POD Conference Communiqués

Many Thanks to Conference Volunteers

A large (and successful) conference, such as the one POD just experienced, does not "just happen." Choosing from over 150 offerings, nearly 500 participants "Scaled the Heights" at Snowbird, Utah, October 16-20. Thousands of hours of planning and preparation went into the sessions and their coordination, site management, communications, expeditions, entertainment, etc. Conference Chair Lynn Sorenson and Program Coordinator Ed Jensen would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all those who presented, the many folks who served on committees (such as reviewers), and the following persons who had major oversight responsibilities:

Registration: David Graf and Beth Teuscher
Conference Registration and Program Materials: David Graf
Sessions/logistical Planning: Larry Quinsland
Evaluation: Kathryn MacKay
Web site: Matthew Nickerson
A-V Planning: David Templeton
A-V Implementation: Ed Jensen (including family and students!)
Newes: Tracey Sutherland
Pre-conference Workshops: Arletta Bauman Knight
Poster Sessions and Materials & Resource Fair: Jane Birch
Roundtables: Myra Wilhite
Newcomers’ Welcome and Orientation: Linda Hilsen and Rusty Wadsworth
Expeditions: Valency Fox and Lion Gardiner
Recognition (Doermann/Bush) Award: Nancy Chism
Bright Ideas Award(s): Barbara Millis

YOU, too can be part of this army of PODers who make a conference happen! Contact Kay Herr Gillespie ('97 Grenelefe, Florida conference chair) to see how YOU can help!

POD extends a special thanks to Conference Chair Lynn Sorenson and Program Coordinator Ed Jensen for making Snowbird a top-notch POD conference.

Future Conference Sites

The Long-range Conference Planning Committee would like your assistance in locating future POD conference sites. If you are aware of a potential conference location that meets the following criteria:

- minimum 325 guest rooms
- minimum 12 meeting rooms (capacity >40 classroom set-up)
- comfortable "networking" areas,

please forward the information to Larry Quinsland, Center for Arts and Science, NTID at RIT, 52 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623 or LKQ9999@ritvax.edu.

1997 Conference

We hope you’ll mark these exciting dates on your 1997 calendar right now—POD conference, October 16-19, 1997, Grenelefe Golf and Tennis Resort, Haines City, Florida. Watch for more news about this event!

Call for Proposals

Anyone interested in being part of a special group presentation at the POD Annual Conference, the area to be selected by the presenters, please read the notice below.

At the 1997 POD Annual Conference, some of the sessions will be part of an experimental track. The idea is to organize a block of sessions into a coherent track designed to present the state of the art in a particular area of faculty-instructional-organizational development. The block will be clearly labeled in the POD Schedule as "The Scholarship of Practice: Focus on [NAME OF THE AREA will go here]." With this notice we are seeking presenters who might be interested in coordinating their presentations into a block.

What kind of topics are we thinking about? Medium-sized topics that are not too large to be coordinated into a block. The sessions in this block, like all POD sessions, would be interactive, engaging, and would focus on aspects of our practices rather than on theory. Here is a list of examples, although it is by no means exhaustive: student cognitive development, evaluative feedback to teachers, computer-assisted instruction, peer teaching, systematic design of instruction, distance methods, assessment in courses, programs, and institutions, academic advising, small
group teaching, large group teaching, supervision of theses, evaluation of students, interactive learning, cooperative learning, teacher-student relationships, teaching critical thinking, teaching with case studies, and evaluating faculty performance.

If you are interested, here are the guidelines for presenting within the “Scholarship of Practice” block.

1. Send your proposal to us, the Research Subcommittee (contact person Richard Tiberius, chair), rather than to the usual conference program chair. Note that this is an early call for proposals. The general call for proposals will be mailed early in 1997.

2. If you have an idea of who else may be a useful contributor to your block, please tell us so that we can contact them and facilitate your interaction. If you do not have others, the Research Subcommittee may be able to put you in contact with other presenters who are interested in a similar topic so that you can work as a team.

3. Through e-mail, fax, or phone you will cooperate with the other presenters, comparing your practices, reconciling them with one another, and agreeing to divide up the topic and the sessions in such a way that the block will represent a balanced picture of this area of practice, eliminating overlap and explaining disagreements.

