4-1-1979

Editor's Message, Spring 1979

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Outcalt, David L., "Editor's Message, Spring 1979" (1979). *POD Quarterly: The Journal of the Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education.* Paper 42.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/podqtrly/42

EDITORIAL

Editor's Message

Welcome to the first issue of POD Quarterly. The purpose of this journal is to provide information on resources and discussion of issues of direct interest to POD members as well as to provide news of POD. It is intended to do so in such a way as to encourage and facilitate linkage among POD members. A perusal of the table of contents (on the back cover) will indicate the means of carrying out that purpose: Editorial features, regular Departments, and refereed Articles.

The original ideas behind POD Quarterly were layed out in a memorandum of October 5, 1978, to the POD Core Committee from Charles A. Goldsmid and Mary Lynn Crow. They proposed a newsletter based on the following premises:

The newsletter should (1) have a service function—circulation of ideas and information to membership; (2) help provide linkage among POD members—by publicizing ideas, concerns, and resources of contributors (or subjects of articles) so others with parallel or related concerns know of them; (3) enhance identification with POD as an organization by increasing exposure to POD, its activities, and concerns and work of its members; (4) be directed at POD members as practitioners and address practice-related concerns of POD members' constituencies. They also proposed that the newsletter be quarterly and that its first issue appear in January or February 1979.

The Core Committee approved an expanded concept of the newsletter when it met during the Fourth Annual National Conference on November 5, 1978: refereed articles should be a major feature and the publication should have the characteristics of a journal. The journal should be a quarterly; every effort should be made to bring out the first issue early in 1979; and, consistent with the voluntary operation of POD, the journal should be operated by an editorial board with one member designated as editor for each year. Three people volunteered to be editors for the first three years: David Outcalt (1979), Glenn Nyre (1980), and Lance Buhl (1981). They were joined by Bert Biles and Mary Lynn Crow to form the Editorial Board. Glenn Erickson is also an ex-officio member as Executive Director of POD. The name, POD Quarterly, was approved at that meeting.

The first step in producing a journal is to locate a printer. Because of the rotating nature of the editorship, it had to be a firm with expertise in producing scholarly journals (at a reasonable cost) so that once the initial design had been determined the editor would not need to be involved in the production process or the mechanics of distribution. Fortunately, Kimberly Press in Goleta, adjacent to the University of California, Santa Barbara campus, ideally fits our needs.

There are a large number of details to be attended to in starting a journal. The ideas and advice of all of the members of the Editorial Board were invaluable and much appreciated. The fine cooperation of the contributors in producing excellent manuscripts during the busy month of December has been outstanding. Vital to the existence of this issue has been the enthusiasm, hard work, and critical analysis of the Production Editor, Diane Johnson. It is a rare privilege to have responsibility for starting a new journal; Diane and I have thoroughly enjoyed the process.

However, the long-term excellence of this journal depends on the support of the members of POD. Designing a journal is complicated and involves compromises; there are policies and practices to be established. A regular feature is the Feedback Forum at the end of each issue designed to obtain reactions to that issue. But beyond that, your ideas and criticisms are needed and valued; please send them in.

There is space on the front cover for a design. We need your ideas, so please free your imagination and send in your creation in time for the Editorial Board to make a choice at its meeting in Washington: Deadline, April 5.

The effectiveness of the various departments depends on your contributions. Deadlines are: June 1 for Fall, September 1 for Winter, December 1 for Spring, and March 1 for Summer. The deadlines may seem early, but they allow for a production schedule that keeps costs reasonable and maintains the editor's sanity.

Above all, your manuscripts for articles are needed. They will be refereed which means that we may need your help in refereeing someone else's paper.

POD Quarterly is *your* journal; its nature and excellence will depend on *your* participation.

<div align="right">D.L.O.</div>