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POD Network News: Newsletter August 1988

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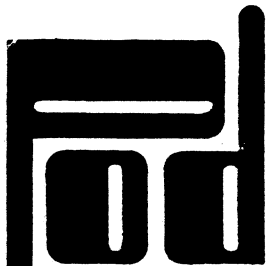
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NETWORK

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK IN HIGHER EDUCATION

NEWSLETTER
AUGUST, 1988

As I sit here in my airconditioned office staring out at the 105 degree heat, it's hard to imagine that the Fall semester is only a few weeks away. But if your office is anything like ours, the two weeks prior to the onset of the semester are the busiest times of the year because everyone schedules their orientation during that period. The rush of activity overwhelms us, and it seems that the summer has slipped away without even a goodbye.

Be that as it may, it's time to look ahead and see what is coming for the next few months so we can fill in those blank pages on the new academic calendar. The first item of concern to POD members is, of course, the upcoming conference. Although we've already had a healthy run on conference registrations, I know that POD members have a strong tendency to put things off or, worse yet, to lose them. So I have enclosed along with this letter the single registration form itself (minus the accompanying explanations to save money), just in case you have lost yours in the summer shuffle. If you need more information in order to register, feel free to call me, and our efficient operators will get it out to you quickly. If not, just send the enclosed form and a check as indicated. There will be on-site registration, but I encourage you to get this in beforehand to save our sanity. A more important deadline is the room reservation at Keystone. Those should be made before August 29th to ensure conference rates. Contact the resort directly for those reservations at 303-468-4242.

This year the conference organizers have taken special pains to identify and arrange for pre-conference sessions which might be of interest to members. The three sessions are:

Getting Started in Professional and Organizational Development (organized by Karron Lewis)

Videotape Consultation (prepared by David Taylor-Way and Kate Brinko)

Reflective Practice: Dealing with Difficult Problems in Teaching and Consulting (prepared by Ron Smith)

The choices were designed to appeal to new members (Getting Started) and experienced members (Consultation and Reflective Practice), so we hope you find them interesting. We can guarantee that the presentors will be exceptional.

Publications Available

I am pleased to report that the Handbook for New Developers and this year's volume of To Improve the Academy are coming along smoothly and will be available in a month or two. The former will be a membership benefit for new members and available at a reduced cost to "old" members. The latter will, of course, be given to you at the conference or mailed to those who don't attend the conference.

In addition to the above, I have copies of past issues of To Improve the Academy (1985-87) which can be purchased for \$10.00 each in case you wish to bring your library up to date. Issues prior to 1985 are now out of print, and all copies have been sold. I also have the Program Descriptions Booklet available free to members who request it. (Nonmembers can obtain a copy for \$4.00.)

And with regard to publications

Susan Kahn (U. of Wisconsin), who was selected as the editor for the 1989 volume of To Improve the Academy, has asked me to remind you that this would be a good time to start thinking about articles for submission to the issue. If you will be preparing a session for the conference, the topic might make a good article for the book of readings. I have enclosed a call for papers which describes the types of things which will be considered and gives submission information.

I would like to encourage all members to consider how important it is for us to communicate our ideas and activities in this type of permanent format. If we are to build a stable profession, we must begin to develop a literature base to assist in the transmission of techniques and values. I realize that generally the type of person who would become involved in such an action-oriented activity as ours might not be positively disposed to the lengthy introspective process of writing, but we must realize that if we are to have a broader impact, we need to make use of more permanent channels of information transmission than the personal, one-to-one contact which is our preferred style. So please, for your own good, for my good and for the good of the profession, explore the publishing opportunities which present themselves.

And while I'm on the subject, here is another publishing opportunity. Joan Thomson of Penn State University asks me to bring to your attention the call for papers for a theme issue of Lifelong Learning: An Omnibus of Practice and Research. of the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education. The May, 1989, issue will be devoted to "Strategies for Human

Resource Development" and will cover three areas of staff development: 1)organizational effectiveness, 2)continuing professional development, and 3)functioning within the organizational structure. If you are interested in submitting a manuscript for review, please contact Joan by September 1st at 814-863-3452. The actual due date for the manuscripts is Nov. 15, 1988.

Where are they now?

