President's Column

Dear POD Members,

By way of update on organizational affairs, the Core Committee met in April prior to the ICED Conference (International Consortium on Educational Development). At this meeting, we said good-bye to departing Core members Ed Jensen, Larry Quinsland, Steve Richardson, Christine Stanley, and Richard Tiberius, as well as Marilyn Leach, who has now completed her term as Past President on the Executive Committee. Because of a change in position, Erin Porter had to resign from the Core Committee. By appointment, Beverly Amick will fill this position for the remainder of the term. Beverly has served on the Core before. In accord with our bylaws, we change officers at the end of the spring Core meeting, and Eric Kristensen is now Past President while Jim Eison begins his term as President Elect. POD is dependent upon volunteers, and these people have served the organization and each of us as members in so many ways. Thank you to each of them!

Some of the issues with which we are now dealing include continued refinement of our budget processes, our own organizational development through strategic planning and review of our administrative structure, and continued development and review of our programs and activities. During this administrative year, I also hope that we can engage in reflection upon our organizational values and seek to make them explicit. Plans for an exciting 1998 conference are coming along very well, and you will be hearing a lot more about this wonderful annual event.

The POD Network exists to serve its members in accord with our mission, and your comments or questions about the organization and what we are doing are welcome at any time. I would be delighted to hear from you individually and look forward to working both with and for you!

Kay Herr Gillespie, President

‘98 Conference Registration—Just Do It!

By the time you receive this newsletter, you also may have in hand the Advance Program and Registration Materials for the 1998 POD Conference. Please complete your conference, workshop, excursion, and room reservations early to assure participation. Remember, you will need to make your room reservations directly with the Snowbird Resort and Conference Center.

Many of your colleagues have been at work in preparing an exciting, engaging, provocative, and satisfying conference program. Following are just a few highlights to whet your appetite.

- Eight pre-conference workshops, including “Collaborating to Assess Courses and Programs,” and “Problems with Learning Groups: An Ounce of Prevention.”
- Over 100 concurrent sessions using a variety of formats (presentation/discussion, roundtable, consultation, demonstration, advance book), many of which emphasize the conference theme, “Collaborations, Connections, and Community.”
- Two panels, one on student evaluation of teaching and another on diversity and unity in higher education.
- The ever-popular materials/resource fair, which will be held on Thursday evening, October 15, along with the opening reception and following the newcomers’ welcome and orientation.
- Nine selections of stimulating educational expeditions, including one led by our own PODder/zoologist Lion Gardiner.
- An array of social and recreational activities, including a POD talent show and POD dance.

Just Do It! Register now, while you’re still thinking about this exciting program in a magnificent conference setting among good folks who exemplify the POD spirit. Consider bringing one or more colleagues (and/or international guests) to nurture and promote connections for enhanced development practices on your campus.
National Outreach Subcommittee

POD’s National Outreach Subcommittee is charged with developing collaborative relationships with other national organizations who share our interest in improving teaching and learning in higher education. Over the past year and a half, since the committee was reconstituted at the 1996 conference in Snowbird, we have focused our efforts on collaborating with the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE) and two of its initiatives—the Forum on Faculty Roles and Rewards, and the TLT Group (previously the Office of Technology Projects).

Forum on Faculty Roles and Rewards

We were interested in collaborating with the Forum on Faculty Roles and Rewards because its work on advocating improved institutional climates, incentives and rewards for effective teaching and learning, supports a major emphasis of POD’s mission, and because we thought that faculty developers had an important role to play in advancing the roles and rewards discussion on their campuses. In turn, the Forum and its director, Eugene Rice (a founding member of POD), were interested in working with POD to identify “new voices” and perspectives to contribute to the national conversation on faculty roles and rewards.

For the 1998 AAHE national conference, POD members developed and presented, at Gene’s request, two sessions focusing on teaching issues in the context of the academic department: “Promoting Teaching Excellence: Modest Ways Department Chairpersons Can Make Significant Contributions,” by James Eison, and “Promoting Department-Wide Planning for Integrating Technology into the Curriculum,” by Tom Creed and Susan Kahn. Joan North, Barbara Walvoord and Dan Wheeler also hosted roundtable discussions for faculty developers at the conference. The conference program formally credited POD as cosponsor of these sessions.

