

# NIC Bulletin

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Official Newsletter of the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology, Inc.

[www.nictesting.org](http://www.nictesting.org)

## Ohio Caught One!

*The following is a statement/letter that Sean Colton released on catching a testing candidate in Ohio who was an imposter. Mr. Colton had spoke to the delegation on identity fraud at the NIC Conference last August.*

As most of you are aware, SMT/IQT developed and implemented a biometric system for the Ohio Board office. The biometric system captures a fingerprint of each individual's thumb and index finger, as well as a photograph. The system can be used in several ways. First, schools can use the system to capture this information at the time of enrollment and the system can be used to track hours of education. Second, the system can be used at IQT test centers to capture this data when a candidate takes an examination. Third, and as is done in Ohio, the system can be used to capture this information at the board office when candidates register for an exam.

No matter which option is used, the system creates a data base of pictures and fingerprints against which all future students and candidates can be compared within the state. Thus, if a student or candidate who has already tested attempts to impersonate another candidate, the system will identify the imposter.

This system has been operating in Ohio for only a month and a half and has a data base of information on only 4000 candidates in Ohio. Given this brief period of operation and small data base, it is with great pride and excitement that we announce the biometric system has found its first imposter! Today an individual was identified as a prior



candidate and prevented from impersonating another candidate by taking an exam in their place. Had this system not been in place this imposter would not have been stopped and another fraudulent license would have been issued.

We view this system as having a great value to NIC, and the states, as it serves in helping to prevent cheating and reinforcing the potential for reciprocity. As additional states adopt the system, the data base will grow across state lines and become even more potent to demonstrating NIC's commitment to security.

Please contact me with any questions.

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## Sandra Bruce Lauded With Award

Sandra Bruce of Milady was lauded by the American Association of Cosmetology Schools with a special award at their convention in Orlando, FL.

The Spirit of Service Award was given to Sandra Bruce of Milady for her dedication as a service volunteer to the ACCS for many years and the support she has given to the organization.

This is the first time this special award has been given. NIC would like to congratulate Sandra. She is truly committed to the industry by the full dedication that she has given to all the organizations.



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# Message From the President



I trust that all of you had a safe and Blessed Holiday, with a lot of time off to spend with your loved ones. Christmas to me is not about the gifts you can buy, but the gifts God has blessed us with. It's about the family and friends. It's about the love we have for each other. I know I have been blessed and for that I am grateful.

As we say good-by to 2010 and hello to 2011, it's time to reflect on the changes that have already taken place and those to come. Maybe make a few resolutions. One of my resolutions this year is to make sure that everyone of you understands that NIC is not just about testing. We have so much more to offer.

Now is the time to start thinking about Legislation and any corrections or changes that you may need to address. NIC can help with Legislative support. Last year NIC/NEC was asked to help Hawaii with sunset. A few phone calls set us into action with letters, testimonials, documented information of injuries, some impressively graphic photos and video of "Why we regulate." The end result? Hawaii was successful in defeating

sunset. Your membership entitles your state to that same support. All it takes is a call. This is also the time to educate any new Legislators and Representatives as to the importance of regulating our profession and the need, if any, for changes in your laws.

It is also time to start making your plans to attend the Regional meeting. Last year we tried something different and combined the four Regions together for one big meeting. From the evaluations and positive comments, we feel that this was a great success so; we are again bringing all four Regions together for one meeting. That meeting will be held in Nashville, TN, April 2-3, 2011. Nashville is a great place to be in the spring and your Region Directors have a great program planned for you. Don't miss it. Meet us in Nashville for fun, friendship and we will provide the education. I look forward to seeing you all and getting to know those of you that I have not had the pleasure to meet yet.

