Editorial Matter 1984

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Resources for Faculty, Instructional, & Organizational Development

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The Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education was formed in 1976 by people who felt that they needed a network to support each other in efforts to make learning, teaching and institutional life more effective and fulfilling. Since that time we have gathered annually in a national conference to maintain the network and learn from each other about faculty, instructional and institutional development. POD has organized regional workshops and established liaison with organizations such as the American Association for Higher Education and the National Council for Staff, Program and Organizational Development.

This collection of readings is the third in an annual series designed to share the written perspectives, reflections and strategies of our members. Many of the papers included herein first appeared as background pieces for active sessions at the annual POD conferences. Some are theoretical works which provide a framework for understanding faculty, instructional, and institutional development. Other articles describe programs and strategies currently in use that may be transferable to other colleges and universities. You are encouraged to adapt them as appropriate to meet the needs of your institution (many are several generations removed from earlier ideas about training and consulting). Only be sure to give credit to the author(s) and keep up the process by letting the originator know of your experiences.

We thank the authors of the pieces collected in this volume. They rushed to meet our tight deadlines. We also offer special thanks to the following people: to Michael Davis for reviewing and editing articles and for writing the introduction to Section V; Joanne Kurfiss for pulling together and doing some editing on the articles in Section V;
to LuAnn Wilkerson for reviewing articles and technical editing; and to Mary Lynn Crow and Elmer Sundby for serving as reviewers.

If you are not already a member of POD, we invite you to join us. This small network is the best way to keep in touch with others who believe that work and learning will be enhanced when we collaborate to support each other. For information about membership and the annual conference (in October 1985), contact the Executive Director: LuAnn Wilkerson, Education Development Unit, Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center, Lakeshore Drive at 31st Street, Chicago, Illinois 60616.

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About POD

The Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education is devoted to improving teaching and learning in post-secondary education. Founded in 1975, the POD Network provides leadership for the improvement of higher education through faculty, administrative, instructional, and organizational development. The operating word in the title of the organization is "network." It is this commitment to connecting people with other people that characterizes POD and its members.

POD is an open, international organization. Anyone interested in improving higher education can join the diverse membership that includes faculty and instructional development center staff, department chairs, faculty, deans, student services staff, chief academic officers, and educational consultants. POD members work in a variety of post-secondary settings: public and private institutions, two-year colleges and graduate universities, small colleges and multiversities, and educational services organizations.