



National Coalition For Literacy

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education ◦ Adult Literacy Media Alliance ◦ American Council on Education, GED Testing Service ◦ American Institute for Research ◦ American Library Association ◦ Center for Literacy Studies, University of Tennessee ◦ Commission on Adult Basic Education ◦ Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy and the Goodling Institute for Research, Pennsylvania State University ◦ International Reading Association ◦ National Center for Family Literacy ◦ National Council of State Directors of Adult Education ◦ ProLiteracy Worldwide ◦ Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. ◦ World Education

January 5, 2009

Dan Miller, Acting Director
National Institute for Literacy Update

Dear Dan,

The National Coalition for Literacy values the contributions of the National Institute for Literacy to the field and study of adult literacy and English language development. We appreciate the opportunity to share our hopes and thoughts for how the NIFL can continue to be of service to programs and educators and also further the knowledge base on adult literacy and English language learning. Below are recommendations for activities for NIFL in 2009 from the members of the National Coalition for Literacy.

Recommendations:

- *Highly recommend* carrying over existing projects like discussion lists, without disruption in services.
- Continue existing projects like the special collections, regional resource centers, revision of the ASRP website, and development of background papers on emerging technologies and other topics.
- Conduct research on the outcomes of the EL/Civics program.
- Increase funding for research in the adult education field, including another wave to the existing longitudinal data project led by Dr. Steve Reder.
- Conduct research on teacher quality, working conditions, and student outcomes.
- Revive the health and literacy special collection and convene a health and literacy symposium.
- Provide resources for adult learner organizations like VALUE.
- Revive the technology special collection. Have a team of experts review how the field could adapt existing technologies and new technologies for adult education.
- Be more active with the NCL.

The next NCL Membership Meeting is Thursday, February 5th; we hope that you or your representative will be able to join us and provide an update on NIFL. I will be in touch later to confirm time and place with you. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me or Sherrie Claiborne, NCL President (sherrienevilsclaiborne@hotmail.com, 865-604-0351), or Lynn Selmser, NCL Policy Director (lcselmser@cox.net, 571-217-1189), if you have any questions or comments.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year,

Jennifer

Jennifer Maloney, Director