To carry out that assignment, we formed a POD TLTR Task Force as an offshoot of the National Organizations Subcommittee. Ultimately, four members of the task force, Tom Creed, Frank Gillespie, Susan Kahn and Karen Sandell, attended the institute and offered two programs: a series of sessions for conference participants who attended as individuals, rather than as part of a campus roundtable team, and a major workshop, “From Early Adopter to Majority: Helping Faculty Adapt to New Technologies.” Again, the institute program credited POD as cosponsor of these sessions. POD will be participating in the 1998 Summer Institute, with a team that includes Tom Creed, Susan Kahn and Devorah Lieberman. This year, the entire conference will be billed as “presented in coordination with POD.” (For more information on the 1998 Summer Institute, see the announcement in the Conference section of this newsletter.)

The National Organizations Subcommittee plans to continue its collaborative work with AAHE and hopes to foster similar collaborations with other organizations. The committee is looking for members interested in working actively with specific organizations to develop collaborative relationships and activities. If you’d like to volunteer, please contact Susan Kahn, Chair of the Subcommittee, at 1608 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, telephone 608-263-2722, or e-mail her at skahn@ccmail.uwsa.edu.

POD Committee Chairpersons

The POD Network has several standing committees, as well as ad hoc committees, that engage in valued aspects of our organizational work. The committees and their chairpersons for 1998-99 are listed below. Your interest in any of these committees is welcomed. Please contact the appropriate chairperson. (See your 1998 Membership Directory & Networking Guide for address information.)

Archives Committee - Joyce Povlacs Lunde
Diversity Commission - Christine Stanley
Executive Committee - Kay Herr Gillespie
Finance Committee - Lesley Cafarelli
Grants Committee - William Rando
Long Range Conference Planning Committee - James Groccia
Membership Committee - TBA
Nominations and Elections Committee - Eric Kristensen
Outreach Committee - Eric Kristensen
International Organizations Subcommittee - Karron Lewis
Regional Organizations Subcommittee - Susan Kahn
National Organizations Subcommittee - Richard Hood

TLT Group

The TLT Group, a private non-profit organization affiliated with AAHE, provides conferences, workshops and consultation on issues of technology and higher education. In particular, it helps campuses develop teaching, learning and technology roundtables (TLTRs)—groups that work on campus-wide planning for/discussion of integrating technology into teaching and learning. Our collaboration with the TLT Group was initiated jointly by POD and the group’s president, Steve Gilbert, who asked for our assistance with several components of the 1997 annual TLTR Summer Institute sponsored by his office.
Regional Association Overview

Chicago Area Faculty Development Network Continues Collaborative Efforts

The Chicago Area Faculty Development Network (CAF DN) was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the staff at the Searle Center for Teaching Excellence at Northwestern University who wanted to bring together people who were interested in faculty development. The focus was on Chicago-area institutions of higher education, extending as far as Indiana and Wisconsin. What began as a series of lunches at Northwestern, evolved quickly into CAFDN’s current configuration: an association of individuals dedicated to serving faculty development specialists, colleges and university faculty and administration, and academic support staff at schools principally in the Chicago region, but serving a four state area. DePaul University, through the College of Commerce’s Program for the Enhancement of Teaching, has taken a leadership role in calling members together and hosting meetings and conferences.

CAFDN offers programs designed to foster professional growth and renewal by giving attention to new classroom methodologies and to issues in faculty development. The first CAFDN conference, “Perfecting the Craft: New Ideas for Excellent Teachers,” was held in November, 1996, with nearly 200 attendees. The second annual conference, held in November, 1997, carried the same theme. (This theme remains a central goal for the organization.) The feedback on the workshops offered this year was, again, extremely positive. The planning for the November 6, 1998, conference, to be held again at DePaul University, is already underway.

Profits from the conference will support various faculty development programs for CAFDN institutions. These joint programs will allow the individual institutions to take advantage of more well-known presenters and a greater range of topics.

Members of CAFDN have noted the advantages of sharing ideas and problems with fellow faculty developers, and the additional incentive of offering their own faculty a broader range of faculty development opportunities in our own geographical area. There is great enthusiasm for current CAFDN activities, and even more enthusiasm about future possibilities for this consortium.