I'm sorry to say that the membership directory is not flawless, in spite of the computerized system we now have. So I'm taking this opportunity to correct a few problems.

1. Linc. Fisch's phone number is (and ever will be) 606-278-1457.
2. For those of you looking for Michele Fisher, she is now known as Michele Marincovich. (This is not a directory flaw, just a help for those of you who didn't know or forgot that she changed her name.)
3. Paul McKenna is now at The Professional Development Institute, 14-P Lakeside Drive, Ledyard, CT, 06339.

Where would they like to be now?

Don Dodson of Santa Clara University has asked that I pass along the fact that they are searching for a new Director of the Teaching Learning Center to succeed Elizabeth Moran (who is retiring and I assume will be sending us a new address soon). If you are interested in more information, contact him at Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA 95053 (408-554-4533).

Conferences of Interest

- October 2-4, Pittsburgh, The Freshman Year Experience: Small College and University Special Focus, contact National Ctr. for the Study of the Freshman Year Experience, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208.
- October 6-8, Chicago, Exploring Teaching Alternatives, ISETA, contact Mo Hassan, 39 HH, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL 61455.
- October 29-Nov. 2, Chicago, Synergism for the 90's, NCSPOD, contact Helen Burnstad, Johnson County CC, 12345 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS, 62210-1299.
- Nov. 4-6, Oxford, OH, Eighth Annual Lilly Conference on College Teaching, contact Lilly Conference, Miami University, Oxford, OH. (There will be one in the spring on the west coast.)

Nov. 9-11, Hilton Head Island, SC, National Faculty Exchange,
contact Bette Worley, 4656 West Jefferson, Suite 140, Fort
Wayne, IN 46804.

Nov. 20-22, Syracuse, NY, A National Workshop on The Syracuse
Experience (TA Training Program), contact Bob Diamond, CID,
111 Waverly Avenue, Suite 220, Syracuse, NY 13244.

Calls for Papers

Oct. 15, Regional Conferences on The Freshman Year Experience for
the West, Northeast, Midwest as well as the National
Conference, contact The Freshman Year Experience
Conferences, University 101, University of South Carolina,
Columbia, SC 29208.

Oct. 31, Second National Conference of Professional and Personal
Renewal for Faculty, contact Office of Instructional
Development, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602.

And now to brighten your day

A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY
(Sung to the tune of "Ruler of the Queen's Navy" by Gilbert and Sullivan)

1. When I was young I wanted to be
a teacher at the University.
I would help the students who were just like me
to understand the mysteries of psychology.

(to understand the mysteries of psychology)

To help the students seemed so fine to me
that I chose to be a Member of the Faculty.

(To help the students seemed so fine to me
that I chose to be a Member of the Faculty.)

2. I took lots of courses and studied who was great;
got a Bachelor's, a Master's and a Doctorate.
I reached all the goals that I had to reach,
but no one said a thing about how to teach.

(but no one said a thing about how to teach.)

"To teach is easy," they all said to me.
"It's not needed for a Member of the Faculty."

("To teach is easy," they all said to me.
"It's not needed for a Member of the Faculty.")

3. My colleagues all cautioned me to spend my time
on my research if I meant to start my climb
to a tenured position. "Don't spend time on class."
"Students don't really need us if they're meant to pass."

("Students don't really need us if they're meant to pass.")

"You'll go further with this philosophy
if you want to be a Member of the Faculty."

("You'll go further with this philosophy
if you want to be a Member of the Faculty.")

4. So I worked on my research and wrote lots of books
and tried to ignore the students' dirty looks.
I became world famous in psychology,
and my colleagues were all happy to be seen with me.

(and my colleagues were all happy to be seen with me.)

They were all happy, but it seemed to me
this was not why I was at the University.

(They were all happy, but it seemed to me
this was not why I was at the University.)

5. So I beefed up my courses; I advised; I learned
how to teach much better. Now my classes have turned
into good experiences for the students and me,
and I still do my research in psychology.

(And I still do my research in psychology.)

So, Colleagues all, won't you join with me
and be TEACHING Members of the Faculty?

(So, Colleagues all, won't you join with me
and be TEACHING Members of the Faculty?)

I hope your semester gets off to a good start. See you in
October.

Mailla Swinicki