

# PIE- President's Information Exchange Meeting

## Greensboro, NC

June 23, 2016

First CONGRATULATIONS on being elected as your State President or Thank you for continuing to be your State President if you have a two year term.

The United States JCI Senate is an independent organization, with its own constitution and bylaws, associated with the United States Junior Chamber and Junior Chamber International. The US JCI Senate consists of over 8,000 members throughout 50 states and the District of Columbia. The purposes of the Senate include:

- Assisting and mentoring Jaycees.
- Supporting the US JCI Senate Foundation in bestowing college scholarships to graduating seniors.
- Promoting fellowship among its members.

A Senatorship is the highest international honor that can be given to a Jaycee. Only 1 out of 1,000 Jaycees becomes a Senator.

So with keeping in mind the above listed purposes of the Senate I want to help you have a successful year for you and your state.

- If you haven't already done so--Prepare a Plan of Action for your year.
- Really check out the US JCI Senate National Website. <http://www.usjcisenate.org/> It has so much information—A great resource:
  - Links to the bi-monthly national e-mails
  - Registration forms
  - BOD meeting reports
  - JCI Senate Products
  - National Calendar
  - Deadline Dates
  - Description of National Events
  - All the National Programs:
    - Return the Favor
    - Scholarship
    - Presidential Sweepstakes
    - Chaplain's Page
    - PIE-President's Information Exchange
  - Future Directions
  - Membership
  - Forums
  - And so much more

- Update your state website, regularly
  - Make sure website looks professional
    - For state members and for the public to view
  - Have link for scholarship application
  - Current Calendar of events
  - Board of Director Contact info
  - Links to your State Jaycee website, JCI USA website & JCI website
- Does your state have a Facebook Page
  - Make sure any content is appropriate—not the place to air dirty laundry EVER
  - If needed have site set up to only allow posts with permission
- Not everyone is on Facebook so make sure you use all forms of communication to reach your members
  - Email
  - Phone
  - In person
  - Mail
- Membership
  - Some states have life members which makes membership much easier
  - If you don't make sure you and/or your Treasurer get out the renewals in a timely fashion. This way when membership renewal info needed for Nationals you are not scrambling at last second.
- Make your State Calendar now, try to plan ahead for events
  - Coordinate Senate calendar with your State Jaycee calendar so less conflicts and more people can attend all events/meetings they are interested in attending. Most states hold their state meetings the same time every year. Why not work together because then you can take advantage of shared meeting spaces at hotels, etc.
  - Honor your state's traditions but why not plan some new things. Example: We have our annual meeting in May, I didn't want to have it at another restaurant's back room. We had our meeting outside at a local vineyard. The vineyard doesn't care what food you bring but ask that any beverages be purchased thru them. We had a wonderful pot luck annual meeting at a beautiful venue. I think everyone enjoyed themselves. We got the business completed and then had a great afternoon of fellowship. Many people commented to me later that they would be coming back with family or friends. And couldn't wait for next year's meeting.
    - Plan socials and meetings...it doesn't have to be all work.
- Attend all National meetings (including the BOD meeting and PIE meeting). If unable to attend, notify your Region VP or PIE Chair.
- Advertise Senate events as early as you can. Share with the appropriate people.
  - Nationals—Mentors and bi-monthly email
  - Your local Jaycee organization
  - The public
  - Be sure to advertise Regional, National and International JCI Senate events.