4. As a team you will choose an editor who will coordinate the writing of a review of the evidence in support of the topic. This review will subsequently become a publication (perhaps in TIA or Jossey-Bass’ New Directions). At the end of the review will be a list of the most promising next research to be done in the area or the unanswered questions for research in this area.

We hope to be hearing from you,

Richard Tiberius, chair
On behalf of the Research Sub-Committee of POD
Core Committee Elections

An outstanding group of individuals self-nominated to serve on the Core Committee. Five new Core Committee members were elected by the general membership: Laura Border, Lesley Cafarelli, Michael Hester, Karin Sandell, and Roger Sell were elected to 3-year terms. Congratulations to these new Core Committee members!

Members were also asked to nominate a President Elect. The Nominations and Elections Committee will report the results of this election in the next newsletter.

Information Request

The Membership Committee wants to know about your years of service with the POD organization. This is the number of years you have been a dues paying member, attended conferences, participated in organization activities, etc. We want to build a membership data base to determine whom we retain, and to provide recognition for loyal members who have devoted 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service to POD. Thank you in advance for helping us. Please send your information to David Graf at his mailing address, fax, or email address: POD Network, Iowa State University, 15B Exhibit Hall South, Ames, Iowa 50011, F: 515-294-6024, dgraf@iastate.edu.

POD Joins ICED

At its meetings during the 1996 fall conference, the Core Committee decided that POD would formally join the International Consortium for Educational Development. ICED was established in 1993 to link educational development networks in higher education around the world. ICED’s current members include networks in Great Britain, Australia, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, France, Canada, South Africa, and Spain. It publishes the International Journal for Academic Development and the International Yearbook for Educational Development, sponsors a web site, DEliberations (www.lgu.ac.uk/deliberations/), and hosts international faculty development conferences. The next conference is scheduled for April 1998 in Austin, TX.

ICED’s main goals, as expressed by ICED’s governing council in 1996, are to: help partner organizations develop their capacity for educational development in higher education through the sharing of good practice, problems and solutions; enlarge the number of ICED partner organizations; help educational developers in countries where no national network exists to form such a network; support educational development in higher education in developing countries; and provide a link with other national and international organizations. As a large international network in the US and Canada, POD will play a key role in the development of ICED and will benefit greatly from the work and expertise of our colleagues around the world.

Your Thoughts on POD

To provide for some member communication during the annual Business Meeting, held during the Snowbird Conference, the Core Committee used the popular “minute paper” format. Members were asked to comment on what POD is doing well, not doing so well, and to provide suggestions for action. Their responses are summarized below.

Organizational issues handled well by POD
1. Good networking through the electronic mailing list
2. Diversity is a good issue for the organization to address, HBUC & tribal colleges
3. Great publications in faculty development
4. Good support system for new developers and membership in general
5. Provides focus for new developers and serves as an advocate for faculty development

Organizational issues POD can improve
1. Focus more on OD
2. Adopt a more proactive approach in higher education circles
3. Move toward a leadership role: become an advocate organization, invite administrators to participate/attend, support faculty initiatives in higher education, coordinate regional/state organizations, strengthen outreach efforts
4. Conference must become more affordable
5. Specific goals in FD, OD, and ID
6. Refine delivery systems for publications, e-mail, etc.
7. Focus on the specific needs of smaller centers at smaller schools
8. Identify and address needs of various size centers with diverse office configurations
Bright Ideas

The Bright Idea Award gives POD members an opportunity to share the best in the academy and to honor those who offer inspiration to others. A "Bright Idea Booklet," combining this year's entries with those submitted in 1995, will be mailed to all members in the spring. Additional ideas are welcomed. Please submit your bright ideas by completing the enclosed form and sending it by January 15, 1997 to Barbara J. Millis. Barbara's address is HQ USAFA/DFE, USAF Academy, 2354 Fairchild Dr., Suite 41525, USAF Academy, CO 80840-6200.

At the conference, Judith Kamber, Northern Essex Community College, received the POD Tiffany Lamp for her idea of uniting "town and gown" through visits to private homes where adult students could share with faculty what their educational opportunities have meant to them and their families. The following people received candles: Glenn Erickson, University of Rhode Island, for a teaching effectiveness questionnaire resulting in congratulatory letters to 250 different teachers; Linda Nilson, Vanderbilt University, for a workshop on "Assessing Teaching as Scholarship," and Michael Sweat, University of Oregon, for developing a web site with academic resources culled from interviews with "technology pioneers."

