

February 2002 Newsletter
Vol 3 #1

BOARD MEETING

There will be a PACE Executive Board meeting on Saturday, March 23 at the Fairfield Inn, Baltimore-Washington Airport. The highlights of the meeting will include:

- Briefing on Press Conferences for degree requirement departments. (See Press Conferences below)
- Discussions of the technical assistance program (See Technical Assistance below).
- Continued efforts to establish liaison with NAACP.
- Potential for grants at Salve Regina University for the Research Committee, including Price Waterhouse grants and COPS Office grants.
- Present and future activity with the Rhode Island Governor's Select Committee. (See RI Committee below)
- Present and future activity with the Pittsburgh Citizen Police Review Commission. (See Pittsburgh Commission below).
- Activity with ACJS – college professors. (See ACJS below).
- Possible national conference for PACE in 2003.

Members are encouraged to submit issues for consideration by the Board by e-mail or fax.

PRESS CONFERENCES

The November 2001 Newsletter reported that press conferences to award certificates of professional standards to 5 departments. Since then, award press conferences have been held at; Leonia, NJ; Montvale, NJ;

Dover Township, NJ; Cherry Hill, NJ; Langland, CO. Sheriff's Office, WI; Burnsville, MN; Michigan State University, North Dakota Highway Patrol and Washington State Fish and Game Enforcement Department.

In each case the departmental officials were most appreciative of the award. In approximately 50% of awards, there was television press coverage in addition to newspaper coverage in all cases. Text of the presentation is included as Attachment A for this Newsletter. At Michigan State University, a special award was presented to Dr. David Carter for his outstanding research on advantages of college degrees for police officers.

Plans are being developed to complete press conferences at all remaining departments by May 2002, including Redlands, California Police on March 4th.

NEW QUALIFYING DEPARTMENTS

Information has been received and verified that the following departments require four-year degrees for entering officers. They have been added to the PACE web.

Flint Township, Michigan
Hudson County, New Jersey Prosecutor's Office

Members are encouraged to notify PACE of any known department with four-year degree entry standards which is not on our web.

ORGANIZATIONAL LIAISON

Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies

Efforts are continuing to get college degree standards for officers. In a brief conversation with Executive Director Sylvester Daughtry, he stated that the Commission had to many other issues to consider to preclude consideration of college degree standards by CALEA at this time. Liaison efforts will be continued.

International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training

PACE was notified that the version of the IADLEST Resolution supporting college degree requirements was not current and the current official Resolution was received. It has been posted on the web. Continued close liaison with IADLEST is maintained through Don Hopkins, the Executive Director of the Maryland Police and Corrections Standards and Training (who also serves on the PACE Board).

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

Plans have been made for PACE to attend the annual conference of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. The focus will be to notify the college professors that all active police officers enrolled in college with at least completion of two years of credits can have free membership in PACE as long as they are enrolled in college. Hopefully this will expand our membership.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Documents and Telephone Consultation

Technical assistance documents for implementing college degree requirements was provided to police departments:

- Dothan, Alabama
- Columbus, Georgia

On-Site Assistance

Rhode Island

The prior Newsletter reported on a presentation with favorable results to the Rhode Island Governor's Select Committee as well as to work with the sub-committee on college degree standards which was established in response to the PACE presentation.

Pittsburgh

Last year the Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Police Citizen Review Commission contacted PACE regarding concerns for Pittsburgh considering abolishing the current two-year college standard for new officers. This Commission is unique in that its' authority includes recommending policies to the Police Department.

It was suggested that this could be an opportunity to open the door for increasing the standard to a four-year degree. In formation documents were submitted followed by telephone discussions. The result is that the PACE Director has been invited to testify before the Commission on February 22 and remain for a retreat on February 23 for further discussions.

New Jersey

At the request of the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, a meeting was attended to assist in restoring the four-year degree requirement for the New Jersey State Police. (It had been withdrawn because of pending litigation.) It was indicated that further PACE assistance would be needed.

Another section of the New Jersey Attorney General's Office requested assistance concerning four-year degrees for local officers in New Jersey. PACE responded but is awaiting a specific request.

WEB ACTIVITY

The PACE web continues to receive a high level of interest. During the past three months there were 7,039 inquiries or "hits" for an average of 60 per day. There are extensive multiple uses by many persons as the 7,039 "hits" were by 904 distinct hosts, including 81 new hosts in the final 7 days of this quarter.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Members are encouraged to submit to the Newsletter any of their publications (or those of others) they believe to be of interest to PACE members.

MEMBERSHIP

PACE now has 371 members. PACE membership list (Attachment B) is attached. This list should not be distributed outside of PACE members without approval of PACE permission.

DUES

2002 dues of \$25.00 should be mailed to PACE as soon as possible. Many members have not yet submitted their 2002 dues.