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POD Network News, September 1998

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President's Column

As fall rolls around, not only do we once again enjoy the excitement of going “back to school,” we also intensify preparations for the annual POD conference. So much is going on behind the scenes to assure that you have as pleasant and productive an experience as possible.

To conduct the business of our organization, the POD Core Committee meets twice a year—once in conjunction with the fall conference, and then again in the spring, generally prior to the AAHE conference. POD’s membership is growing, reflecting the health and vitality of the organization and the importance of its mission. Related to this growth, is an increased complexity in our business needs and services.

There are exciting things happening, as you will note in the article on new publications. To address the increased complexity and the legal necessities of doing business, we are currently reviewing and improving our budgeting process and accounting procedures, reviewing POD policies and bylaws, strengthening our committee structure and activities, and reviewing publications and publishing arrangements. These and other matters will be considered at the fall meeting.

The focus of POD is one of service to its members. Indeed, that wonderful word, service, is at the heart of our mission. It is our organizational business to serve you, our members, collectively and individually. If any of you has an issue, concern, or question that you would like considered by the Core Committee, or that you might like explained, please contact me privately. I am glad to talk to you individually at any time. You can reach me at the address or phone in the directory, or by e-mail at kaygi2@aol.com. I hope to see you at the conference!

Kay Herr Gillespie, President

New Publishing Activities

POD publications have been well received for many years. In response to membership needs and external interests appropriate to its mission, POD will continue to grow in this area.

An example of this growth is the new “Teaching Excellence Essay Readings Packets.” The packets are organized by topic and are designed for use in workshops, seminars, classes, and individual consultation. The packets are comprised of essays from the series of past years. (If you did not receive a brochure describing the packets, please contact POD at the address given on the back of the newsletter.)

We are also pleased to announce that POD has just completed an agreement with the National Education Association to provide a monthly article on matters of teaching and learning for their publication, The Advocate. The higher education membership of the NEA is 87,000 faculty members, and this is a marvelous opportunity to reach a very large number of persons. To oversee the logistics of the arrangement, we have established the NEA Editorial Review Team consisting of the editor of the Essays on Teaching Excellence (Kay Herr Gillespie), the President–Elect (James Eison), and the co-chairs of the Publications Committee (Art Crawley and Devorah Lieberman).

Diversity Dimensions

The Diversity Commission of POD has been hard at work for several years, and its accomplishments in the area of recruitment and retention are considerable. Since 1994, upon recommendation of the Diversity Commission, POD has awarded grants for attendance at the annual conference by persons working in faculty, instructional, or organizational development at underrepresented institutions. This includes historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), native American tribal colleges, and Hispanic serving institutions (HSIs) or Hispanic area colleges and universities (HACUs). Under the auspices of the grant program, 33 persons from 31 institutions have been able to attend the conference, and over one-half have returned. In addition, POD has funded three Diversity Internship Grants.
These accomplishments are due to the efforts of the Diversity Commission, which is ably chaired by Christine Stanley. Other members of the Commission are Lesley Cafarelli, Elisa Carbone, Virgie Chattergy, Peter Frederick, Jim Greenberg, Michael Hester, Edelma Huntley, Kyla Macario, Stephanie Nickerson, Terrie Nolinske, Helen Rallis, Bill Rando, Shari Saunders, Diane vom Saal Williams, and David Zierath. For more information on the activities of the Commission, contact Christine Stanley at stanley.5@osu.edu.

Regional Association Overview

The Great Lakes Colleges Association

Although the Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA) is a consortium of only 12 small liberal arts colleges in Indiana, Michigan and Ohio, it was an early and continuing leader in faculty development, innovative learning and teaching, and Black and Women's Studies. GLCA was founded in the early 1960s to support the work of faculty and administrators who found themselves isolated in small departments and colleges. Its primary purpose was to centralize opportunities for international study and other off-campus programs for the students of the 12 campuses.

In 1973, the GLCA received a Lilly Endowment grant for faculty development, and in the mid-seventies, piloted a wide range of summer workshops and weekend term-time programs addressing instructional development, institutional development, and personal and professional development. The first director of the GLCA Faculty Development Program, Steve Scholl, was also a founder and leader of POD. Among the early consultants of the GLCA program were Joan North, Bette Erickson, Gene Rice, Claude Mathis, and Jack Noonan.

One result of the Lilly soft-money years was the establishment of a variety of models of faculty development: teaching and learning committees (sponsoring the familiar array of activities offered by centers in larger institutions), half-time released faculty development consultants, mentoring programs for new faculty, and even Dean's office sponsored workshops on innovative pedagogy and student learning. A second outgrowth was the development of programs in Women's Studies and Black Studies.

