

**JUNE CEC FOCUSES ON SOKA CARE**  
**BY JEFF FARR**  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR**

Soka University, Soka Spirit and Soka Care. At the June Central Executive Conference held in Los Angeles, SGI-USA General Director Danny Nagashima emphasized these three organizational focuses based on input from SGI President Ikeda. Mr. Nagashima shared with the zone and national leaders gathered for the 48th CEC that encouraging students to attend the new Soka University of America campus, continuing Soka Spirit education efforts and improving care for all SGI-USA members—including the more than 1,000 new members who have joined this year—are important steps toward creating an ideal future for the SGI-USA.

This CEC was at once an in-depth discussion of what that ideal future might look like and a celebration of recent victories. Based on progress made in introducing new members, the May Commemorative Contribution, publications promotion and efforts to reach out to temple members, the CEC intended to develop a vision for next year's activities. But President Ikeda sent a message asking the leaders to first think about the next 10 years of the SGI-USA's activities—then to think about next year.

This inspired a wide-ranging dialogue on how, in the next decade, the SGI-USA can contribute to the world, express its core values in American society, raise its next generation of youth and embrace its growing diversity.

As well, goals already set for this year and next were reconfirmed: to reach 30,000 *World Tribune* subscribers by the end of the year; to achieve two new members per district by the end of the year; to have a nationwide discussion meeting attendance of at least 70,000 for commemorations of Nov. 18, Day of the Soka Gakkai's Founding; and to gather 100,000 people at zone culture festivals slated for next year.

Whenever we think of the future, General Director Nagashima reminded the CEC, we should not forget the pioneers' efforts that have brought our organization to this point of prosperity. "When I came to this country, I couldn't speak English," he shared. "But all the American members embraced me and taught me English. I am here thanks to the pioneers. We need to embrace our new members in the same warm way that the pioneers embraced us."