

MPLA LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE COMMITTEE REPORT
July, 2002 Marilyn Hinshaw

Though applications seemed slow coming in, the final weeks rush resulted in 78 individuals among the pool of applicants by deadline date. Colorado posted the highest number at 15 applications. North Dakota, Nebraska and Wyoming posted only enough to fill the slots. We do not know the factors contributing to either the highest numbers or the lowest, but will seek more information about how the process evolved within the states in the evaluation phase. Board representatives will be asked for their input then.

A grass roots movement among some member states surprised us with the good news that the association would underwrite costs for selected attendees at up to \$1,000 per individual. That was a really great moment for us as we listened with bated breath to whether our Institute would attract enough attendance in the initial year.

After applications were in the Institute Coordinator's hands, I attempted some words of guidance for the state teams selecting the final 2 individuals to send. I am also attaching a copy. Patti Butcher was an effective sounding board for the draft version. If any state representative, after your experience with the process, would like to make written or verbal comments that would improve the next version (for next year), those comments are heartily welcomed. Other Board members are invited to chime in. Please bring comments to the Board meeting.

Linda O'Connell, the Institute Coordinator, is preparing a packet for Institute registration. It will contain official registration documents, local information about the site, transportation arrangement information, and feedback on any special needs from the registrants.

Our next task is completion of the Mentor list and the instruction packets for their use.