POD Network News, February 1991

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Dear POD Colleagues:

At this time of year the winter thaws remind us that Spring regeneration is not far behind - a new cycle of renewal is in process. The POD Network is not all that different. We have had a great year so far with a first-rate conference at Granlibbaken as well as excellent issues of To Improve The Academy; and Teaching Excellence; now we are working on activities that will renew and support the continued viability of POD. This issue of the newsletter will include some of these efforts.

New CORE Committee

As you know, the election of seven new CORE Committee members has taken place and results are compiled. Sandra Tomlinson and Don Wulff ably supervised this effort. At the March 23rd CORE Meeting in Washington the newly elected and on-going members will meet along with those who are completing a three-year term. We owe a great debt of thanks to those who have contributed time, effort, talent, (and many times resources) to the success of the POD Network. I want to express great appreciation and special recognition to the seven out-going members who include:

Howard Altman, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Beverley T. Amick, Kean College of New Jersey, Union, NJ
Loren Ekroth, Lake Oswego, OR
Sandra Holmes, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI
Glenn Ross Johnson, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
Ed Neal, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
Sandra Tomlinson, Galveston College, Galveston, TX

We hope they will each continue being active, committed members of POD.

A big “thank you” is also in order for all those who were willing to step forward and self-nominate for this year’s CORE election. Each nominee won a lot of support from our membership. When counted, seven new names emerged. We want to congratulate the following people as new members of the CORE Committee:

Beverly Black, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Elizabeth F. Fideler, Massachusetts Bay Community College, Wellesley, Hills, MA
Peter Frederick, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN
Frank Gillespie, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA
Marty Nemko, Oakland, CA
Diane vom Saal, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO
Marie Wunsch, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI

We also want to encourage those not in the top seven this round to try again in the future. In the meantime, POD needs your talents in many other ways!
Rusty Wadsworth and I have had two wonderful years in contact with the special people who comprise the POD membership. Work with the outstanding people on the CORE has been especially rewarding. Our shared Executive Directorship worked well, and it was a time we will both remember with great fondness. Thank you to all who shared in giving us this opportunity and in contributing your talents and skills during this period!

I particularly want to acknowledge the contributions and support which my support staff at the Teaching and Learning Center have provided. Many of you have been in contact with Shelley Everett, Peggy Johnson, and Nancy Wall who have spent many hours in service to POD.

Your next newsletter will come from Ronald Smith who will take over responsibilities as Executive Director at the March CORE meeting. He will also be supported by Dan Wheeler who is Executive Director-Elect. Rusty and I will continue to help as Past Executive Directors for the next year.

POD Executive Office

Glenn Johnson, Marilla Svinicki and Nancy Chism will make a recommendation to the CORE Committee for the location of the new POD Executive Office. We expect the new office to take over shortly after June 1st at the end of the current fiscal year. That office will handle memberships, mailings and printing; however, policy and organizational decisions will continue to reside with the CORE and Executive Directors.

AAHE and the POD Sampler

For those of you who are planning to attend the American Association of Higher Education, March 24-27, 1991, be sure to participate in POD sponsored activities. Sunday, March 24, 1:30-3:30 pm we will have a "Sampler" of POD work consistent with the AAHE theme entitled "Facilitating Difficult Dialogues About Diversity." Mary Deane Sorcinelli, Judy Bailey, Laura Border, and Nancy Chism are planning this program. Mary Deane will serve as moderator and presenters will include; Virgie Chattergy, Marie Wunsch, K.C. Morrison, Diane Vom Saal, Deborah Jefferson, and Ellen Sarkisian. A reception will immediately follow (3:30-5:00 pm). We also will have a booth to help those at AAHE understand what POD does. Linda Hilsen will be responsible for this booth so contact her if you could help represent POD by staffing it for a while.

1991 Conference

It is time to start thinking about sessions for our Fall Conference, October 23-27, 1991 at Lakeview Resort, Morgantown, West Virginia. You will receive a separate mailing from the planning committee. Christine Stanley, Nancy Chism and Roger Sell at The Ohio State University will be leading our conference team along with Nancy Diamond and Priscilla Visek at University of Illinois who will handle registration.

1991-92 Dues

After a careful examination of financial records, we discovered that costs of services to the membership exceeded the income from membership dues. In addition, the organization is at that awkward size of being too large to expect volunteer management, but for full-time, management services. These factors led the CORE Committee to plan an increase in dues for 1991-92. As far as we can determine this is the first increase in the fifteen year history of POD. Individual memberships will be $40.00 and Institutional memberships will be $100.00 for three people rather than five. We hope this will not be a hardship for anyone and trust that it will enable us to continue to provide financially sound service to the membership.