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Janet K. Poley biography & curriculum vita

Janet K. Poley

American Distance Education Consortium

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CURRICULUM VITA

JANET K. POLEY

President/CEO

American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC)

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. - University of Nebraska-Adult and Continuing Education 1975
- Dissertation Topic: The Development and Validation of Instructional Videotapes to Assist in the Training of Nutrition Educators: Supported with funds from the Swanson Center for Nutrition, Inc.
- M.S. - University of Nebraska-Nutrition 1971
- B.S. - University of Nebraska-Journalism(Broadcasting)/Home Economics 1966

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1994-Present

Janet Poley just retired as CEO and President of the American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC) an ancillary of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a 501(c)3 incorporated in Nebraska. She has developed collaborative distance education initiatives and conducts research and education programs related to technology access and applications with state and land-grant university members and international affiliates. She was a pioneer in the use of video, satellite and digital technologies to create access to higher education of all types. She has worked in more than 40 countries to develop agricultural education and communication programs and maintains a large network of associations with global distance education leaders. As ADEC President she organizes and plans the program for annual ADEC Board meetings, Program Panel and Annual Conference in various locations throughout the United States. (This past year's conference was held at the University of Maryland, featuring the President of the University of Maryland System as keynote speaker. In her role as CEO and President of ADEC, she has served as Principal Investigator and manager of grants involving member institutions including a \$5 million National Science Foundation grant for advanced networking and applications including work on rural broadband as well as distance education and digital libraries in China. She was Co-PI on an NSF start-up program in Human Language Technology, a collaboration between the U.S. and Moroccan institutions. She was awarded and managed domestic and international distance education, digital library and scientific and technical exchange programs for the U.S. Department

of Agriculture including the multi-year Agricultural Telecommunications Program, Scientific and Technical Exchange Programs in communication and food safety with China and a cooperative agreement with the National Agricultural Library (NAL) and the Universidad de Concepcion (UDEC) in Chile. Other major grant activities have been with the Department of Commerce to develop distance education infrastructure nationally and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for the Minority Scholars Program and the Strategic Use of Online Learning cooperating with APLU-serving as senior review for the final project paper. Other grants have related to use of education and technology for personal, professional and community growth and development. She is currently managing a number of agreements with international institutions and organizations in Mexico, Latin America, the Caribbean and China. She served on the APLU committee fostering cooperation in higher education in Africa, including by distance. She is a professor with courtesy appointments in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources: Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication; College of Education and Human Sciences and the College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Poley is currently providing national leadership in distance education policy as a member of the leadership team for the Sloan financed APLU Commission on the Regulations of Distance Education, including State Authorization. She currently represents ADEC on the National eLearning Alliance (NeLA) founded this past year to address current and future policy issues and the research agenda for distance education and prepare for the re-authorization of the Higher Education Authorization Act.

She is Treasurer and a member of the Sloan Consortium Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and during 2012 serves on its Research and Annual Conference Steering Committee (regular presenter and Co-Chair of the Invited/Featured sessions). She produced and hosted the national research symposium on the research base for scaling online learning collaborating with UNL Ed Media. She also was one of four presenters on the national videoconference on eLearning Policy. She is a member of the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Distance Education, a reviewer for the Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks (JALN) and occasional reviewer for other journals in distance education, elearning, adult education, extension and outreach. She is a regular participant in NSF sponsored workshops related to creating access and success through use of adult education methods and technology in a variety of cultural settings. She serves on federal grant review panels at USDA (rural development, distance education and Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and NSF the most recent on Developing Small Scale Learning Technologies. She is frequently asked to consult with senior leaders at state and land universities, as well as Commissions of Higher Education in other states.

She served on the Board of Directors for the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame (ACEHOF), serving as its treasurer, chair (2011) and past chair. She initiated the planning for an IHOF Virtual Hall of Fame and serves on the development committee.

