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## POD Network News, December 2, 1985

Bette LaSere Erickson

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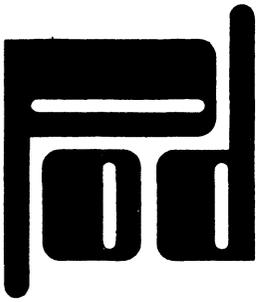


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# NETWORK

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK IN HIGHER EDUCATION

December 2, 1985  
(One month later than I intended)

Dear Friends, **ARE YOU...**

...looking for a worthy cause to which you might commit three good years of your life?

...tired of working with people who wouldn't recognize a good idea if it sat down next to them and introduced itself?

...suffering a mild case of ennui and seeking something to rekindle your enthusiasm--say, an opportunity to work with 20 other creative people on projects in which you're keenly interested?

...wishing you could think of some way to say thank you to POD for all the good ideas and good company it has given you?

...secretly thinking that you have some ideas which are at the cutting edge of professional and organizational development--ideas which POD might profit from considering?

...hiding your light under a bushel and waiting for POD to trip over it?

If you answered **yes** to any of the questions above, then it's probably time for you to consider serving on POD's Core Committee. In March, seven of our Core Committee members will "retire," and POD will need seven new members to take their places. Elections for the Core Committee members will occur in January. In order to be elected to the Core Committee, one must first **volunteer** to run for election. If you think the next three years might be a good time for you to serve POD, turn to the **self-nomination form** I've enclosed, read about how the Core Committee works, complete the form, and return it to me by January 10th.

Incidentally, one of the things settled in the October meeting of the Core Committee was POD's 1986-1987 Executive Director. I will serve one more year. (This feels very crazy to me right now, but I'm determined to find a way to do this job in no more than one day per week.) Thus, members of the Core Committee will be especially important people in my life during the coming months. Beyond that, all of us in POD depend a great deal on the Core Committee; somebody has to do the work. Therefore, I hope you will give this request your most generous attention.

**POD/NCSPOD 1985 National Conference...One Month Later** The POD/NCSPOD 1985 Conference was everything I've come to expect from POD conferences...except the opening and closing sessions, which were even better than I've come to expect, thanks to LuAnne Wilkerson and Marilla Svinicki. Lake Lawn Lodge turned out to be no closer to O'Hare Airport than any of POD's conference sites ever are to major airports, so the bus ride provided the same opportunities to get to know people. (How's that for finding silver linings?) Bill Bergquist's reflections and projections were as visionary as ever. I attended several sessions; there was not a lemon among them, and more than a few were truly outstanding. I found time to catch up with long-time POD friends and to meet several new POD and NCSPOD members. POD's tenth birthday party was a gala affair and lots of fun. In short, I found the adventure and excitement, the camaraderie and company, the support and caring--not to mention the dozens of good ideas--that characterize POD conferences.

A quick glance at the conference evaluations leads me to believe that I was not the only one who found the 1985 POD/NCSPOD Conference stimulating, fruitful, and rewarding. Insofar as I can tell, the conference made good on its promise; there was something of value for every one of the people who attended. Many thanks to Rusty Wadsworth and to Bob Pierleoni from POD and to Glenn Schmitz from NCSPOD. Theirs will be a hard act to follow.

Of course, we missed those of you who were unable to attend this year's conference. We hope we'll see you next year. Meanwhile, we're sending you a copy of this year's conference program and your copy of To Improve the Academy. If you don't receive these materials before the end of December, please let me know so that I may track down the problem.

**1985-1986 POD Membership Dues** Please remember that the October conference marked the beginning of POD's 1985-1986 membership year. The POD Network now includes about 440 people. Approximately 340 of you have paid your 1985-1986 membership dues. If you're among those 100 folks who have not yet renewed your membership, I'll be grateful if you'll save me the trouble of sending those inevitable reminders. Please take a minute now, write a check (payable to POD Network), and send it to me so that I may continue to send you POD Newsletters, a copy of To Improve the Academy, and other POD materials. Individual Membership dues are \$25.00 (\$30.00 Canadian); an Institutional Membership, which covers membership dues for five people, is \$100.00. Thank you for attending to this. I hate hounding people about money.