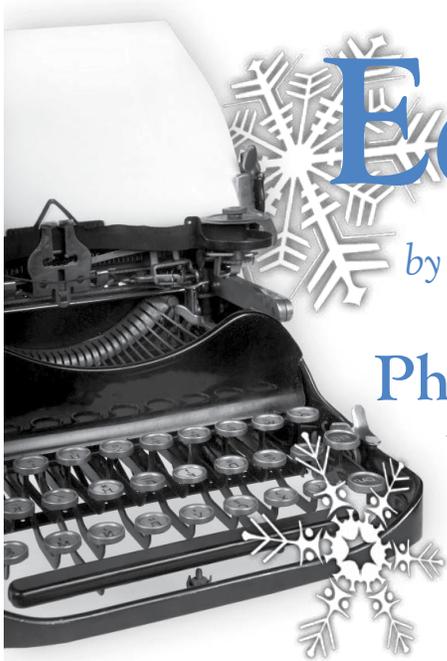
My wish for all of you is a happy and blessed New Year. Be safe and I hope to see you all in Nashville.



## Convention Site Selected

With the final three states vying for the 2012 Conference the delegation at the NIC Conference voted on their choice of going to Salt Lake City, Utah.

It was great to see so many states interested in hosting a Conference too where it took three times of voting until the delegates selected a city. Anyone wishing to host the 2013 Conference, now is the time to start working on a site and date. Information can be sent to the Conference Site Committee Chairman.



# Editorial

by Lois Wiskur

## Phrases/Cliché's Prevalent in Speech

I was listening to a TV program sometime ago and the announcer had a reporter on who was interviewing a former government employee. When the announcer summarized the contents of the interview, the reporter had concluded that the government employee had used a choice of a couple of words together at least 25 times in the short time they had talked.

This brings us to the old worn out expression of words, or should I say a phrase/cliché of sentences. The most famous phrases/clichés prevalent in our world today are “the fact of the matter is” or “if you will”, “like, you know” which always follow some statements or sentences.

Sometimes I too become alert like the reporter by picking up words that are repeated often within a conversation, a speech or a sermon. I feel I could really identify with the guy. I've noticed a lot of people seem to start all their sentences with the word “look” before proceeding to tell us just what are we supposed to be listening (not looking)

to. How many times do you say “Have a good day” to conclude a conversation with a person? I know I do a lot in just one day thinking that I begin to sound like a broken record. These phrases all fall within our acceptance limits.

However, so much being said, let me be really clear, the fact of the matter is, as well as, absolutely, for the most part, the main issue of our discussion is. Do you have other issues? To make a long story short, I think we really shouldn't put the cart before the horse but let the chips fall where they may. “If it ain't broke, don't fix it” is really the only way to get things done. If we all have just struggled recently through most of those sentences, we have heard some of the most used phrases that appear in our conversation every day.

But adults don't have a corner on the usage of habitual phrases or words. If you had or are spending much time with a teenager, you've heard a lot of “you know, like, those guys were just totally awesome, like really, dude, you know, like, they were amazing.” That one sentence contains about 99 percent of the words that we hear when either listening or in a conversation between teenagers and their friends.

After listening to “Like you know, about, like, how awesome” I finally asked a few young teens what had they really said besides “like” and “you know.” The reply I got was “you guys just don't understand.” I realized by using the phrase “you guys” is like most of us use it, including anyone of any age (like myself.) This reminded me that at the Conference how many people were really using so many of these phrases, especially “like” and “you guys.” I had to stop and think that I'm as guilty as everyone else, if not more. I keep catching myself when I'm at work every day to pay more attention to not only what I say but how I say it (I always thought it was strange that us girls refer to each other as “you guys.”)

Now I'm not going to keep “pushing the boundaries” and “like you know” try to convince not only you but myself that I really understood this whole new business of new words and phrases that appear daily in our conversations.

Just in case you haven't figured out or realized that one of my favorite words is “really” and how many times I used it. “You guys, like, have a really good year in 2011. Like you know, a really awesome New Year!”

### What Makes Life?

Not length of days nor span of years;  
Not vain regrets nor hopeless tears;  
Not faint heart when a storm appears -  
These make not life.

Not easy drifting with the tide;  
Not halting when the visions ride;  
Not mourning for the gifts denied -  
These make not life.

To fill the time with thought and deed;  
To find in faith the joyous creed;  
To lose oneself in others' need -  
These make life.