The selection committee was chaired by Barbara J. Millis, of the U.S. Air Force Academy. The other members of the committee were Many Ann Bowman, Western Michigan University; Nancy Chism, The Ohio State University; Vicki Clegg, Kansas State University; Jim Greenberg, University of Maryland at College Park; Liz Miller, Texas A & M University; Stephanie Nickerson, New School for Social Research; and Don Wulff, University of Washington.

Regional Association Overview

Many POD members pursue their own professional growth at various times of the year through participation in a regional association. A regular feature of this newsletter will be a brief overview of one of those associations. (Please send items on your regional group to Mary Everley, POD News editor.) Listings containing information on regional association meeting times will be a feature of the POD home page, once it is mounted.

The first regional association to be highlighted is the Southern Regional Faculty and Instructional Development Consortium. This is an organization whose members come from about thirty faculty and instructional development programs in two- and four-year institutions in the South. The Consortium's Annual Sharing Conference is a three-day meeting hosted by a member institution (see conference section for details on this year's conference.) The association also maintains an electronic mailing list, a newsletter, and a directory of faculty and instructional development speakers and workshop facilitators.

Information about the Consortium can be obtained from Executive Committee Chairperson Linda Nilson, Director of the Center for Teaching, Box 1537, Station B, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37235, 615-322-7290, or nilsonlb@ctrvax.vanderbilt.edu.

An Invitation to POD Retirees for Membership Emeritus/Emerita

If you are retiring from your position at your institution this year or are already retired, and if you have been a POD member for at least five years, POD wants to recognize your accomplishments and contributions. You are invited to apply for POD Member Emeritus/a status. To receive this recognition, please fill out the accompanying application form and return it along with a description of your accomplishments to the POD Manager of Administrative Services at the address on the bottom of the form. Just as POD members nominate themselves for the Core Committee, please do not be timid about identifying yourself as a retiree!

What are the benefits of being designated as a Member Emeritus or Member Emerita (M.E.)? As an M.E., you

- receive membership at reduced dues rates ($40 for 1997-98) and remain a full member in POD.
- will be eligible for special conference registration rates (1/2 regular member rate or same as the student rate).
- continue to be listed in the directory; receive the directory, the newsletter, and To Improve the Academy.
- receive ten percent off all other POD publications.
• will be recognized in the POD Newsletter and at the POD Annual Conference.

• receive a certificate of your emeritus status.

WWW Workings

Pages on Practice

"Pages on Practice" will be a section of the POD World Wide Web homepage devoted to linking users with sites containing resources on professional development practice. Examples of such resources would be case studies, instruments, workshop designs, handouts, bibliographies and lists of key print and media titles, responses to commonly asked questions about professional development in higher education or teaching and learning in higher education, and other helpful information. If you have a posting on your home page or know of a site that should be linked, please send this information to Steve Richardson (stevenr@iastate.edu). Submissions will be reviewed before the link is established. Pages are particularly sought on the following topics: teaching portfolios, peer evaluation of teaching, student evaluation of teaching, active learning, cooperative/collaborative learning, working with departments in delivering faculty development, consultation skills and practices, designing workshops, program evaluation, large group teaching, learning theory, and student assessment.

New Home Page

Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education:
http://192.211.16.13/katlinks/washcntr/home.html

Conferences

• "Changing Graduate Education: The Sixth National Conference on the Education and Employment of Graduate Teaching Assistants," will be held November 6-9, 1997, at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota. TA, international TA, and future faculty developers will come together with administrators, representatives of the professions, and graduate students to consider how the preparation of teaching assistants relates to and can influence impending change in graduate education. POD is a co-sponsor of the event and POD members have taken an active role in conference planning; Nancy Chism represented POD, as well as the National Consortium on Preparing Graduate Students as College Teachers, at the national planning meeting for the conference held in Washington, D.C., this past August.