**POD's 1986 National Conference** Those of you who are already making plans for next year's conference (are more organized than I am, but...) will want to know that POD's 1986 Conference will be held October 30th-November 2nd at Hidden Valley Conference Center in Somerset, Pennsylvania. That's near Pittsburgh, but not so near that you'll miss a bus ride from the airport to the conference center. POD and NCSPOD have decided to hold separate conferences in 1986, but we are hoping to collaborate again in 1987. Bob Dove has agreed to chair

the 1986 conference planning committee, and he's already hard at work on conference plans. Watch for POD's call for proposals, which will appear early in the new year. Meanwhile, if you have ideas, suggestions, or questions, please contact: Robert Dove, Duff's Business Institute, 110 9th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; Phone: 412/261-4530.

**TO IMPROVE THE ACADEMY, 1986 Edition** Marilla Svinicki, who is serving as editor of the 1986 edition of To Improve the Academy, is also hard at work on next year's book of readings. I've enclosed copies of the call for papers and the submission guidelines. Please note that the deadline for submitting papers is February 15, 1986. That gives you about two months to translate your best ideas into writing. If you have questions or otherwise wish additional information about next year's book of readings, please contact: Marilla Svinicki, Center for Teaching Effectiveness, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712; Phone: 512/471-1488.

**So You've Got Them in Your Office...Now What?** Speaking of committing your thoughts to writing, Karron Lewis submitted the following request for contributions to a "how to" book on individual consultation procedures:

Those of us who have been in faculty development for a number of years have developed our own methods for consulting with individual faculty members. Many of us have learned our trade through trial-and-error, while others have drawn on the experience of peers. The lunch Round Table discussion on this topic during the 1985 POD Conference indicated that people new to faculty development are quite interested in having access to a "how to" publication. The contributions to this book would look at the "nitty-gritty" of individual consultation (i.e., this is what is done first, this comes next, etc.) and the reactions of various clients to these methods (i.e., the successes and failures).

If you are interested in contributing a description of your consultation procedures, if you'd like to see a sample entry, and/or if you have questions or suggestions about this venture, please contact: Karron Lewis, Center for Teaching Effectiveness, Main Building 2200, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712; Phone: 512/471-1488.

**POD Survey of Faculty Development Practices** Yes, Glenn Erickson is still trying to sort out data from the POD Survey and is still waiting for suggestions about what to do next. Glenn presented a preliminary report of the survey results during the conference in October. Since then, a follow-up letter to non-respondents produced additional returns. Thus, I'm enclosing an up-dated summary of the findings presented in October. Before conducting any more detailed analyses of these data, Glenn would like to know what you would like to know. If you have questions you'd like answered or analyses you'd like run, please contact: Glenn Erickson, Instructional Development Program, 201 Chafee, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881; Phone: 401/792-5078.

**Coming Events** Fortunately, those seeking additional opportunities for professional growth won't have to wait until POD's 1986 Conference. There are several conferences and meetings to tide you over until next October. Announcements for the following events have crossed my desk. They've probably crossed your desks, too, but you can think of this as a reminder.

\* \* \*

The Southern Regional Faculty and Instructional Development Consortium will hold its Seventh Annual Sharing Conference, Maintaining Faculty and Institutional Vitality Through Instructional Development, February 2-4, 1986, at Appalachian State University's Broyhill Center. The conference includes a keynote address by John Centra and a variety of sessions which reflect the diverse ways we might promote involvement, renewal, and vitality. Note that one does not have to be a member of the Consortium in order to attend the conference. For further information, contact: Art Crawley, SRFIDC, Conference Coordinator, Center for Instructional Development, Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina 28608; Phone: 704/262-3040.

\* \* \*

The Center for Faculty Evaluation and Development is offering the following seminars and conferences early in 1986.