Poley is a native of Nebraska City and has worked closely with UNL programs in a variety of ways including teaching in the College of Journalism distance masters program; invited speaker, workshop participant, host family to international participants from Russia, Siberia, Japan, Ecuador, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Finland and Tanzania; advisor to departments and student

clubs; a UNL Master, and member of Cather Circle. Last year she established a UNL Foundation program to support student programs within IANR.

1989-1994

Poley served as *Director and Deputy Administrator for Communication, Information and Technology (senior executive service)* at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She was a member of the National Science Foundation chaired Federal Networking Council, worked closely with the White House in establishing the first U.S. government Internet service and produced numerous national satellite teleconferences. She also pioneered the use of online information technology to assist in disaster recovery during state emergencies. In addition, she was a member of the first team sent by the U.S. Government to Poland after the fall of communism to develop a plan for an Extension Service. She participated in numerous education and development international activities in Europe, Asia, Middle East and Africa, including work on the Organization for Economic and Community Development (OECD) Information Technology Strategy.

1986-1989

Poley served as *Coordinator of the Development Program Management Center* for the Office of International Cooperation and Development in the U.S. Department of Agriculture financed with grant funds from the Office of Science and Technology in the U.S. Agency for International Development. The unit she headed partnered with the University of Maryland-College Park conducting management development training and consultancies in more than 15 developing countries. In addition, her unit was responsible for publication of policy papers and books in development management and sustainable projects and programs. She received the Office of International Cooperation and Development (OICD) International Award of Excellence for her programs.

1980-1986

Poley served as *Project Director and Chief of Party* for the \$9 million Training for Rural Development I and II USAID financed projects in Tanzania. Poley designed this program, a program evaluated as one of the most successful USAID efforts in Africa. During her six years in Tanzania, she worked with senior Tanzanian officials to send more than 200 Tanzanians to the U.S. for long-and-short-term training, including the largest group of senior Tanzanian officials to ever come to the United States for a senior management development program. In Tanzania, the program established rural training centers and worked closely with national, regional and local officials to improve popular participation in programs, improve agricultural and natural resource skills and develop more effective and efficient government programs through the use of a variety of information and instructional technologies.

1975-1980

Poley served as *Assistant Deputy Director for International Training* for the Foreign Development Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She was responsible for the U.S. agricultural participant training program, design and development of in-country training

programs, needs assessment and evaluation. She received a USAID award for cooperation for her efforts to improve programs and working relationships between USAID and the USDA. During this assignment, she began her work in Tanzania and also conducted assignments in the Seychelles and Kenya.

1966-1975

Poley was a *faculty member* at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, moving from being the youngest instructor hired by the University at the age of 20 to a tenured Associate Professor of Agricultural Communication at the time she left for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. At the University of Nebraska, she served as a senior producer at the Nebraska Educational Television Network producing hundreds of television programs including the weekly House and Home, One for the Money-A Consumer Show, The University of Nebraska News, and numerous specials including a series on the state of Nebraska and a program on the Governor's mansion. Poley also produced 15 radio programs a week, taught in the areas of communication, journalism and home economics.

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2010 - Charter Class – Sloan Consortium Fellow
- 2009 - Finalist for Brock International Award in Education
- 2006 - Adjunct Professor - Wuhan University, China
- 2002 - Inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame
- 2000 - Received Mildred B. and Charles A. Wedemeyer Award for Outstanding Practitioner in Distance Education
- 1994 - Named by Federal Computer Week as one of the 100 outstanding information technology leaders in government, business and academia.
- 1994 - Award for Excellence in Distance Education – Agricultural Communicators in Education
- 1992 - Secretary of Agriculture's Award for Individual Efforts toward Diversity
- 1992 - Extension Service Award for Developing Communications Infrastructure
- 1991 - Award for Excellence in Computers - Agricultural Communicators in Education
- 1986 - Special Honor Award for International Work – Office of International Cooperation and Development (OICD) – United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- 1985 - Special Honor Award for International Work – OICD-USDA
- 1983 - Excalibur Award from the US Congress for Outstanding Federal Service: Training for Rural Development Programs in Tanzania