The Sixth National TA Conference will feature plenary speakers and invited guests who will offer perspectives on change in graduate education, a special Saturday parasession by and for graduate student participants, and a programming track for university administrators. In December, POD members will receive the conference call for papers and are especially encouraged to submit proposals which address the conference theme of "change in graduate education," or which apply instructional and organizational development methods, techniques, and findings to the preparation of all TAs and future faculty. For further information or to participate in conference planning and implementation, contact the conference chair, Jan Smith, Preparing Future Faculty, University of Minnesota, Suite 228, 1313 5th St. SE, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414-1546, 612-627-4119, smith004@maroon.tc.umn.edu.

• 18th Annual Sharing Conference of the Southern Regional Faculty and Instructional Development Consortium, March 16-18, 1997, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. Theme: "Teaching in an Age of Accelerated Change: Helping Faculty Handle Change, Maintaining Faculty Vitality, Examining Faculty Roles and Workload." General information: SRFIDC Chair Linda B. Nilson, Director, Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University, Box 1537-B, Nashville, TN 37235, 615-322-7290, nilsonlb@ctrvax.vanderbilt.edu. Conference information/registration and proposals for interactive sessions (due Dec. 13): Paa-Bekoe Welbeck, Associate Vice Provost, Academic Technology, College of William and Mary, P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187. 804-221-2400; F: 804-221-2464; pbwelb@asci.wm.

• McMaster University, Faculty of Health Sciences through the Programme for Faculty Development, reg-
ularly offers the following workshops on Problem Based Learning. The workshops are suitable for non-health sciences educators and are applicable to various levels of education (e.g. high school).

**Problem Based Learning in Small Groups.** (to experience problem based learning from the student’s perspective and gain an understanding of the rationale of PBL) April 28-29, 1997 and October 14-15, 1997.

**Role of the Tutor in Small Group Learning.** (to experience the role of the tutor as a facilitator and evaluator of student learning) April 30-May 1, 1997 and October 16-17, 1997.

**Visitors’ Workshop (An Overview).** (to acquire an understanding of the philosophy of problem based learning and experience this method in small group tutorials with an experienced facilitator. Resource sessions provided on developing learning objectives and preparing cases for problem based learning, role of the tutor, evaluation of students and faculty, and other sessions of interest) June 9-12, 1997 and November 17-20, 1997.

For further information, please contact: Ms. Annette F. Sciarra, Programme Administrator, Programme for Faculty Development, Room 3N51g McMaster University, Faculty of Health Sciences, 1200 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8N 3Z5. 905-525-9140, ext. 22714, F: 905-528-6552, SCIARRA@fhs.csu.McMaster.ca


For further information contact: Martin Rosenzweig, Department of Mathematics Bryant College Smithfield, RI 02917. 401-232-6187, F: 401-232-6319, mrosenzw@research1.bryant.edu

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**New Journal**

Announcing the new International Journal for Academic Development — Available through the POD Network at a substantial savings!

Published in association with the International Consortium for Educational Development (ICED), the International Journal for Academic Development is an authoritative new journal reporting on advances in theory and practice in the fast-growing area of educational development in higher and further education.

The International Journal for Academic Development discusses the development of models and theories for supporting and leading improvements in teaching and learning, and debates current issues at the forefront of educational change. It covers development at all levels, from academic practice to theory, and from the work of individual lecturers and courses to institutional and regional change. Truly international in focus, the journal has wide and direct access to global best practice and current thinking and it emphasizes the international applicability of the accounts and theories presented.

Comprising papers, news, reviews, and letters, this journal is a stimulating and wide-ranging new resource for all those concerned with changing practice in higher and further education, including teachers and lecturers, staff developers, department and faculty heads, policy-makers, and those interested in institutional change.

To receive the POD Network discount, all of the subscriptions must go through the POD Network office. The journals will be sent to the POD Network office at Iowa State University and will be distributed to current subscribers when they arrive. (Regular subscription price - not through POD - is $69.)