- Plan a budget and then stick to it
  - Review your overall finances-Do you have money for the future? If not start planning now for how to replenish the budget
- Be prepared for all your meetings/events (this includes having agendas, treasurer's reports, financial statements, etc.)
- Remember to Thank your members
  - Everyone is motivated by different things: some people are motivated by praise, awards or rewards, etc. try to figure out how to motivate your individual members
  - Three basic ways to really let someone know you appreciate what they said/did:
    - Thank them in person
    - Thank them over phone with call or via text (being the modern world)
    - Thank them in writing-Mentors Magazine, a handwritten note, etc.
- Contribute to Mentors
  - Admit it—when it first comes, you flip to your state—you read your state article first! I always did. I would be crushed in past years when our state had a President that didn't submit an article to Mentors. Now having been a State President—I am shocked. It is one of the easiest things we do. It is a simple email to Angie Jelinek, Senator #60570: [Mentors@USJCISenate.org](mailto:Mentors@USJCISenate.org)
  - Here are the Mentors Deadlines:
    - June 30<sup>th</sup> for the August 2016 issue
    - October 17<sup>th</sup> for the December 2016 issue
    - March 27<sup>th</sup> for the May 2017 issue
    - Put the Mentors Deadlines in your phone calendar or date book NOW. It is so important to communicate what is going on in your state and how much you appreciate your members.
  - Okay, admit that the second thing you do is look at the pictures! Why not submit pictures. I think every picture I have ever submitted has been printed! People love pictures! It also makes the Mentors a great keepsake. Also a simple email to the Mentors Editor. For better resolution quality usually photos taken with a smart phone will not work. The better resolution is when the picture is taken with a regular camera. Try to plan your photo opportunities accordingly.
- Don't forget the Business side of Mentors:
  - Ads
  - Registration forms for regional or national events that your state is hosting.
  - All can be sent to the Mentors Business Manager: Susan Hatcher, Senator #58143 and her email is: [s-hatcher@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s-hatcher@sbcglobal.net)
- Participate in the National Programs:
  - Return the Favor
  - Scholarship
  - Presidential Sweepstakes
  - Road Runner
  - JCI USA: Legacy Membership Program
- Start looking for your replacement NOW. I know some states take on a two year term. If you already know who your replacement will be you can start working together to make for an even easier transition. Share your resources.

- Try to go to other state/region Senate events and to support your fellow State Presidents. This is one of the best parts of being a Senator is going to visit to either attend or help at someone else's event/meeting.
- We will all be getting the National Directory. Add every state President to your distribution list for your newsletter. Why not swap newsletters. Maybe another state is running a project or event that might appeal to your members. You can "borrow" their ideas for your state. Most times we are not re-inventing the wheel. Why not try a new idea for a meeting or an event. Having a newsletter doesn't have to be this grand production. It can be as simple as one page or multiple pages with photos, etc. Don't get overwhelmed.
- Remember to ask for help.
- Remember to encourage your members to get involved. Invite them to a social or a meeting (local, regional or national). Ask them to plan/run the next social, etc.
- Recruiting a Senator to join your state is one thing but keeping them activated is just as important. Do you only contact your current State Senate members or all Senators in your state that maybe just haven't joined your state Senate yet.
  - Example: As part of the planning for the US JCI Senate Fall BOD meeting I asked Earl Sawyer, Senator #28243, for a list of all the people that were awarded a Senatorship from CT. I then merged the list with the current CT Senate Roster. I made what I call the "Master List". We sent out two mailings: one to the current state Senate members and one to the Senators who had not yet joined. We were able to activate several current members and we recruited several other members to join the CT Senate. The list that you will get from Nationals will be missing people because they were only able to give me names and Senate #'s, no addresses, etc. Having been recently aged out I was able to fill in a good section the Master List with those Senators that were missing. You may need to ask past Senate Presidents for input in filling in the names. Now CT has a pretty full list of names to work on activating.
- Take the time to personally reach out to all the people on your current roster. When was the last time you saw that member? Don't just send them the newsletter but drop them a note, call them, etc. Offer to pick them up for a meeting/event. Most people love an invitation to get out.
- Hopefully you have a full board but if not keep working on filling key positions. Delegate responsibilities. This is the best way to make your state Senate organization stronger.
- Check out the Webinars on the JCI USA website. <http://www.jci.cc/local/media/usa> they have a link to You Tube that has many already recorded webinars or you can sign up for a new training. There have been some changes to the terminology used in Jaycees from when you may have been active: for example the Blue Chip Program is now called Civic Leadership Certification.

The most important thing is have fun!