The most significant outcome of the original program, distilling what was learned from those highly experimental first summer workshops, has been the creation of the GLCA annual one-week workshops on course design and teaching, “Reaching Our Students,” and “Engaging Cultural Differences.” At the core of the workshops are the two central goals and activities of designing or redesigning a course and microteaching. The workshops are open to participants from outside the 12 GLCA colleges and are led by a staff of dedicated teachers from small liberal arts colleges.

More Bright Ideas, Please!

Wanted: Bright ideas on teaching, consulting, workshops, and organizational development. Original ideas with high impact and transferability preferred. All qualified applicants will have their work published by POD. Some exceptional applicants will receive awards at the annual awards ceremony! Ideas will be judged on the bases of originality, impact, and transferability.

To apply, please send a one-page typed description stating how your idea meets the award criteria. Applications should be sent to: Tara Gray, Fax 505-646-2827, or e-mail tgray@nmsu.edu. All submissions must be received by October 1, 1998.

Conferences


• New England Faculty Development (NEFDC) Consortium Fall Conference, November 13, 1998, Hogan Conference Center, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. For further information, available in late September,
check the following web site: http://www.umass.edu/cft/nefdc.htm, or e-mail Matt Ouellett, Program Chair, at cfteach@acad.umass.edu.


• Spring Lilly Conferences on College & University Teaching: Lilly-West, March 5-7, Lake Arrowhead, California; Lilly-South, March 12-14, Athens, Georgia; and Lilly-Atlantic, April 16-18, Towson, Maryland. For further information check the International Alliance of Teacher Scholars’ web site, http://www.iats.com, or contact Laurie Richlin at Alliance@IATS.com.

Member News

• Linda B. Nilson became founding director of the Office of Teaching Effectiveness and Innovation at Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina on August 1. She moved from Vanderbilt University, where she directed the Center for Teaching.

• Myra Wilhite leaves the Teaching and Learning Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln this fall to return to her tenure home in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR).

Position Announcement

The University of Minnesota Duluth invites applications for a full-time 12-month position as Dean of the College of Education and Human Service Professions (CEHSP) beginning July 1, 1999. The Dean is responsible for academic leadership of the College, administration of ongoing programs and resources, program development, development and maintenance of effective linkages with the community including fund-raising strategies, and maintenance of productive administrative relationships at UMD and with other units of the University of Minnesota system. The Dean also provides leadership required to continue national accreditation of the College’s programs.

Formal review of applications will begin December 1, 1998, and continue until the position is filled. Additional information may be obtained from and completed applications mailed to: Chair, CEHSP Dean Search Committee, 125 Bohannan Hall, University of Minnesota Duluth, 10 University Drive, Duluth, MN 55812-2496.

Center Updates

• Dalhousie University’s Office of Instructional Development and Technology (OIDT) is in the midst of some exciting staffing and structural changes. Carol O’Neil has left her position as Research and Program Coordinator to become the Manager of Instructional Media Services (IMS). The OIDT is conducting a national search for the newly created position of “Director, Instructional Development Services.” The new director will work closely with Alan Wright, who is Executive Director of the OIDT.

• The International Alliance of Teacher Scholars has moved. The Alliance can now be reached at the following address: International Alliance of Teacher Scholars, California State University - San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407, telephone 909-880-7531, fax 909-880-7532.

Future Newsletter Items

Please submit your news items for the December issue by November 6, 1998. Pieces should be sent to Mary Everley at everl001@gold.tc.umn.edu., or at Relocation Assistance Program, Office of Human Resources, 200 Donhowe Building, University of Minnesota, 319 15th Avenue SE, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455-0106. (E-mail is preferred.) 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
Four Ways to Communicate With the POD Network

By telephone:
912-293-6178
(8:00-5:30 M-Th; 8:00-3:00 Friday,
Eastern Standard Time)

By email:
podnet@valdosta.edu

Via our WWW site:
http://www.podnetwork.org

Via our electronic mail list:
To subscribe, send a message to
listproc@valdosta.edu

Message = sub pod <your real name>
POD CORE COMMITTEE, 1999-2002
SELF-NOMINATION FORM

Please use this form to self-nominate for the 1999-2002 Core Committee. **NOTE: WE WILL INCLUDE ON THE BALLOT ONLY WHAT YOU PRINT INSIDE THE THICK BLACK LINES. YOUR SUBMISSION WILL BE PHOTOCOPIED EXACTLY AS YOU SUBMIT - IT WILL NOT BE RETYPED. FACSIMILE COPIES DO NOT REPRODUCE WELL, SO PLEASE MAIL YOUR NOMINATIONS TO THE ADDRESS SHOWN BELOW.**

Nominations must be received by November 20, 1998. Send this form to:

David Graf  
Manager of Administrative Services  
POD Network  
Valdosta State University  
Valdosta GA 31698-0840