

The Chapters Work Group has several initiatives underway.

First, an *international work group* is meeting approximately once a month via Zoom to discuss CD across international venues and engage international perspectives in CDS issues. This group is a critical voice for dialogue among our internationally-minded members. The group is planning a dynamic virtual international “reception” for the 2021 conference, promoting the conference internationally and encouraging submissions for presentation.

In addition, this group will continue dialogue with joint members of the International Association for Community Development (IACD) how to foster collaboration and joint programming. Be sure to watch for information on an IACD/CDS North American online meeting about the reality of the pandemic and our global connectedness and commitment as CD in late January. The group is also discussing ways to foster more international connections among members for mutual learning and support and linking with the work of membership and recruitment.

Second, we are calling all students and any potentially supportive faculty who share an interest in forming a *student chapter*. This will constitute another working group, and we anticipate a virtual meeting for planning in the next month. So, share the word as we really want this led and shaped by students.

Third, we are supporting convening of CD practitioners and educators—government, NGO and private—in several countries as part of their consideration towards forming an organization. And we are pulling together a workgroup to focus on “*chapter*” or *sub-CD organizations* that might wish to affiliate with CDS. Most importantly, however, we are recognizing the need for CD practitioners and educators to unite in their voice for the importance of our work, the need to support our work, etc.—regardless of affiliation with CDS, IACD, etc. We are starting with interest in India.

As you can see, our work overlaps significantly with membership recruitment and retention and communications; so, we talk often. If you are interested in participating in any of these activities or just want to learn more, contact Mary Leuci, leucim@missouri.edu.