

News From The

Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution

A quarterly publication

WINTER 2006

THE CENTER FOR
ALTERNATIVE
DISPUTE RESOLUTION
EXISTS TO PROVIDE
DISPUTE RESOLUTION
EDUCATION
AND TRAINING TO
CULTURALLY DIVERSE
AUDIENCES.

Marvin E. Johnson
Executive Director

The Center's 18th Annual Conference

The Center will host its 18th Annual Conference, *Managing Conflict and Removing Barriers to Collaborative Decision Making*, on June 22 and 23, 2006, at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland. This year's co-operating sponsors include the American Bar Association, Section of Dispute Resolution; the Center for Conflict Resolution at Salisbury University; College of Business & Public Administration, Governors State University; Cooperative Consortium for Dispute Resolution; Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service; Howard County Human Rights Commission; Maryland Chapter of the Association for Conflict Resolution; Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, University of Maryland; Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office; the National Association for Community Mediation; Society of Federal Labor & Employee Relations Professionals; The Project on Advocacy, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN; and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Office of Student Affairs.

Conference speakers include noted authors and many nationally known practitioners... Ken Cloke; Douglas Noll; Daniel Bowling; David Hoffman; John Settle; Pat Clark, Joya Wesley and Jill Williams; Marvin E. Johnson; Homer C. La Rue; E. Frank Dukes; John Stephens; Maria Volpe; Craig Lichtman; Mary Skelton Roberts; Michelle Obradovic; Alma Abdul Hadi Jalallah; Tuan Pham; William "Bill" Jones; Deborah Katz; Lynn Sylvester; Robert Creo; Angelia Tolbert; Anthony Scott; Roger Conner; Jeff Knishkowsky; Fernandra Ferguson; Denise McKenney; Toyo Obayashi; Andrew Thomas; Pat Tallarico; Jeff Knishowsky; Kevin Bryan; and many more. This year's workshop topics include: Mediation and the Brain: The Neuropsychology of Peace, Conflict, and Negotiation; The Ethics of Collaboration; Identifying Team Issues: "What Role Do I Play?;" Understanding D² Culture in Conflict Resolution; Dispute Resolvers after 9/11: Looking in the Mirror, Looking out the Window; Advanced Mindfulness Mediation; Mediation in the Present Tense; Addressing Loss, Retribution and Closure in Mediation; Reconciling the Irreconcilable: Can Truth Transform American Communities?; Keeping "Community" in Community Mediation; and many more.

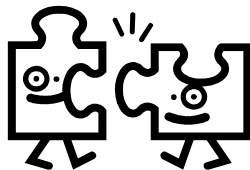
For additional information, to register, or to request a conference brochure, call the Center at (301) 313-0800 or visit www.natlctr4adr.org.



Skill-Based Mediation Training

The Center for ADR held three 40-Hour Skill-Based Mediation Trainings in 2005 (April, September and November). As always, participants were highly satisfied with the trainings, giving them high marks and high praise. *April's participants rated the training a 4.0 (based on a 4.0 scale) and provided the following comments:* "Thank you for your commitment to bringing peace to the community." "The fish bowls were great!" "Well done!" "I will recommend to others." "I would highly recommend this training for management personnel at my agency." "The whole course and the different segments were clearly and effectively discussed." The exercises were excellent and reinforced the course materials." "The course stimulated analysis and understanding of training subjects." "Absolutely a great training." "Looking forward to advanced training." *September's graduates rated the training a 3.8 and commented:* "Mr. Johnson is an expert in this field. Other presenters were also very good." "This was an excellent course." "I have participated in another mediation course and found this course to be more practical in terms of utilizing mediation skills within the session." "Exercises were beneficial, as were the role plays." "The course did a great job making me aware of a lot of aspects of mediation and gave me a good framework to move forward." *Finally, the December class also rated the training a 3.8* Individuals who have completed the 40-Hour Mediation Training include:

Amy Allman, Mirjani Antic, Tanya B. Bailey, Marcellus Connor, Holly Cooper, Mary L. Dantzler, Okianer Christian Dark, Maureen A. Denihan, Gwen Houston, Llauryng Iglehart-Howard, Eugene A. Jones, Kara Lieman, Jo Anne C. Mabury-Logan, Edgard Martinez, Earl McCurdy, Ken Niman, John Paparazzo, Warren A. Pegram, Walter Shook, George Stamas, Jeanette Thomas, Robin Turley, Trina Wheedleton, Robbie Williams, and Gloria O. Wilson.



