

NEA Higher Ed Conference “take away”

I arrived at this conference not knowing what to expect other than I knew that the people attending this conference were educators from around the nation. I had the opportunity to meet people from New Jersey, Boston, Florida and from many other states. The common union thread among these professionals was to acquire good contracts and improving working conditions at their local chapters.

I had the opportunity to participate in a “Focus group” while at the conference. The goal was for the moderator to ask questions about working conditions at our local chapter and how NEA could help facilitate a better working conditions by way of contract negotiations or by any other means. There was a total of three groups who participated.

The one workshop that I found most enlightening was Title IX. This workshop reinforced and highlighted discrimination practices that should not exist and explained what a mandatory reporter should be. The facilitator gave examples of situations that a mandatory reporter failed to report and which ultimately caused a work dismissal or complaint.

Overall the conference was very educational and my experience meeting other colleagues and listening to their chapter stories was enlightening.

Thank you,

Elias Escamilla