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POD Network News, August 1, 1985

Bette LaSere Erickson

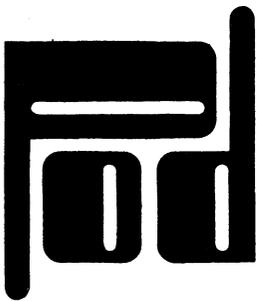
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NETWORK

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK IN HIGHER EDUCATION

August 1, 1985

Greetings!

Summer is wonderful, is it not? I hope you're finding time to relax and enjoy these last lazy, hazy days. My vacation has come and gone, but I can't complain. I returned to find my garden in full bloom, my desk piled high with work (at least half of it interesting), and stacks of cards and letters from most of you.

I especially liked your postcards. In fact, I liked them so much that I've decided to ask you to write to me again. Thus, I've enclosed another postcard. More on that later. First, an up-date on POD activities....

1985 POD/NCSPOD Conference

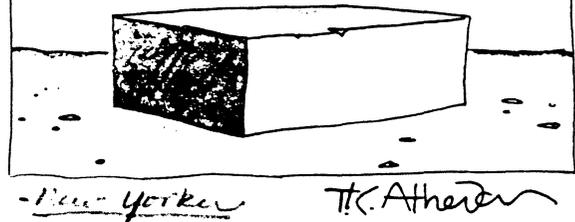
October 17-20, 1985

Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan, Wisconsin

You might want to stop right now and sneak a peek at the enclosed conference materials. Clearly, Rusty Wadsworth, Glenn Schmitz, Bob Pierleoni, and the Conference Planning Committee have been busy since last I wrote to you.

You'll find more than 80 sessions at this year's conference! (As near as I can tell, anyone and anything capable of developing is going to receive some attention--faculty, students, administrators, staff, organizations, careers, writing skills, computer skills... the list goes on.) You'll have another chance to learn actively with LuAnn Wilkerson. (You remember LuAnn...she's the energetic one with an activity for every POD occasion.) Bill Bergquist will join us to remember our past, look at the present, and imagine our future. And don't forget POD's Birthday Party on Saturday night!

FOUR HUNDRED SELECTIONS OF THE
WORLD'S FINEST ORCHESTRAL MUSIC,
OVER ONE THOUSAND FULL-COLOR
REPRODUCTIONS OF MANKIND'S
GREATEST PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURE,
AND TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE
TIMELESS CLASSICS OF WESTERN
LITERATURE COMPACTED INTO A
TWO-BY-THREE-BY-SIX-INCH BRICK.



So, register now and make your reservations at Lake Lawn Lodge. I don't think you'll find a better offer this year.

Special Request for Information from Dee Fink

During the past year, several organizations have published national reports assessing the quality of higher education in the United States and making a series of recommendations. Most prominent among these have been the reports from the National Institute of Education, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Association of Colleges.

Dee Fink is organizing a session for the 1985 POD/NCSPD Conference to discuss these reports and their implications for professional development personnel. Dee would very much like to learn about institutions and/or professional developers who have already taken some action based on these reports.

For example, has anyone in your institution organized campus groups to study these reports or to initiate efforts to implement their recommendations? What other responses to the reports have people on your campus made?

Responses to these reports may have been made by the instructional developer on campus, or they may have originated elsewhere on campus. Either way, Dee would like to hear from you if some response has been made on your campus. If you plan to attend the POD/NCSPD Conference in October, he might ask you to make a brief report at the session he's organizing. If not, he'd like to hear from you anyway, so he can make a report on activities at various campuses.

