

## **COUNCIL OF ORGANIZATIONS SERVING THE DEAF REPORT**

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**By ROBERT R. LAURITSEN, PRWAD Representative to COSD**

The By-Laws of PRWAD as amended at Rochester, New York, October 1970, require that the PRWAD representatives to COSD be members of the Executive Board of PRWAD (Article V, Section 9: For purposes of efficiency, economy, and convenience of communication, only members of the Executive Board shall be eligible for selection or election as an official representative of PRWAD to another organization.).

At the eleventh COSD Board Meeting October 8-9, 1971, Washington, D.C., the By-Law Committee of COSD proposed that representation of member organizations be reduced to one representative. This amendment passed.

Mr. William Woodrick and I served as PRWAD representatives to COSD until January of 1972. Since January, I have served as the PRWAD representative.

The current officers of COSD (effective March 1972) are:

President: Emil S. Ladner

President-Elect: David M. Denton

Vice President: Robert R. Lauritsen

Secretary: Jess M. Smith

Treasurer: Donald O. Peterson

Executive Committee Members: Joseph P. Youngs, Jr.  
and Al Van Nevel

Member-at-Large: Dr. Eugene D. Mindel, Hon. Charles McC. Mathias, Mervin D. Garretson, and Thomas A. Mayes

Active membership of COSD stands at fourteen active organizations. As you know, the A.G. Bell Association withdrew their membership during 1971. A letter has recently been sent to Dr. Leo Connor, President of A.G. Bell, from President Ladner suggesting further clarification as to the rationale for A.G. Bell's withdrawal. Associate memberships of COSD have grown rapidly in the past few months. The number of Associate members now stands at ten, with indications of this number increasing.

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Of paramount interest to COSD is their continued existence beyond this year. COSD has been federally supported since their inception and has made valiant efforts to secure non-governmental funding. Their activities in this view have resulted in the Lions International Clubs sponsoring "Conservation of Hearing and Work for the Deaf" as a major activity for the 23,000 Lions Clubs in the United States. Executive Director Carney is making every effort to keep COSD alive, not only for this year, but on a more continuing basis. Presently negotiations are under way with SRS for a three year extension.

COSD has a new publication entitled *COUNCILINGS* providing timely information in the area of Deafness.

The COSD Forum on Education of the Deaf, more popularly known as the Love-In, was eminently successful. The site was the Rivermont Holiday Inn, Memphis, on March 1, 2, 3, 1972. In excess of 500 persons were in attendance. Dr. Larry Stewart will be Editor of the Forum Proceedings.

The 1973 COSD Forum will be held in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, March 14 - 17. The Forum theme will be "The Deaf Child and His Family."

Dr. Thomas Mayes is a Member-at-Large of COSD and serves as Chairman of the COSD Higher Education Committee. Dr. Mayes has held several meetings of representatives from various post-secondary institutions serving deaf people. COSD has recommended to Dr. Mayes and the Higher Education Committee that member organizations be consulted regarding a possible Council position on the question of quality in post-secondary programs. This matter is being referred to the PRWAD Executive Board for action.

PRWAD, as a member organization of COSD, shares in past, present, and future contributions of the activities of COSD in the field of Deafness.

Robert R. Lauritsen  
April 9, 1972.