



## *Allegheny Mennonite Conference*

### Mennonite Education Agency report

#### *Greetings!*

MEA is pleased to share information with you for your annual conference. We are partnering with Mennonite educational institutions, preschool through continuing education to transform students to become Christ followers, service givers, peace seekers, rigorous learners, difference embracers and community builders.

This year **13,589 students** are enrolled at Mennonite institutions – 31 Mennonite School Council (MSC) schools, 5 colleges/universities, 2 seminaries and 2 Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education (HPLE) programs. Many future church and community leaders are being shaped with skills need to succeed.

MEA is working with school leaders and teachers to ensure schools have the tools they need to transform lives through an Anabaptist lens. Over the past year we have:

- Partnered with AdvancED to offer a performance based accreditation grounded in Anabaptist-Mennonite distinctives. Twelve MSC schools are using this integrated protocol.
- Implemented the collaborative MBA program between Bluffton University, Goshen College, and Eastern Mennonite University which began in the fall of 2014.
- Provided professional development training (Mennonite Educators Conference) for over 400 educators and planned professional board development training for February 2015 (Education Leaders Gathering).
- Translated the first IBA book into English and started the first English IBA center in Texas.
- Managed the investments of 19 Mennonite-related institutions through the MEA Investment Fund.
- Provided board support and development to the many Mennonite educational institution boards.
- Worked towards greater cultural inclusion by administering the Intercultural Development Inventory and facilitating/ participating in Hope for the Future.
- Noted an increase in giving to the HPLE programs for the 2013-14 fiscal year. However, there is a decrease in giving this year.
- Administered the Congregational Giving program.
- Entered into conversations with the MEA board and committees on the current landscape of the denomination and its implications.
- Provided board support and development to the many Mennonite educational institution boards.

*Thank you* to Allegheny Mennonite Conference congregations who support Mennonite education. MEA believes in the transforming power of Mennonite education in the lives of individuals. Your gifts help support this work and we are very grateful.

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**One of our greatest joys is hearing students testify to the transforming power of Mennonite education.** Stories are plentiful including these words from a current Mennonite college student: “Attending a Mennonite college shaped who I am today and brought me to my own understanding and ownership of my Mennonite faith.” Thank you for your work in partnering with Mennonite schools of all kinds as well as Mennonite Education Agency. ***We are grateful for your support.***



Carlos Romero, MEA Executive Director