

1. Timothy D. Ireland
2. Vice-President for Latin America.
3. Organizations supporting the candidacy: CEAAL, CLADE, REPEM, Acción Educativa.

I have worked in the field of ALE since 1974 when I started an educational Project with young people and adults with hearing deficiency, the majority of whom were Asian immigrants, in the city of Leicester in the UK. As a result, I ended up doing a Diploma Course and then a Master's Degree in Adult Education and Community Development.

In 1979, after finishing the Master's Degree I was contracted by the Federal University of Paraiba, in João Pessoa (Brazil), which had recently created a Master's degree in Lifelong Education. In addition to the academic work, I also worked as a pedagogical advisor to a Project of Popular Education – SEDUP, in a city in the interior of the State of Paraiba and also, at the end of 1983, to a movement of trade union renovation, advising a group of building workers belonging to the union opposition.

After a period of study at the University of Manchester (England), doing a doctorate in the Department of Adult Education, whose focus was a research project on the experience with the building workers, I returned to the UFPB to the postgraduate programme in which we have five research groups, one of which is in Popular Education.

In 1990, together with the Building Workers Trade Union, we created the Zé Peão School Project, which offered literacy and basic education to building workers with classrooms situated in the building sites. The Project ran successfully for 28 years, enrolling more than 5,000 worker students and training over 500 university students as educators.

In the period 1996-97, I took part in the process of mobilization in Brazil for CONFINTEA V and then later in the Conference itself in Hamburg. One of the results of this process was the creation in 1998 of the Paraiba State Forum of Youth and Adult Education of which I was a founder member, participating actively in the local and national movements during several years.

The years from 2004 to 2007 were spent in Brasilia, in the Secretariat of Continuing Education, Literacy and Diversity (SECAD) belonging to the Ministry of Education in the role of National Director for Youth and Adult Education. During this period, we also created an international network articulating the Portuguese speaking countries of Africa as well as a Latin American governmental network in the field of education for people deprived of their liberty known as RedLECE.

In 2008, I was contracted to work in the UNESCO office in Brasilia with the responsibility for organising the Brazilian side of CONFINTEA VI which was held in Belém do Pará in December 2009. I took part in the process of international mobilization and was also a member of the Conference Consultative Committee. After the Conference, we organized a series of events and publications as part of the follow-up process to the CONFINTEA.

In 2011, I returned to my teaching, research and extension activities at the UFPB, in two post-graduate programmes - in education and in education in human rights. I also coordinate the UNESCO Chair in Youth and Adult Education.

In 2012, I was accepted as an individual member of ICAE with whom I have collaborated in various projects and activities. I also belong to CEAAL as a member of the Group of Incidence in Educational Policy (GIPE). The work of CEAAL is based on the transformative potential of education, part of the legacy of Paulo Freire which continues to be as relevant today as ever. I was part of the team which represented the two organizations at the Mid-term Review Meeting for CONFINTEA VI, in Suwon, in 2017.

I strongly believe in the capacity of ALE to contribute to changing those subjects who take part in learning activities who will then be responsible for changing the world. The deeply worrying retrograde measures have been implemented in education and democratic processes in Latin America and other parts of the world make it more and more necessary to unite around collectives like ICAE which struggle for an ALE which contributes to form critical citizens who form the base of democratic societies and processes of sustainable development.

For these motives, I would like to indicate my interest in taking on the task of Vice-President of ICAE for Latin America. I believe that regional alliances are essential to ICAE as global movement. I understand education as a human right and a fundamental human need and consider that it is strategically expedient for ICAE to develop intersectoral alliances with the fields of health, work, environment, gender, culture amongst others. Hence, together with the other members of the Executive Committee, I hope to contribute to strengthening and giving greater visibility to ALE at the global, regional and local levels, to take part in the preparation of projects to improve ICAE's current situation and to defend and advance the mission of the International Council.