Any information you can provide will help Dee make this conference session informative and fruitful. Please contact him by writing to:

Dee Fink
Office of Instructional Services
Carnegie Building, Room 116
University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma 73019

POD Membership Directory

An up-to-date (at least, as of July 25th) POD Membership Directory is on its way to you. Because I am mailing the directories at bulk mail rates, yours may take two or three weeks to reach you. I'm hoping that you'll receive the directory before the academic year begins and that you'll find it reassuring to know that you're in the company of approximately 375 POD members. You won't find quite that many names listed, because some Institutional Memberships have not yet identified all five of their members. Nonetheless, I think this directory will make it easier for you to contact other POD members. Many thanks to the 240 of you who sent me current addresses.

1985-1986 POD Membership Dues

Speaking of POD membership, it's time to initiate whatever procedures are required in order to renew your memberships. 1985-1986 membership fees are due in October. If you have not yet paid your dues but plan to attend the POD Conference, you may (she says, trying to put it gently) send your membership dues with your conference registration fees to Bob Pierleoni. If you can't make it to the conference this year (alas, we will miss you; are you sure you can't make it?), please send your membership dues to me by the end of October.

POD Survey

Glenn Erickson reports that 542 people have responded to the POD Survey of Faculty Development Practices. Given that we mailed about 950 surveys, that represents a 57% response rate. Not bad for a first mailing. Glenn plans a follow-up letter later this month to those who have not yet responded.

Meanwhile, Glenn has begun tabulating those surveys we now have. This will take some time, but he plans to present the findings and invite discussion of their implications at the conference. To whet your appetites, we've tallied responses to two of the questions which might interest you:

Does your institution have an on-campus person or unit for faculty development or instructional improvement (e.g., Coordinator of Faculty Development, Instructional Resource Unit, Teaching Improvement Unit)?

<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>response</u>
245	45%	yes
277	51%	no
20	4%	(no response)

Generally, how would you compare your institution's current investment in faculty, instructional and professional development to its investment three years ago?

<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>response</u>
121	22%	much greater now
228	42%	somewhat greater now
129	24%	about what it was then
36	7%	somewhat less now
11	2%	much less now
17	3%	(no response)

So...what do you think about that? Join us at the conference in October to discuss the implications of these and other survey findings.

Center for Faculty Evaluation and Development Seminars

The Center for Faculty Evaluation and Development is offering several seminars and conferences during the 1985-1986 academic year. Bill Cashin suggested that the following may be of special interest to POD members.

Evaluating College Faculty . This is a two-day seminar on issues involved in faculty evaluation for personnel decisions: retention, promotion, tenure, and salary increases, including merit pay.

Oct. 28-29, 1985	Philadelphia
Nov. 12-13, 1985	Atlanta
Feb. 24-25, 1986	Phoenix
Mar. 24-25, 1986	Milwaukee

Improving College Teaching. This two-day seminar focuses on improving classroom teaching and covers assumptions about effective teaching, ways to collect data on one's present teaching, and classical and newer approaches to teaching.

Oct. 30-31, 1985	Philadelphia
Nov. 14-15, 1985	Atlanta
Feb. 26-27, 1986	Phoenix
Mar. 26-27, 1986	Milwaukee

Academic Chairpersons: Unraveling the Paradox. This conference will include papers and workshops on the conflicts faced by academic chairpersons as they attempt to fulfill their administrative responsibilities and possible solutions to these dilemmas.

Feb. 12-14, 1986	Orlando
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Faculty Evaluation and Development: Lessons Learned. This conference will have papers and workshops on what we have learned (or not learned) during the past decade about how to evaluate faculty more accurately and fairly and how to help faculty improve as teachers, as professionals, and as members of an organization.

Apr. 21-23, 1986	Kansas City
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For more information about any of these seminars or conferences, write to:

Center for Faculty Evaluation and Development
Kansas State University
1623 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

or call: 800-255-2757 or 913-532-5970.

In Case You're Concerned About Basic Skills...

Joanne Kurfiss sent me a wonderful, chatty letter (bless her heart) in which she wrote the following:

I participated recently in a program on the evaluation of basic skills assessments called CAPE....POD members would probably be quite interested in this service.

