

## **CIAMEL Meeting takes place in Rome**



The International Council for Association and the Lasallian Educational Mission (CIAMEL) met at the Generalate, in Rome, on October 30 – November 1, 2017. The International Association of La Salle Universities was represented by its President, Br. William Mann, whose report is presented below.

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Report on CIAMEL Meeting – November 15, 2017  
Brother Bill Mann, FSC

The International Council for Association and Lasallian Educational Mission (CIAMEL) met in Rome from 30 October to 1 November 2017. This was our fifth meeting; my appointment to the Council is because IALU has a seat at the Council.

The Council meets twice per year in Rome for 3 to 4 days each time, and much of its work concerns the implementation of the proposals of the 2nd International Assembly for Lasallian Educational Mission (2013) and 45th General Chapter (2014).

Some matters about which might be of your interest are the following:

1. The writing of a “Declaration of Lasallian Pedagogy for the 21st Century” is currently underway. We received a first short draft of six pages for our review. It looks promising. A final document of about 50-60 pages is envisaged in time for presentation to the 3rd International Assembly for Lasallian Educational Mission (May 2020).
2. Concurrently, a document is in preparation articulating the essential “Criteria [or Characteristics] of Lasallian Education.” It is evolving as a brief user-friendly document of about 10 pages, and the format of the draft we received was presented primarily as a rather dense listing of some twenty-five criteria grouped under six main themes. Our initial reaction to this third draft of the document was favorable. When finalized, this document will also be presented to the 3rd International Assembly for the Lasallian Educational Mission (May 2020).
3. The Institute of the Brothers has had a “Guide for Formation” since 1991. It is currently being updated and revised; and the entire document will articulate an approach to Lasallian formation for mission for all Lasallians (Brothers and Partners alike). Obviously, some content will only concern formation for the life of a Brother. We reviewed a very detailed outline developed by the Institute’s Formation Secretariat; and last week that outline was emailed to groups of formation experts and consultants all around the world. Reactions are expected by 8 December 2017, and a first draft of the “Guide” is anticipated in February 2018.
4. A collection of about a dozen articles about “Formation for Mission” — a good number written by IALU-related personnel — will be published in February 2018. The collection emerged from a spring 2017 seminar in Rome whose backdrop was preparation for the revision of the “Guide for Formation.” An outline of articles and a list of authors was shared with CIAMEL.
5. Work has begun on the preparation of the “3rd International Assembly for Lasallian Educational Mission” (AIMEL 2020). CIAMEL is its preparatory commission, and we requested that the Institute’s Secretary General join us as a member of the commission. AIMEL 2020 will receive three documents (Declaration, Criteria/Characteristics, & Guide for Formation) prior to the 46th General Chapter (May 2021), study the current reality of the mission around the world, and propose plans for the next seven years. A lot of time and thought at our recent meeting went into a consideration of the preferred profile of delegates and about an appropriately proportional representation of delegates (Lasallian Women Partners, Lasallian Men Partners, and Brothers). Once named, Regions will assure prior preparation of all delegates.
6. Reports were received from the “Global Lasallian Women’s Symposium” in New Zealand (July 2017) and the “RELAL Symposium for Lasallian Women” in Mexico (May 2017). After studying the proposals that came to us from these Lasallian women (about 115 at each gathering), CIAMEL proposed to the Superior General that a recommendation be made to all responsible parties to augment the presence of women on all councils and commissions that function at Institute, Region, District, and Sector levels (beginning with CIAMEL itself)

and that gender equity/parity be assured on these same councils and commissions within the next seven years.

7. We were informed that the Rome-based MEL Bulletin series of publications — begun in 2002 but on hiatus since 2014 — will resume. CIAMEL has been asked to cooperate in organizing a series of these MEL Bulletins on contemporary catechetical and pastoral ministry practice in the Regions. What is happening (concretely) in the field of catechesis in the Regions? What is happening in the field of Youth Pastoral & Campus Ministry programs? A series of brief, inspiring, short articles on what is happening “on the ground” is desired. Suggested titles and authors — with a very brief synopsis of proposals — are being sought by February 2018. The publications will continue to be published in English, Spanish, and French languages.
8. A Report was received on the very successful “2nd Lasallian Education Congress in Latin America” that was organized by two Regions of IALU (Mexico & Central and South America) in October 2017 in León, Mexico. More than 400 people were in attendance; and while most were from Latin America, people from Spain and the USA were also in attendance.
9. Finally, we were informed that the Institute is organizing an “International Congress on Lasallian Education”; and it will be held in April 2019 in Mexico City. The Congress coincides with the tercentenary of the De La Salle’s death. Details will follow at a later date.