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9-12-1986

## POD Network News, September 12, 1986

Bette LaSere Erickson

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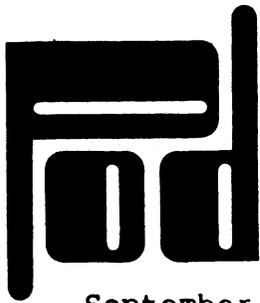


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LaSere Erickson, Bette, "POD Network News, September 12, 1986" (1986). *POD Network News*. 32.  
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# NETWORK

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK IN HIGHER EDUCATION

September 12, 1986

Greetings!

I hope September finds you satisfied that summer was everything you wished it to be, enthusiastic about beginning a new academic year, and eager to be back in touch with POD colleagues.

POD's 1986 Conference is just around the corner--October 30th to November 2nd at Hidden Valley Conference Center in Somerset, Pennsylvania. (Okay, okay...Somerset, PA, isn't exactly around the corner for any of us, but October 30th is not far off.) I'm excited about the conference, and I hope you'll be able to attend.

K. Patricia Cross from Harvard's Graduate School of Education will be there to talk about "Classroom Research," an idea looking for some action. We've assured her that she's coming to the right place. We've also scheduled some follow-up sessions during the conference for POD members eager to get started.

Richard C. Wallace, Superintendent of the Pittsburgh schools, will also be there to talk about students who go to college. Rumor has it that secondary education is undergoing dramatic reform. Should we expect to see differences in students who enroll in post-secondary institutions during the next few years? We'll give that some thought at the conference.

The preliminary program suggests we'll be giving some thought to a lot of other issues, too. Of course, we've had some disappointments. Prince Charles couldn't stay over after all. Some proposals were withdrawn at the last minute, including "Nicked by the cutting edge: Lessons learned," "Left-brained faculty development: A logic of its own," and "A meta-analysis of studies investigating the effects of field dependent and field independent interventions for coping with the onset of midlife crisis during a lecture: Implications for faculty development in research universities." And we're no longer assuming that the Reagan Administration will comment on the findings from POD's Survey of Faculty Development Practices before the conference.

Still, the 1986 POD Conference features dozens of sessions addressing important POD concerns from a variety of perspectives. I think you can count on it being everything you've come to expect from POD conferences: a place to meet and greet POD friends; a chance to find out what's going on in the name of professional and organizational development; a source of new ideas, activities, and skills. There's even a bit of planned frivolity...which reminds me, Bob Dove asked me to remind you to pack your costume for POD's Halloween Party and to let

him know if you wish to enter your act in POD's Second Annual Talent Show.

I've enclosed conference registration and room reservation forms. If you have not already registered for the conference, now would be a good time to do so. Also, there's still time (but not much) to register for the pre-conference workshop, "College Teaching and the Development of Reasoning," offered by ADAPT Program staff from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. For details, see the enclosed registration form.

Meanwhile, I'll try to bring you up-to-date on POD affairs.

**POD Financial Update.** No doubt, May 31st was just another day for most of you. You forgot (or never knew) that POD's fiscal year ends on May 31st. Indeed it does. On May 31st, 1986, the bottom line in POD's accounts was \$16,092.03. If you would like to receive a copy of the year-end financial report, please let me know.

Of course, we are now three months into a new fiscal year, and we have managed to spend some of that \$16,092.03. I hope you'll be pleased to learn that POD now owns a Compaq portable computer and a letter-quality Panasonic printer. I don't expect this technology to do all the work (It does not, for example, brew coffee), but I think it will help us conduct POD business. At the very least, the records of our confusion will be stored and can be passed from one Executive Director to the next.

**1986-1987 POD Membership Dues.** Please don't confuse POD's fiscal year (June 1st to May 31st) with POD's membership year, which runs from "conference-to-conference." Believe it or not, there is rhyme and reason for this; it makes it easier to pay and to receive membership dues. In any case, it's time to initiate whatever procedures are required in order to renew your membership in POD. Our 1986-1987 membership fees, which are due November 1st, are:

Individual Membership.....	\$ 25.00
Institutional Membership (five members).....	\$100.00
Student Membership.....	\$ 15.00

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. If you can't make it to the conference this year, please send your membership dues to me by November 1st. We ask that you pay all fees in U.S. currency and that you make checks payable to POD Network. In case you need it, POD's Federal Identification number is 52-1139670.