To strive when adverse currents hold;  
To make our dreams their truths unfold;  
To smile at fate with courage bold -  
These make life.

- Charles E. Whelan

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# 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE *Highlights*



# August 27-29, 2010 Seattle, Washington



# [Enter]ing The World of Hybrid Learning: An Introduction

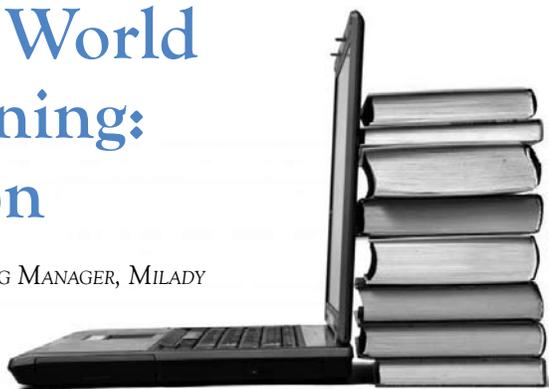
By GERARD MCAVEY – EXECUTIVE MARKETING MANAGER, MILADY

*“For computer-based learning to transform education, it must be implemented disruptively, not by competing against the existing system but by serving students who cannot currently receive the courses they desire.” –Christensen and Horn, EducationNext, 2008.*

We have seen a great deal of change within the education system during the last ten years. In fact, as we wrap up 2010 and head into 2011, we should anticipate even greater changes within the school industry based on the mere fact that technology is playing such an integral role in the evolution of how students learn and how instructors teach. Beauty and wellness pre-licensure programs across the country are making great strides with incorporating technology and focusing on learner-centered instruction to accommodate today’s student. That being said, one area that we seem to be falling a bit behind on is the delivery of curriculum via an online format.

If we all take a moment and observe what post-secondary institutions are doing across the country, it would be safe to say that delivering online courses isn’t necessarily a “new thing.” Millions of students are taking online classes within their respective fields of study, and that number includes not only post-secondary students but secondary students as well as post-graduate students. So as we focus on the world of beauty and wellness there are two key items we need to look at. Item #1: It’s not about if it’s going to happen but when it’s going to happen. Item #2: How does everyone involved (State Boards, School Owners/Administrators and Content Providers) ensure that the implementation is handled properly in order to provide the education necessary to ultimately protect the consumer without sacrificing the integrity of the program itself.

So at this time it’s important to focus on some key areas that illicit the most ques-



tions when the discussion of online learning comes up:

How are students expected to properly learn everything they need to, both from a theoretical and practical standpoint sitting behind a computer?

This is a perfect time for us to start adapting our verbiage and using the term “hybrid learning.” It is essential for everyone involved to acknowledge that at this time the goal is to focus on delivering any (or all) of the theory portion of a standard curriculum from a distance. A 1500 hour program, for example, would allow for a percentage of the curriculum to be completed online; however those same students will be expected to complete the majority of the program within a school, sitting in a classroom (or student clinic), face to face with others like they’ve been doing so for years.

What about students that don’t have the discipline or would prefer not to take a class online?

Option is probably one of the most important words to focus on when it comes to this entire initiative. The objective is to accommodate the various learners so it’s about the option to complete part of a program online for many of them. There still needs to be a level of autonomy for the schools to decide exactly how/when they will offer a hybrid program or on-ground only program; however they will know best based on the various needs of their existing/potential students and what to provide for them. For example, if 375 hours (out of 1500 hours total) is approved for online learning, School “A” might have students complete the hours upfront; School “B” might have students work from home 2 days per week and come to school the other 3 days per week; School “C” could have their students work from home in the mornings and come to class in the afternoons. It’s all about options.....as

long as they fall under the approved hour guidelines set forth by the Board.

Who will be monitoring students and will they be able to devote the necessary attention to each and every one?

There will still be instructors facilitating the course. In order to be successful, there needs to be active communication and relationship-building between the students and teachers, just like with an on-ground program. If you currently designate a specific number of students for every instructor in the classroom then the recommendation would be to use the same ratio for an online class.