The journal is published twice yearly in May and November. Subscription requests must be sent to David Graf by February 1, 1997. (Note: Subscriptions can only be accepted once a year). To subscribe, send your name, address and a check for $28 payable to the POD Network to: David Graf, Manager of Administrative Services, 15B Exhibit Hall South, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.
For additional information about IJAD see the www site listed below:
http://www.lgu.ac.uk/baume/ijed/ijedwww.htm

For a copy of the table of contents for the first issue or for additional information about ICED, contact Karron Lewis at: kglewis@mail.utexas.edu

New Books


Member News

- Emily Decker has been named the new Associate Director of the Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education at The Evergreen State College. Emily was formerly Associate Director for Writing Assessment at the English Composition Board of the University of Michigan, and was instrumental in the process to replace an on-site essay exam for placement in writing with a writing portfolio.
- Carolyn Lieberg, Associate Director of the Center for Teaching at the University of Iowa, has recently published Calling the Midwest Home. The book takes a lively look at the origins, attitudes, quirks, and curiosities of America’s Heartlanders, and is available from Wildcat Canyon Press of Circulus Publishing Group in Berkeley, CA.

FIPSE Participation Opportunity

Additional institutions are sought to participate in a FIPSE-funded Learning Communities Dissemination Project. Applications for participation are due December 30, 1996. Jean MacGregor of the Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education at the Evergreen State College is the project leader. For more information, contact Jean at macgjean@elwha.evergreen.edu.

Call for Manuscripts

To Improve the Academy, the official journal of the POD Network, invites manuscript submissions for the 1997 edition, to be published in October, 1997. See the Call for Proposals included with this copy of the newsletter.

The Journal of Innovative Higher Education invites the submission of manuscripts for consideration for publication in a special issue in volume 22 of the journal, to be published in 1997. The theme is "Values and Ethics in the Academy: Focus — Innovation." For more information contact Kay Herr Gillespie at 150C Lee Road, West Point, New York 10996 or kaygi@uga.cc.uga.edu.

POD Electronic Mailing List

The POD electronic mailing list provides a forum for the discussion of new (and old) ideas about instructional and organizational development. If you are not currently on the list, follow these instructions to subscribe:

Log in to your local campus computer or Internet service provider using your regular electronic mail address.

Send a message to:
pod-request@iastate.edu

Your message should read:
subscribe pod <your electronic mail address>

You should receive a confirmation message from the Majordomo server at Iowa State University. The message will contain additional information about the POD electronic mailing list.
POD Network News Submissions

Thanks go to Nancy Chism, who, among her many POD duties, has been ably editing POD Network News. Nancy has decided to pass on her red pen to Mary Everley. In the future, please submit your news items, preferably via e-mail, to Mary. Her addresses are Preparing Future Faculty, University of Minnesota, 1313 5th Street S.E., Suite 228, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414, everl001@gold.tc.umn.edu

Examples of the types of information that are of interest are the following:
- News of personnel changes, new centers, etc.
- News of books authored by POD members
- News of conferences of interest to POD members
- Position announcements or other opportunities for POD members
- Requests from committees for assistance or ideas
- Professional development programs’ web home page addresses
- Ideas to share

Defining the Field Survey

*Defining the Field*, a membership survey sponsored by the POD Network and conducted by David Graf and Daniel Wheeler, is now available for distribution. This monograph reports the results of a survey conducted during the Spring of 1995 that asked members to respond to questions about their involvement in the POD Network and their satisfaction with POD member services. The second part of the survey asked for personal demographic information and job-related information.

Copies may be ordered by sending a check or purchase order (U.S. funds only) to David Graf, POD Network, 15B Exhibit Hall South, Iowa State University, Ames IA 50011. The cost is $5.00.

For You to Do

- Return:
  - Future Directions survey
  - Years-of-service information
- Send ideas for:
  - Pages on Practice—www page
  - Future conference locations
  - POD Conference block presentation
  - Regional group news
  - March newsletter
- Subscribe to:
  - IJAD
  - POD electronic mailing list
- Become a member of:
  - POD committees
  - Emeritus/Emerita status
- Order a copy of:
  - *Defining the Field* survey
- Submit:
  - An article for *To Improve the Academy*
  - Your “Bright Ideas”

POD Network News is published quarterly by the Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education as a member service of the POD Network. Member contributions are encouraged and should be sent directly to the Editor.

Editor: Mary Everley, Preparing Future Faculty
University of Minnesota
1313 5th Street S.E., Suite 228
Minneapolis, MN 55414
(everl001@gold.tc.umn.edu).

Publisher: David Graf, POD Network
15B Exhibit Hall South
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011
(dgraf@iastate.edu).