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**POD Network News** 

Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education

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# POD Network News, February 1994

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February, 1994

## 1994 POD Conference in Portland, OR

It is time to mark your calendars and begin your planning for the 1994 POD Conference in Portland, OR, October 19-23! The conference will be held in the Red Lion Motor Inn on a small island in the beautiful Columbia River between Washington and Oregon. Larry Quinsland, conference chair, reports that the conference will focus on instructional, faculty, and organizational development in the best of all worlds. Participants will be invited to imagine what professional and organizational development might be on their respective campuses if all barriers could be removed. Proposals will be solicited for sessions that focus on dreams, barriers/problems, and exemplary processes and techniques.

The program will include pre-conference workshops, concurrent sessions, keynote speeches, an information fair, opportunities for networking, and special entertainment. This year, the pre-conference workshops will start on Wednesday afternoon, October 19. The conference will begin officially on Thursday afternoon and adjourn early Sunday, October 23, after the annual POD Business Meeting.

The Call for Proposals for pre-conference workshops and concurrent sessions will be mailed out by early March, so start thinking now about possible submissions. If you do not receive a proposal form by April 1st, contact David Graf (Ph: 515-294-3808; E-mail: dgraf@iastate.edu).

If you have suggestions for the program or if you would like to volunteer to assist in some way with the conference, please contact Larry Quinsland (Ph: 716-475-6237; E-mail: lkq9999@ritvax.isc.rit.edu).

## **POD Participation in AAHE**

Again, this year, POD will be visible at the 1994 AAHE conference in Chicago. A number of CORE members (Peter Frederick, Jacqueline Mintz, Ed Neal, Marty Nemko, Diane vom Saal, and Marie Wunsch) will participate in a POD session that will be presented twice at the conference in place of the usual POD Sampler. The program, entitled "Envisioning and Engaging Change in the 'Classrooms' of the Future: A Group Conversation," is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, as part of the AAHE Forum on Exemplary Teaching, and again on Friday afternoon, March 25. Also, POD will co-sponsor a coffee break tentatively scheduled for Thursday afternoon, March 24. As usual, the POD booth will be set up in the display area to provide information about POD and its resources. If you are attending AAHE, join us in any of these activities and help spread the word about POD.

## **CORE Meeting at AAHE**

The POD CORE Committee will meet on Friday, March 25, and Saturday, March 26, in Chicago, for the annual spring meeting held in conjunction with the AAHE Conference. Among the agenda items are approval of the 1994-1995 budget, selection of the 1995 editor(s) of To Improve the Academy, decisions about the 1994-1995 POD grants, and selection of a site for the 1995 conference. In addition, the group will hear reports and act upon recommendations of the Publications and Outreach Committees, the Diversity Task Force, and special committees on long-range planning, the Bright Idea Award, and the institute for new faculty developers. If you would like to suggest items for the agenda of the meeting, please pass them on to me (Don Wulff, Ph:206-543-6588; FAX: 206-685-1213; E-Mail: donald wulff@cidr.washington.edu).

## Welcome to the CORE

At the spring meeting in Chicago, the CORE Committee of POD will welcome the five individuals who were

recently elected to three-year terms on the CORE Committee. All the new members have long histories of activity in the field.

**Glenn Erickson,** Director, Instructional Development Program at the University of Rhode Island and a charter member of POD, has served as Coordinator of POD (now known as President), editor of *To Improve the Academy*, and coordinator of the annual POD conference.

Linda Hilsen, Coordinator of the Instructional Development Service at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, has been involved on various POD committees and as associate editor and editor of *To Improve the Academy*, as co-chair for the most recent POD conference, and, previously, as a member of the CORE.

Joan North, Dean of the College of Professional Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Sevens Point, has served in a variety of administrative positions in faculty development, as a keynote speaker at the 1990 POD convention, and as the first Coordinator (now known as President) of the POD Network.

Laurie Richlin, Director of the Office of Faculty Development at the University of Pittsburgh, has been associate editor of *To Improve the Academy* and editor of the *Journal on Excellence in College Teaching* and has been instrumental in directing regional Lilly Conferences on College Teaching.

**Rita Rodabaugh,** Executive Director of the Academy for the Art of Teaching at Florida International University, has been involved in faculty development for twelve years, presenting and publishing in the area of improvement of college teaching, especially on the topic of student perceptions of fairness.

Congratulations, Glenn, Linda, Joan, Laurie, and Rita and welcome to the CORE Committee!

#### **Special Thanks**

We extend special appreciation to the following members who will be leaving the CORE Committee at the end of the spring meeting after serving for three years: Beverly Black, Peter Frederick, Frank Gillespie, Martin Nemko, Diane vom Saal, and Marie Wunsch. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Dan Wheeler who moves off the CORE after having served as Executive Director (1992-93) and as a member of the Executive Committee of the CORE. Thanks, to all of you, for your ongoing service to POD.

## Congratulations, Karron and Nancy

At the end of the CORE meeting in March, Karron Lewis, Associate Director of the Center for Teaching Effectiveness at the University of Texas at Austin, will assume the presidency of POD for the 1994-1995 year. In her new role, she will also become editor of *POD Network News*. At the same time, Nancy Chism, Program Director for Faculty and TA Development at The Ohio State University, will begin her term on the Executive Committee as President-Elect. Congratulations, Karron and Nancy, and good luck in the new roles.

## To Improve the Academy

Editor Rusty Wadsworth reports that she and the associate editors are presently reviewing manuscripts for the 1994 volume of *To Improve the Academy*. The articles will be edited in the next few months and submitted to the publisher, New Forums Press, in time for the volume to be distributed at the fall conference in Portland.