It's funded by FIPSE although consultant site visits will be paid for totally or partly by the hosting institutions. Basic skills assessment programs in mathematics, reading, writing, and ESL can be evaluated by consultant teams from CAPE. The potential for organizational impact seems to be considerable, and the people who are running the programs are tops. You might want to mention it in a forthcoming newsletter.

You bet and thanks, Joanne. If you're interested in more information about CAPE, Joanne suggests you contact the project coordinator, Barbara Schaier-Peleg, College Assessment Program Evaluation (CAPE), Office of Academic Affairs, The City University of New York, 535 East 80th Street, New York 10021.

Now, about these postcards...

As I mentioned earlier, I enjoyed hearing from you after the last POD Newsletter. Moreover, there are a couple (at least) of additional things I'd like to know about you. Therefore, I have enclosed another postcard on which I'll ask you to answer the following questions:

1. What is your correct phone number?

We are still working toward an up-to-date and accurate membership directory, and we'd like to be sure that we have a correct phone number for you. Also, please check the address on our mailing label and let us know if we've "corrected" it incorrectly.

While I'm at it, does anyone know the whereabouts of Thomas Shostak? The address I have is Rockland Community College, but my letters are returned with a note, "no longer at RCC." We have called RCC, but they will not give us a forwarding address. If you have any information about Thomas, please let me know.

2. Do you plan to attend the 1985 POD/NCSPD Conference?

Although the Conference Planning Committee would find it easier to make conference arrangements if everyone registered early (i.e., immediately), we realize that institutional budgets and calendars will delay some of your registrations. In the meantime, we'd like to know how many of you are planning to join us at Lake Lawn Lodge in October. Please tell us your plans by writing one of the following on your postcard:

Write **YES** if you're pretty sure that you will attend.
Write **NO** if you're fairly certain that you can't attend.
Write **UNCERTAIN** if you just don't know right now.

That's all the news for now. Watch for the next POD Newsletter in late October. If you have information, announcements, requests, or questions which you'd like to see included in the Newsletter, please send me these items by October 15th.

Meanwhile, register for the 1985 POD/NCSPD Conference as soon as possible. If you have not already paid your \$25.00 (\$30.00 Canadian) for 1985-1986 membership dues, please do so when you register for the conference or send me a check by October 31st. Finally, before you forget, please write your telephone number and whether or not you plan to attend the conference on the enclosed postcard and drop it in the mail.

I hope to see you at the POD Conference in October! Until then, take care.

Bette LaSere Erickson
for the POD Network

Instructional Development
Program
201 Chafee
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

401/792-4293



1985-1986 CORE COMMITTEE

- Bette LaSere Erickson**(401) 792-4293
Executive Director 1985-1986
University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI
- John Anderson**(717) 524-1247
Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA
- Winni Anderson**(916) 752-6052
University of California, Davis, CA
- Judith Aubrecht**.....1-800-255-2757
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Duff's Business Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
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- Barbara Florini**(315) 423-4571
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- Sher Riechmann Hruska**(413) 545-0357
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- Julie Roy Jeffrey**.....(301) 337-6253
Goucher College, Baltimore, MD
- Glenn Ross Johnson**(409) 845-8392
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
- K. Paul Jones**.....(901) 587-7467
University of Tennessee, Martin, TN
- Joanne Kurfiss**(801) 626-6412
Weber State College, Ogden, UT
- Marilyn Leach**.....(402) 554-2427
University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE
- Roderick J. W. Michell**(604) 374-0123
Cariboo College, Kamloops, B.C., Canada
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University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
- Wayne Silverman**(919) 292-1101
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- Elmer Sundby**.....(715) 836-5504
University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI
- Marilla Svinicki**.....(512) 471-1488
University of Texas, Austin, TX
- Emily Wadsworth**(312) 583-4050
Northeastern Illinois Univ., Chicago, IL
- LuAnn Wilkerson**(617) 732-0634
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA