

August 4, 2017

Subject: Summer Activity

Summer is flying by and it won't be long before everyone is ready for a new fall semester. We had a successful curriculum review session in Myrtle Beach last week. Curriculum outlines for Merchandising, Business Law and Chemistry were reviewed by a group of 22 educators and representatives from NFDA, NFDMA, ICCFA and ICFSEB. All schools will be asked to review the recommendations of the committees and provide feedback by October 1. Then the Curriculum Study Committee will evaluate all of the recommendations during their October meeting. An updated Directory of Programs should be uploaded to the ABFSE website next week. Programs must make the info in the Directory's chart available to anyone who inquires. Plan to post the chart on your program webpage before the US Department of Education makes it mandatory.

Please remember the following opportunities and deadlines:

- Renewal of Accreditation invoices were mailed in May. Payment is due by September 1. (please verify that checks will be mailed to the ABFSE New Jersey office address)
- 2017 is the year for Review of Accreditation Standards. Share your thoughts, ideas and recommendations by the September 1 deadline. See the ABFSE website for details. <http://www.abfse.org/docs/NoticeOfReview2017.pdf>
- Scholarships will be awarded this fall to applicants who have completed at least 1 semester of funeral service coursework. Applications are submitted on-line. Deadline is September 1. See the ABFSE website for details. <http://www.abfse.org/html/scholarships.html#National>
- Strategic planning. We had excellent participation at the Strategic Planning Workshop in April 2017. Another session is scheduled for Boston on October 29, 2017 (prior to NFDA Convention and after other ABFSE committee meetings). ABFSE officers, committee chairs and COA members are asked to attend. All interested parties are invited as guests. RSVP to the ABFSE office, please.
- There will be a Self Study Workshop in Boston on Saturday, October 28. Registration is required.

Slowly but surely, JURA is coming. The process of implementing the new system for online submission of the Self Study is time consuming. We are making progress, but it is not ready for distribution, yet. Please contact the office with your questions or suggestions and enjoy the rest of your summer.

-Robb