#### **Newsletters!**

Do you publish a newsletter for faculty and/or TAs? The POD Network is initiating an information exchange for those members willing to share or offer their newsletters on a subscription basis. See the insert enclosed with this issue of the newsletter.

#### **Announcements**

This section of the newsletter is devoted to announcements of interest to the POD membership. If you have items for the May newsletter, send them to Karron Lewis at the Center for Teaching Effectiveness, University of Texas at Austin, 2200 Main Building, Austin, TX 78712-1111 (Ph: 512-471-1488; FAX: 512-471-0577; E-Mail: K.LEWIS@UTXVM.CC.UTEXAS.EDU).

#### **Conferences**

- "Involvement in Learning: Realizing the Potential of Quality and Assessment for Improving American Higher Education," Double Feature Conference: 9th AAHE Assessment Conference and 2nd AAHE Quality Conference, June 12-15, 1994, Washington, D. C. For information, contact: Karl L. Schilling, Director, AAHE Assessment Forum, One Dupont Circle, Suite 360, Washington, D. C. 20036-1110 (Ph: 202-293-6440, Ext. 29; FAX 202-293-0073; E-Mail aahebdw@gwuvm.gwu.edu).
- "What works: Building Effective Collaborative Learning Experiences," a national conference, June 25-27, 1994, hosted by the National Center for Postsecondary Teaching, Learning, and Assessment (NCTLA) in partnership with Penn State Continuing and Distance Education, Penn State's University Park Campus, State College, PA. For information, contact: Debbie Noyes, Conference Coordinator, The Pennsylvania State University (Ph: 814-863-1744; FAX: 814-865-3749).
- "Improving University Teaching," 19th International Conference, presented under the auspices of University of Maryland University College, July 4-7, 1994, College Park, Maryland. For information, write to: Improving University Teaching, University of Maryland University College, University Boulevard at Adelphi Rd., College Park, MD 20742-1659.

- "Improving Teaching Through Reflective Practice:
  Using Cases, Narratives and Stories, and Classroom Inquiry," a working conference for College
  Faculty, July 20-23, 1994, University of British
  Columbia, Vancouver, co-sponsored by The AAHE
  Teaching Initiative and The Pace University Center for Case Studies in Education. For information,
  contact: Erin Anderson, Project Assistant, Teaching Initiative (Ph: 202-293-6440, Ext. 42; FAX: 202-293-0073).
- Midwest Conference on Critical Thinking, July 20-22, 1994 (pre-conference workshops July18-19) at Northland College, Ashland, WI, sponsored by the Wisconsin Center for Excellence in Critical Thinking. For information, contact: Donna Coomer, Director (Ph: 715-639-2002) or Kari Dahl, Workshop Coordinator (Ph: 715-639-4201; FAX: 715-839-4907), Wisconsin Center for Excellence in Critical Thinking, Box 246, 130 Public St., Elmwood, WI 54740.

#### Resources of Interest

- "What Kind of Teacher Are You?" a 14-minute VHS videotape focused on how faculty can document their teaching using portfolios, intended for use in a workshop or departmental faculty meetings but also appropriate for one-on-one interactions with faculty. For information, contact: Steve Richardson, Director, Center for Teaching Excellence, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-2130 (Ph:515-294-2402; E-mail: stevenr@iastate.edu).
- Coloring the Halls of Ivy (Edited by Josephine D. Davis, Anker Publishing, 1994), a book (151 pp.) in which eleven minority academic administrators at predominantly white institutions detail their challenges, crises, and triumphs as academic leaders. Available from Anker Publishing Company, Inc., 176 Ballville Rd., P. O. Box 249, Bolton, MA 01740 (Ph: 508-779-6190).

## **Message from the President**

Each spring is a time of "gearing up" for the organization—plans for the fall convention are progressing; the next volume of *To Improve the Academy* is taking shape; committees are busily preparing recommendations; and the leadership on the CORE is changing. A few ways in which all of us can be involved during these busy times are to:

- volunteer to assist Larry Quinsland with the conference in Portland;
- plan our proposals for workshops or concurrent sessions at the fall conference
- mail newsletter-sharing information to David Graf.

As we prepare for the upcoming changes on the CORE Committee, I would like to reflect briefly on the status of the organization. As I suspected when I assumed the role of POD President for 1993-94, the time moves far too quickly. One barely sets goals and priorities before the time is gone. Nevertheless, the CORE has been very active during the last year. We have:

- identified our most immediate priorities, including diversity in the membership, outreach, long-range planning, financial affairs, training of new instructional/faculty developers, and information management;
- established a Diversity Task Force and committed money to projects that will help us address issues of diversity in our organization;
- addressed the financial affairs of the organization by improving accounting and book-keeping procedures and thinking about ways to invest cash reserves;
- taken specific steps to develop outreach on both the national and international levels;

- appointed a committee to recommend ways that the organization might assist in the preparation of new faculty developers; and
- begun to work on continuity by examining issues of long-range planning for the organization.

As always, there is plenty left to do—we still have to follow through with specifics in each of these areas and continue to seek the best balance in the natural tensions between the increasing structure/professionalism needed to conduct the business of the organization and the informal networking collegiality on which POD is founded. As Past-President, I will offer to assist Karron and Nancy in any way as they follow through on these important priorities and address the new issues that arise as the organization evolves.

I am pleased to have had the opportunity to serve in the leadership of POD. The many talented colleagues with whom I have worked so closely have taught me much during the last year. I have grown both personally and professionally.

I look forward to my ongoing work in POD and to seeing all of you at the conference in Portland.

Sincerely,

Donald H. Wulff 1993-94 President, POD Network



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**Editor:** Dr. Donald Wulff, University of Washington **Publisher:** Dr. David Graf, Iowa State University