



PARTNERSHIP FOR 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

Teaching Commission Notes

Meeting:

- Date: 2/11/04
- Location: The Teaching Commission Offices, CUNY Graduate Center
- P21 participants: Diny Golder, Susan Saltrick

Meeting with:

- Name: Gaynor McCowan
- Title: Executive Director
- Email: gmccown@gc.cuny.edu
- Phone:

OBJECTIVES

- Purpose: learn more about each other's efforts, determine if there are opportunities for collaboration

KEY MESSAGES relating to:

- The Teaching Commission is headed by Lou Gerstner, former CEO of IBM, now focused on educational reform
- Other members of the commission included Sandra Feldman (AFT), Vartan Gregorian (Carnegie Foundation), Ellen Langermann (Dean Harvard Grad School of Ed), and other business and educational leaders
- Teaching Commission has a declared lifespan of three years (one of which is already up) – they are primarily an advocacy group, although they plan to work with states to implement their recommendation on a case-by-case basis
- They also want to develop strategic partnerships with other ed policy organizations to advance the agenda, develop consensus on this issue, and help mobilize the political will to move forward
- From their recently released report: "Teaching at Risk: A Call to Action", four recommendations:
 - Higher salaries for teachers
 - Revamped teacher ed programs
 - Improved state licensure and certification requirements
 - More autonomy for principals; principals to provide leadership for teacher professional development

FOLLOW UP

- Resources/links: received hard copy of their report, PDF available at www.theteachingcommission.org.
- Next steps: Their report features models of practice that we might consider for highlighted examples in our database