Center Adds New Courses to Its Certificate Program

In October 2005, the Center offered its first anger management training entitled, *The DRAMA Club: Anger Management Facilitator Certification*. The DRAMA Club is a short-term, highly structured, cognitive-behavioral, group counseling/education program which helps clients learn to manage their anger in socially acceptable and personally helpful ways. It provides the participants with a thorough understanding of the dynamics of anger in general and their own anger issues in particular. At the same time, participants are given the communication and problem solving skills necessary to successfully resolve conflict in their lives and to get their needs met without causing harm to themselves or others. Its "theater/movie" theme makes the important and detailed material of the program fun to learn and easy to recall. Participants expressed their satisfaction with the program by assigning an overall rating of 5.0 (based on a 5.0 scale).

The second course added to the Program, *Oppression Theory: a "Better Mouse Trap" for Alternative Dispute/Conflict Resolution Theory and Practice*, addresses the contextual and situational variables that influence the utilization of problem solving, decision making, critical thinking, risk management, policy/system analysis, and other ADR tools. Participants rated the course a 4.0 (based on a 4.0 scale). Their comments included: "This course was outstanding! It exceeded my expectations and was a great way to spend the weekend." "Most informative and interesting. Would like to learn more about the theory and concepts!!" "Priceless experience."



Articles in Review - News from Home...

New Mediator Standards Approved

New mediator guidelines were adopted by the American Bar Association, House of Delegates. The guidelines were reviewed at the annual meeting in Chicago last year. These standards must be followed by mediators unless applicable laws, court or program rules, or other agreements conflict and take precedence.

The new guidelines discourage mediators from charging contingency fees, and expand confidentiality, impartiality, and disclosure requirements. The provision on contingency fees prohibits a mediator from entering an agreement for fees that is "contingent upon the result of the mediation or the amount of settlement." Furthermore, mediators are cautioned to maintain all information that is presented during mediation as confidential unless the parties agree otherwise or as required by applicable law. The guidelines emphasize the need for mediation proceedings to be conducted without "favoritism, bias, or prejudice." Disclosure of any possible conflict of interest must be made by the mediator. Finally, advertisements must be truthful with respect to the mediator's experience, fees, qualifications, and services. No specific promises may be made in the advertisement of services that relate to the outcome in the case. (World Arbitration and Mediation Report, Vol. 16, #11, November 2005, p. 333. Reviewed by Patricia Randle.)

Articles in Review - News from Abroad ...

Leading Mediation Providers Join Forces to Create the First Global Mediation Alliance

The merger of five international mediator service providers to form the first global alliance was announced at the International Bar Association Conference in Prague in September 2005. The International Mediation Services Alliance (MEDAL) was created to handle national and cross-border mediation and conflict management, to provide access to a cadre of conflict management professionals from different business, legal, national and cultural backgrounds for complex commercial disputes, and to cooperate on complex disputes necessitating a multinational and multilingual approach. MEDAL was founded by JAMS, The Resolution Experts in the United States; ACBMediation in the Netherlands; CEDR Solve in the UK; CMAP in France; and ADR Center in Italy. Steve Price, JAMS President and CEO, amplified on the need for the alliance by stating, "As companies continue to expand on a global scale, they are looking more and more to ADR service providers to resolve a growing number of international business disputes." (World Arbitration and

Mediation Report, Vol. 16, #11, November 2005, p. 338. Reviewed by Patricia Randle.)

For earlier 2005 summaries of *Articles in Review*, please visit www.natlctr4adr.org.



ADR Calendar

Center for ADR Trainings and Programs:

April 17-21, 2006

40-Hour Mediation Training - College Park, MD

May 10, 11 and June 1, 2006

The Law of Dispute Resolution - Greenbelt, MD

May 20, June 3, and July 8, 2006

Dispute System Design - Greenbelt, MD

June 22-23, 2006

18th Annual Conference - Managing Conflict & Removing Barriers to Collaborative Decision Making, Greenbelt, MD

June 21-22, 2007

20th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Conference, Greenbelt, MD

Other ADR Programs:

April 5-9, 2006

8th Annual ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Spring Conference - Atlanta, GA

April 26-29, 2006

*International Academy of Mediators' Spring 2006 Conference at Harvard University
Cambridge, MA*

May 11-12, 2006

*Society of Federal Labor & Employee Relations Professionals' 33rd Annual Symposium
Arlington, VA*

For information on the Center's programs, contact the Center at:

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Marvin Johnson
Patricia Randle
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The Center will celebrate its 20th Anniversary on June 21-22, 2007. Mark your calendar for this momentous occasion.

*"20 years
of
providing
dispute
resolution
education
and training
to culturally
diverse
audiences."*

1986 to 2006

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