Evaluating College Faculty. A two-day seminar on issues involved in faculty evaluation for personnel decisions: retention, promotion, tenure, and salary increases, including merit pay. Dates: February 24-25, 1986, Phoenix  
March 24-25, 1986, Milwaukee

Improving College Teaching. A two-day seminar focusing on improving classroom teaching--assumptions about effective teaching, ways to collect data on one's present teaching, and classical and newer approaches to teaching.  
Dates: February 26-27, 1986, Phoenix  
March 26-27, 1986, Milwaukee

Academic Chairpersons: Unraveling the Paradox. Papers and workshops on the conflicts faced by academic chairpersons and possible solutions to these dilemmas.  
Date: February 12-14, 1986, Orlando

Faculty Evaluation and Development: Lessons Learned. Papers and workshops on what we have learned (or not learned) during the past decade about faculty evaluation and development.  
Date: April 21-23, 1986, Kansas City

For more information about any of the seminars or conferences listed above, please contact: Center for Faculty Evaluation and Development, Kansas State University, 1623 Anderson Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502; Phone: 800/255-2757 or 913/532-5970.

\* \* \*

Also scheduled this spring is a national conference hosted by The

University of Georgia in cooperation with the American Association for Higher Education and the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association:

National Conference on Professional and Personal Renewal for Faculty. A forum for discussion of issues relating to faculty renewal in higher education, featuring descriptions of effective models and programs, research findings, and speculations on future directions. Keynote address by John W. Gardner, former secretary of HEW and author of Self-Renewal.

Date: April 10-12, 1986, Terrace Garden Inn, Atlanta, Georgia

For more information, please contact: James Calhoun, Office of Instructional Development, The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602; Phone: 404/542-1355.

**Looking for a Change?** Scott Colley, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University, is hoping that the POD Network might include a good candidate or two for the position of Director of a new Center for Teaching at Vanderbilt. In case you missed the advertisement in the Chronicle, it looks like this:

The Chronicle of Higher Education • September 4, 1985

**DIRECTOR  
CENTER FOR TEACHING  
Vanderbilt University**

The College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University is seeking a Director of its new Center for Teaching. This Center will coordinate projects in support of the continued high level of teaching on the undergraduate level in the College. Activities in the Center will probably include videotaping instructors in their classrooms and evaluating these videotapes, orienting and training inexperienced instructors, coordinating English language classes for teachers who are not native speakers, and sponsoring other programs which will enhance the quality of college teaching. Candidates for the position ideally should hold a Ph.D. in a field taught in the College of Arts and Science and should be prepared to work closely with various university constituencies in the establishment and administration of this Center. Teaching experience on the college level and a record of some research and publication are desirable. The salary will be set on a level commensurate with the candidate's background and experience. This opening is announced pending administrative approval.

The College hopes to fill the position on or before July 1, 1986. Please send a letter of application, résumé, and names and telephone numbers of four references to Associate Dean Scott Colley, Office of the Dean, Box 6327, Station B, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37235.

Vanderbilt University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer

In sum,... That's a lot of news for one Newsletter. Many thanks to those of you who sent information, ideas, and announcements. Special thanks to Linc Fish, who spotted the item on "networking" (next page) and passed it along. If you have other news you'd like to share, please send me the information so that I may include it in the next Newsletter, which you may expect in late February.

Meanwhile, I'm concerned that you remember that POD depends upon your contributions and that you not forget some important deadlines:

**By January 10th, 1986,** nominations for the Core Committee are due. Remember, all POD work is voluntary and only self-nominations are accepted. I know this sometimes feels awkward. Nonetheless, I urge you to volunteer to run for election to the Core Committee. So, ignore your humble natures for a minute, complete the self-nomination form, and return it to me before January 10.

**By February 15th, 1986,** submit that manuscript reporting your latest thoughts, discoveries, or accomplishments to Marilla Svinicki for publication in the 1986 edition of To Improve the Academy.

**By February 20th, 1986,** send me any items you'd like to see included in the next Newsletter.

I hope that your holidays are happy ones and that you'll keep in touch--even without the self-addressed postcard to which you've no doubt grown accustomed. Perhaps next time.

Take care,



Bette LaSere Erickson  
Executive Director, POD Network

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University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

401/792-4293



## NETWORK

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