitution
- Promote! Step up marketing efforts.
- Get more people to conferences.
- Website – add working partners. Incorporate social media – more networking with younger teachers.
 - Facebook account
 - Twitter – expanding use of numbers
- Collect demographics of ICSS members to inform gaps of membership.
- How can the Board access/review CPDU survey data to help inform/direct future conferences?



What needs to be added?

- Digital presence for conferences both day-of and archival to leverage sessions, speakers, exhibitors. Further promote organization.
- More outreach to diverse levels and subjects within social studies.
- I like the idea of having a poster contest at the conferences for college students.
- Do the responsibilities (i.e. Director of Council Relations and Communications Director) need to be added to the constitution? I don't think these are addressed in the constitution.
- Local councils; increased communication with new members; Facebook page.
- PD for the social media for Board members (part of one of our meeting?).
- Create a poster session strand looking at NCSS as a model.
- Share a legal disclaimer sign at the registration table that photographs and videos will be taken for ICSS website.
- Website – regional reps; solicit members to share teaching activities and strategies. Post them on newsletter – “feature” a member’s strategy/activities/etc.



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What needs to be our priority – this year?

- Do a better job recognizing organizations and people.
- Improve awarding of mini-grants.
- Update membership list for use in recruitment.
- Improve use of twitter hashtags.
- Recruit for new leadership.
- Scale up conference speakers.
- Provide an introductory packet for new regional reps.
- Estimate a set format for the ICSS quarterly.
- Could we add a venue for members to check their membership status? It sounds like this is something that's being worked on – cleaning up records of membership, but also to make membership status available to members.
- I need to make Facebook page for ICSS.
- Create a “PR” packet for Regional Reps.
 - Letter of invitation to be a member/update.
 - Excel database template.
- Realign offices/officers with constitution/bylaws and their updated responsibilities.
- Our ride in NCSS St. Louis conference.
 - Presence as an organization to reach new members.
- Advocating for social studies.
- Become more Common Core aware – develop a position on how social studies relates to Common Core.



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What is on the horizon (1-3 years)?

- Update, help, reinvent (i.e., “be the home of” The Great Lakes Council for Social Studies).
- Start work on national conference.
- Create less groups/committees.
- Leverage expertise, membership of less to advocate for staff/local policies supportive of social studies.
- Creation of local councils.
- Continue to work on promotion: marketing of ICSS as well as increasing membership.
- Discuss/image our role in 2018 NCSS Chicago.
- Increasing help – PD, etc., for Common Core.