**1986 volume of TO IMPROVE THE ACADEMY.** Marilla Svinicki, 1986 editor of To Improve the Academy, is alive and well, she'll be at the conference, and she's bringing your copy of To Improve the Academy. After the conference, I will mail copies to POD members who can't make it to the conference this year (No, I can't do it now; the book is still in press). Be sure to get your 1986-1987 membership dues to me by November 1st, so that you can receive your copy without unnecessary delay.

**POD Core Committee Meeting.** As is its custom, the POD Core Committee

will meet the day before the 1986 Conference opens--Wednesday, October 29th. Soon, I will be proposing an agenda for that meeting, sending it to Core Committee members, and inviting their additions or revisions. If you have questions or ideas you wish the Core Committee to consider, please call or write me or a member of the Core Committee.

**Study of Graduate Teaching Assistants.** Guess who sends his greetings and the following notes....

Over 1300 Graduate Teaching Assistants and Associates from eight research institutions have participated in a study conducted by Bob Diamond and the staff of the Center for Instructional Development at Syracuse University. The data collected on such topics as classroom responsibilities, teaching preparation and support, teaching-related problems, and recommendations, are being tabulated and a formal report is planned for this fall. A section of this report will focus on international teaching assistants and data will also be reported by academic discipline.

REMEMBER...



being developed  
is never easy...

For additional information about the T.A. study, please contact Bob Diamond, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Syracuse University, Center for Instructional Development, 115 College Place, Syracuse, NY 13210; 315/423-4571.

If you offer T.A. training programs, please let Linc. Fisch know. He's scheduled to conduct a session, "An Alternative to a Big-deal TA Training Program: Cooperative Departmental Efforts on Shoestring Budgets," at the National TA Conference, November 16-18, 1986. He'd like information (he says he'd also welcome a co-presenter) about other programs in which "...four or five departments, each of whom have a handful of TA's, pool their efforts and use a single set of resource persons to put on a series of seminars." If you know of such efforts, please contact Linc. Fisch, 3309 Bellefonte, Lexington, KY 40502; 606/622-2250.

I've also received a request to make the following announcement:  
**Association for Behavior Analysis, 13th Annual Convention.**  
Opryland Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee, May 25-28, 1987. Submissions must be received by November 7, 1986. For submission, convention or membership information, write ABA, Department of Psychology, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

Finally, you may be interested in the following excerpt from a letter to POD:

THE YEARBOOK OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES (YAU) is a new annual that will make its first appearance in 1987....YAU will be a survey of U.S. higher education, a summary of major events and developments, a digest of basic information, and a time capsule for future historians. It will also contain reviews of all major sectors of higher education and profiles of the most

notable educators of the year. The first edition of YAU will cover the year 1986.

...We are trying to locate contributors and I shall appreciate your bringing this project and our need to the attention of your members and colleagues so that those who are interested in participating can write us directly for more information. It will be helpful if you include a brief note on the project in your newsletter.

Done. If you wish additional information, please contact George Kurian, Editor, YEARBOOK OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES, Box 519, Baldwin Place, NY 10505-0519; 914/962-3287.

Now, before you go on to your next thing, please remember...

...Get your 1986 POD Conference registrations in the mail to Bob Dove, make room reservations with Hidden Valley, and don't forget to arrange transportation from the airport to the conference center. I shudder to think you might end up stranded in the Pittsburgh airport.

...If you can't attend the 1986 POD Conference, please send me your 1986-1987 membership dues by November 1st, so that I can send you the 1986 volume of To Improve the Academy.

...If you have questions or information you'd like to see included in the next POD Newsletter, please send me your news by November 15th.

I hope I'll see you at the 1986 POD Conference. I'm looking forward to some face-to-face contact and company.

Until then, take care.

Bette LaSere Erickson  
Executive Director, POD Network

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 **NETWORK**  
1986-1987 CORE COMMITTEE

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