



## Eastern District and Franconia Mennonite Conference Mennonite Education Agency Report

### *Greetings!*

MEA is pleased to share information with you for your annual conference. We are partnering with Mennonite educational institutions, preschool through continuing education to transform students to become Christ followers, service givers, peace seekers, rigorous learners, difference embracers and community builders.

This year **11,517 students** are enrolled at Mennonite institutions – 25 Mennonite School Council (MSC) schools, 5 colleges/universities, 2 seminaries and 2 Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education (HPLE) programs. Many future church and community leaders are being shaped with skills needed to succeed.

MEA is working with school leaders and teachers to ensure schools have the tools they need to transform lives through an Anabaptist lens. Over the past year we have:

- MEA staff is presently involved in two presidential searches: Eastern Mennonite University and Hesston College. Both searches are on track. As part of the transition time, Dr. Lee Snyder was jointly approved by the boards of MEA and EMU to serve as interim president beginning July 1, 2016.
- Planning is underway for the joint MEA/Mennonite Health Services board governance conference scheduled for March 8-12, 2017. The event will not only bring the boards from Mennonite educational and MHS institutions together, but is also open to conference leadership and boards to participate in board development training.
- Over 475 registrants participated “In the Image of God: Faith Community, Reconciliation” Mennonite Educators Conference 2016 February 4-6, 2016. Registrants came from the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, Colombia and Benin.
- MEA is providing leadership for the planning for a Hispanic Anabaptist Academy Pastor and Spouse Spiritual and Training Retreat to take place this June. MEA is partnering with Goshen College and Everence in this event.
- Entered into conversations with the MEA board and committees on the current landscape of the denomination and its implications.

*We are grateful* to members of your conferences serving on Mennonite educational boards and committees.

- **Mennonite Education Agency:** Noel Santiago
- **AMBS:** Mim Book, Donella Clemens
- **Bethel College:** Martin Wiens
- **Christopher Dock School:** Mark Bergey, Ken Clemmer, John Duerksen, P. Scott Heckler, Beny Krisbianto, Chad Lacher, Scott Landis, James M. Lapp, Katie Longacre, Rina Rampogu, Warren L. Tyson, Ruth H. Yoder
- **Eastern Mennonite University:** Evon Bergey, David Hersh, Charlotte Hunsberger, Chad Lacher
- **Goshen College:** Calenthia Dowdy
- **Quakertown School:** Lori Cassel, Ron Dise, Brenda Jones, Ivan Moyer, Jeff Naugle, Barb Rice, Meg Sabulsky, Carlos Velez

*We regret any omissions or errors. Please send corrections to [info@MennoniteEducation.org](mailto:info@MennoniteEducation.org).*

*Thank you* to Eastern District and Franconia Conference congregations who support Mennonite education\*:

**Giving\* from Eastern District congregations:**  
May 1, 2015-April 30, 2016 -- \$20,296.66

**Giving\* from Franconia congregations:**  
January 1-December 31, 2015 -- \$38,299.26

*\*Giving includes gifts for higher education, MEA, Racial/Ethnic Leadership Education and Hispanic Pastoral Leadership Education.*

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**One of our greatest accomplishments is the testimony of students to the transforming power of Mennonite education.** Stories are plentiful and many of you could echo these words from a current Mennonite college student: “Attending a Mennonite college shaped who I am today and brought me to my own understanding and ownership of my Mennonite faith.” Thank you for your work in partnering with Mennonite schools of all kinds as well as Mennonite Education Agency. *We are grateful for your support.*

Carlos Romero, MEA Executive Director