



American Institute of Parliamentarians

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Welcome to AIP!

My first introduction to the American Institute of Parliamentarians was at the West Coast Practicum. My friend and mentor convinced me to come, telling me it would be fun, educational and intense. And boy, was she right!

The Practicum was on a topic I thought I knew well – Committees! But the diligent work of the great faculty made this topic new and fresh. We studied in the morning, and then in the afternoon there was practice presiding. Group work in the evenings, and a fun interactive “putting it all together” project at the end. I still look back on that introduction as one of the best educational experiences I ever had – and some of the people I first got to work with at that Practicum are the people whose names you also see on this letterhead.

Now, everyone can't go to a Practicum: that's a sad reality of life. (Put it on your bucket list if you haven't been yet!) But everyone can participate in AIP in some form or fashion. First things first, check out our **New Member Orientation**. It will introduce you to AIP and our various projects and practica.

If you can't travel, you can certainly study! Check out the **bookstore** for educational books, many of which are written and produced by AIP and our members and the Education Department page for information on **correspondence courses**.

After you study, you can earn credentials! Check out the Accrediting Department page for information on how to earn your **Certified Parliamentarian credential**, or, if you have a recognized parliamentary credential from another organization, how to begin preparing for the -T (**Teacher of Parliamentary Procedure**) extender that can be added to your CP or CPP credentials.

And if study and credentials aren't your cup of tea, we welcome you to spread the word about AIP by participating in our communication efforts. The Communications Department page has various ways that you can get more involved in AIP by **reaching out to others** – both members and non-members – to spread the word about AIP and about the deliberative process in meetings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at President@aipparl.org if I can provide any assistance.

In AIP friendship,

Kay Allison Crews, CPP
President