Is this about money? (I get this question a lot)

It’s not about the money. It’s about needs of the student and the industry overall. We can’t ignore the level of multi-tasking that learners today are capable of or the level of stimulation and engagement they require to process information and learn. Typical post-secondary programs that offer online classes are never cheaper. In fact, sometimes they’re more expensive due to requisite lab fees, etc. Since students will absolutely step foot in a classroom during their studies, that school still needs to maintain a facility, resources, faculty, etc. So to answer the million dollar question (no pun intended), no, this isn’t going to make things cheaper for schools.

Where is the content coming from and is it approved?

The curriculum for many of these schools will not change; therefore the quality of the content covered with students will not suffer. What we will observe is the curriculum and content will stay the same as State Boards have always monitored it; only the delivery-method for explaining the content will change. Students will still have assignments, activities, discussions, assessments and ultimately, will need to pass a State Board Licensing Exam. That’s never going to change...

*Note: This is Part 1 of a 4-part series focusing on hybrid learning and what it means for State Boards, Schools, Instructors and Students.Next Newsletter: Part 2- Benefits & Challenges*



For more information on this topic you can contact Gerard at 800.998.7498 ext. 2420 or [gerard.mcavey@cengage.com](mailto:gerard.mcavey@cengage.com)

# AACS Convention Held

American Association of Cosmetology School held their Annual Convention in Orlando, FL in October. Christine Gordon, Virginia, was elected the new President of the Association. Among members receiving recognition awards that were given was Tony Fragomeni for his continuous work and support to the Government Relations Team. The fund raising goal of \$200,000 was reached by the committee.

One of the business items voted on was a complete change of the By-Laws of the organization.



*Dawn Gerrain, Milady with Ted Gibson, celebrity stylist.*



*Tony Fragomeni, Award Recipient*

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### Chaplain

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### Historian

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# Bulletin

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# 2011 Conference

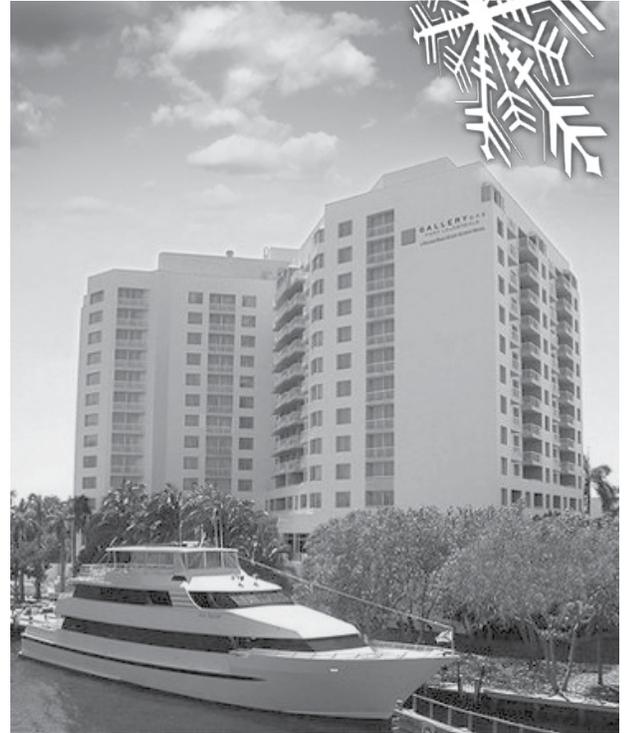


The 2011 Conference is scheduled for August 27-29, 2011 at the Gallery One Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel is situated on Fort Lauderdale's Intra Coastal waterway and across the "green" from Fort Lauderdale's Galleria Mall; an upscale shopping destination in Central Fort Lauderdale. World famous Fort Lauderdale Beach is just a three block walk across the Intracoastal Bridge. The hotel offers water taxi access from its docks, so you will be able to experience everything Fort Lauderdale has to offer.

The room rate for single or double accommodations is \$119 plus applicable tax. For reservations call 800-222-8733.

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the NIC 2011 Conference.



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