The NAA is returning to the beautiful Miami Four Seasons Hotel for the 2011 Fall Education Conference. We look forward to seeing you September 16-18.

The President’s Dinner takes place Thursday evening, September 15 at the delectable Oceanaire.

Preceding the FEC is a SOLD OUT Skills Enhancement Workshop during the day on Friday, September 16. The SEW focuses on The Neutral’s Role in Public Education Reform. FMCS Director George Cohen will fill us in on new initiatives underway in which we can take a leading role. We also are honored to have as panelists Charlie Rose, General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education; Randi Weingarten, President, American Federation of Teachers; Dennis Van Roekel, President, National Education Association; and Daniel Domenech, Executive Director, Association of School Administrators.

Our opening dinner is at the Four Seasons on Friday evening, September 16.

University of Miami Medical School Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and University of Miami Department of Industrial Engineering Professor Sara Czaja will address our Saturday morning plenary on the topic of aging and the workforce. Dr. Czaja is the Co-Director of the University of Miami Center on Aging and the Director of the Center on Research and Education for Aging and Technology Enhancement.

(Continued on Page 2)
REMEMBERING C. GORDON SIMMONS
by Donald Carter

Canada has lost one of its most outstanding labour arbitrators and mediators. On August 3, 2011, Gordon Simmons passed away following a serious stroke a few days earlier.

A graduate of Acadia University and the University of New Brunswick Law School, Gordon did his graduate work at the University of Michigan receiving an LLM in 1967. His career as a law teacher at Queen's University at Kingston began in 1968 following a year as Director of Research Projects for the Woods Task Force established by the Canadian federal government to review Canada's troubled labour relations in the late 1960's. Gordon was an outstanding law teacher, retiring as Professor Emeritus in 1993. During his career as a law teacher, Gordon was also an active arbitrator and mediator. He was named to many private panels and public labour relations tribunals.

Following his retirement from Queen's in 1993, Gordon's arbitration and mediation practice expanded. He became a very busy arbitrator with a practice that reached to most parts of Canada. During his long career as an arbitrator, Gordon shaped Canadian arbitral jurisprudence in two respects. First, his carefully reasoned awards left an indelible mark. At the same time, he influenced this jurisprudence in his role as Editor of the arbitration reporter series Labour Arbitration Cases from 1971 to 2004 and more recently as Editor of the electronic arbitration reporter series Labour Arbitration Xpress.

Despite his impressive professional accomplishments, Gordon will be best remembered for his human qualities. He was a devoted family man, a loyal friend, a mentor to his students and younger members of the profession, and a person possessing an unfailing sense of humor. Perhaps Academy Member Ted Weatherill said it best in a recent tribute:

Gord was a delightful friend, a fine arbitrator, and a thoroughly civilized person.
A big man in every way. He was one of those who through his arbitration work and his teaching helped blaze the trail for Canadians.

REMEMBERING JACK STIEBER
by Rich Block

Jack Stieber, educator, scholar, arbitrator, and long-time member of the Academy, died in Lansing, Michigan, on March 22, 2011, at the age of 91. Jack's career in labor relations spanned almost 60 years and touched all aspects of the field of industrial relations.

Jack emigrated with his family from Hungary at the age of four, settling in Newark, New Jersey. After earning his bachelor's degree from the City College of New York, he served as a Captain in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Following the war, he went on to receive his master's degree from the University of Minnesota and his doctorate in economics from Harvard University, where he was both a Littauer and a Wertheim Fellow.
In the first half of the 1950's, Jack worked for the National Housing Agency, the Steelworkers Union, and the Wage Stabilization Board. In 1956, Charles Killingsworth, also a member of the Academy, hired Jack to serve as Associate Director of Research and Planning for the Labor and Industrial Relations Center (LIRC) at Michigan State University (MSU). At that time, the LIRC primarily provided outreach and noncredit education to the labor-management community as well as library services.

Jack was named Director of the LIRC in 1959. When Jack relinquished the position of Director in 1985, after 26 years of service, the LIRC had become the School of Labor and Industrial Relations (SLIR, now the School of Human Resources and Labor Relations), offering a professional master's degree, a doctoral program, broad-based outreach programs for labor and management, and a library. Under Jack's guidance, the SLIR master's degree program developed to educate future labor relations and human resources professionals; graduates have attained executive positions in Fortune 100 corporations and government agencies, provided leadership to labor unions, practiced labor law, and become labor arbitrators. At least two members of the Academy received degrees at MSU under Jack. The Ph.D. program has produced excellent scholars of human resources and labor relations with positions at major research universities. Under Jack's leadership and the foundation that he built, the School of Human Resources and Labor Relations has become an internationally-recognized industrial relations and human resources center and one of the major academic units of its type in the world.

Jack was also an internationally-recognized scholar in his own right. He served as Executive Secretary to President Kennedy's Advisory Committee on Labor-Management Policy in 1962; as a research consultant for the International Institute for Labour Studies in Geneva, Switzerland in 1963/1964; and as an Overseas Fellow at Churchill College, Cambridge University in 1978. He taught and lectured in Great Britain, Belgium, Japan, India, Iran, Israel, New Zealand, and Australia. He published eleven books on topics including the internal administration of the UAW, the UAW Public Review Board, the steel industry wage structure, and public employee unionism. He also published research on arbitration, including work on the representativeness of published awards and the importance of attorney representation in arbitration. In the 1980s, Jack was one of a pioneering group of scholars who researched and advocated providing workers with protection from unjust discharge. Jack was named a distinguished MSU faculty member in 1974. As a result of his accomplishments, he served as President of the Industrial Relations Research Association (now the Labor and Employment Relations Association), which honored him with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008.

Jack arbitrated thousands of cases. He was also a mentor for new arbitrators. He encouraged fellow Academy member Benjamin Wolkinson and me to pursue arbitration as a career.

Jack was an intense and knowledgeable fan of MSU basketball. A season-ticket holder for many years, he was a keen student of the game, always pointing out the positive and negative aspects of the team's play.

Jack Stieber was a man of fairness, modesty, vision, and tenacity. It was an honor to be his colleague and friend.

(Allison Stieber, Jack's daughter, contributed to this article.)