Wanted: Bright Ideas

Wanted: Bright ideas on teaching, consulting, workshops, and organizational development. Prefer original ideas with high impact and transferability. No age, gender or racial preference. All qualified applicants will be published in the annual publication. Some exceptional applicants will receive awards!

To apply, please send a one-page application stating how your idea meets the award criteria. Applications should be sent to: Tara Gray, Department of Criminal Justice, Box 30001/Dept. 3487, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8001, Phone 505-646-1013, Fax 505-646-2827, e-mail: tgray@nmsu.edu. All applications received after October 1, 1998, will be graciously accepted as applications for 1999.

Reviewers Sought

To Improve the Academy is seeking reviewers for its 1998 edition. TIA has fifteen reviewers, each of whom serve two-year terms. Six reviewers will be selected this year. If you are interested in serving in this role, see the enclosed form.

Web Address Update

• Please note the updated address for The Center for Instructional Development and Research (CIDR), University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
  http://weber.u.washington.edu/~cidrweb/
• The Center for the Advancement of Teaching & Learning at Valdosta State University has a new WWW site:
  http://chiron.valdosta.edu/catl/
ICED Conference

The Second Conference of the International Consortium for Educational Development (ICED) convened from April 19 to 22. This event was co-sponsored by the POD Network and hosted by the Center for Teaching Effectiveness at The University of Texas at Austin.

Two hundred participants from universities as far away as Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Japan, England, and Germany, and as close as Austin and El Paso, Texas, participated in the three-day conference. Of those 200 participants, approximately 100 were from outside the United States. Over 80 workshops, interactive seminars, and papers were presented on topics related to faculty development within departments and disciplines. To view abstracts of conference sessions and find out more about ICED, please see: http://iced.cte.utexas.edu:8001.

The next ICED Conference is scheduled for the year 2000 in Bielefeld, Germany. The conference theme has not yet been chosen, so if you have suggestions, please contact Karron Lewis (kglewis@mail.utexas.edu). Karron will pass those ideas along to Wolff-Dietrich, the organizer for the 2000 conference.

Conferences

• Faculty Development Summer Institute, “Teaching in the Active Voice: Enhancing the Teaching Experience in Higher Learning,” August 2-6, 1998, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, presented by the Department of Extension and Summer Sessions, University of Prince Edward Island. For more details on the Institute, contact Anna I. Sawicki, Assistant Director, Extension and Summer Sessions, University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, PEI C1A 4P3 Canada, telephone 902-566-0689, fax 902-566-0451, e-mail sawicki@upei.ca, or check this web site: http://www.upei.ca/~extensio/FDSI98.htm.

• Teaching, Learning and Technology Summer Institute, July 11-14, Phoenix, Arizona, sponsored by The TLT Group, the technology affiliate of the American Association for Higher Education, in coordination with POD. For information, contact Kristy Church, The TLT Group, One Dupont Circle, Suite 360, Washington, DC 20036, telephone 202-293-6440, ext. 51, or e-mail church@tltgroup.org.

Member News

• Meggin McIntosh has been named the Director of the new Excellence in Teaching Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. In May, Meggin will be awarded with the second annual Regents Teaching Award for the University and Community College System of Nevada.

• Mary Deane Sorcinelli, Associate Provost for Faculty Development and Director of the Center For Teaching at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, has been named a visiting scholar to the American Association of Higher Education. She will work with Gene Rice, Director of the Forum on Faculty Roles and Rewards.

POD Members Emeritus/Emerita

At the Core Committee meeting in April, the following individuals were approved for POD Member Emeritus/Emerita status in recognition of their long service and outstanding accomplishments within POD and the field of professional development in higher education. We extend our warmest congratulations to them!

C. C. Bender, University of Hawaii
William E. Cashin, Kansas State University
Linc. Fisch, Independent Scholar
Madelyn M. Healy, Kean University of New Jersey
William J. McKeachie, University of Michigan
Richard J. Nichols, Kean University of New Jersey
Alvin M. White, Harvey Mudd College

International Journal Academic Development

POD Network members may subscribe to this journal at a reduced group rate. Your subscription will bring you two issues of this journal, one in the Fall, and one in the Spring. To subscribe, complete the enclosed subscription form and mail to the POD office.

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