

# **Meeting of the Curriculum Committee on Member Orientation, 2007-2008**

**March 20, 2007**

## **House of Representatives Member Orientation, a Brief History**

Act 625 of 1954 establishing Orientation Conference (repealed 1988)

SCR 1 of 1955 adopting Manual for Louisiana Legislators

Orientation Conferences – 1 to 3 days. Focus: process and resources. Frequently: issues; spouses programs.

1968 Legislature

1972 Legislature

1976 Legislature

1980 Legislature

1984 House only from now on

1987

1991

1995 Initiated "hands-on" mock committee hearing and floor session

1997 Showed committee video. This conference was "followup" to 1<sup>st</sup> year in office.

1999 "Hands-on" mock committee hearing and floor session with staff "escorts"

2003 "Hands-on" mock committee hearing and floor session

Issues Conferences - 2 to 3 days. Focus: timely governmental topics or upcoming legislation..

1973

1974

1975

1977

1979

Briefings - one half to one day. Irregularly scheduled, average one per year. Focus: timely topic, often fiscal matters.

"Welcome Wagon" - one half day. Focus: administrative details and logistics for members.

Initiated in 1999.

Meet-and-greet Clerk/accounting/HR/Public Information/HLS/Sgt-at-Arms/Purchasing staff.

In-the-Capitol small-group training after general election.

In-the-Capitol one-on-one training after special elections.

#### Followup training

1997 "Followup" to 1<sup>st</sup> year in office. Focus: General questions and orientation.

2004 "Freshman Refresher" Series. Focus: Various topics, mostly process.

#### Computer Training, Members

Initiated in 1997 upon distribution of member laptops.

General training required for pickup of laptop.

#### Computer Training, Legislative Assistants

General training and training on all available programs, provided when equipment picked up or installed.

#### Orientation for Legislative Assistants

Formerly conducted in Member Orientation.

Now conducted separately. See 1999 and 2000 agendas.

Focus: process, resources, administrative details.

#### Leadership Training

1972, 1977, Legislative Council held House & Senate chair and vice-chair short training programs

1984 House only, committee chair orientation program (one day)