SELECTED RECENT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Board of Directors and Chair, International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame
Board member and Treasurer of Sloan-C International Online Learning Consortium
Member, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)
Committee on Partnerships between African and U.S. Universities
Member of the Creighton University Health Sciences Distance Education Advisory Board

Member of the Board of Advisors for Zamorano University in Honduras
Past Chair of the National Agricultural Library (NAL) of USDA AgNIC Board of Directors
Member of Corporation for Public Broadcasting Committee on Violence Prevention Campaign
Member, Council on Academic Management, eArmyU
Editorial Board for the American Journal of Distance Education
Past member of the Penn State Advisory Board to the World Campus Initiative
Past Member of the Great Plains Network Advisory Committee.

SELECTED RECENT GRANTS and COOPERTIVE AGREEMENTS

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Poley, J. K. – Principal Investigator – USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Peoples Republic of China. Office of Capacity Building and Development (OCBD) Scientific Cooperation Exchange Program (CFDA #10.961). Approved proposal for ADEC Team, (Advanced Learning Technology: Linking U.S. and Chinese Experts for Enhanced Food Safety and Phyto-Sanitary Digital Learning Modules and Training), 2008

Poley, J. K. – Principal Investigator – USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Peoples Republic of China, Scientific Cooperation Exchange Program. ADEC Distance Education and Information Technology Team (March 16-21, 2007)

Poley, J. K. – Principal Investigator – USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Peoples Republic of China Teams – Rural Distance Education. Agreement No. 58-3148-6-098, 2006
\$12,000

Poley, J. K. – Designated Representative for Recipient (ADEC) – Expanding the Utility of the National Agricultural Library Thesaurus (NALT) by Adding Spanish Terminology. Agreement No. 58-8201-5-150, \$10,797.74

Poley, J. K. - Co-Principal Investigator - USDA/CSREES Agricultural Telecommunications Program - Program Agreement No. 2003-45055-01810, \$689,776, 5/15/02-9/30/07

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Poley, J. K. - Principal Investigator – National Science Foundation (NSF)
Advanced Internet Satellite Extension Project. NSF Project #0073240
\$5,285,723, 10/1/00 - 9/30/07

Poley, J. K. – Co-Principal Investigator – National Science Foundation (NSF)
U.S. – Morocco Workshop: Language Technology Research and Education Program: Project Startup and Team-Building, March 2006, Rabat, Morocco. NSF Award #0538906
\$38,520, 10/1/05 – 9/30/06

Poley, J. K. – Co-Principal Investigator – National Science Foundation (NSF)
U.S. – Morocco Planning Visit: Human Language Technology Research and Education
NSF Award #0353201, \$3,100, 4/15/04 – 3/31/06

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Poley, J. K. – Project Coordinator – Sloan Minority Scholarship Grant. Agreement No. B2008-18, \$50,000

Poley, J. K. – Project Coordinator – Sloan Minority Scholarship Grant. Agreement No. 2004-5-49 ALN, \$45,000

Poley, J. K. – Project Director – Sloan Grant – The Power of E-Learning: Seizing the Opportunity. Grant No. B2004-51, \$40,000, 10/1/04-06 *SELECTED PUBLICATIONS*

In Progress:

Poley, J. K., Book, *Building an Inclusive Future for Learning: A Practical Guide for Campuses and Communities*, Higher and Adult Education. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, Inc.

Poley, J.K., Chapter, *Assessment in Online Learning*, A Handbook on Measurement, Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education. Editor: Chuck Secolsky, Routledge, expected publication 2011

Poley, J.K., Chapter, *Financial Planning and Accountability*, Volunteer Management Handbook, Second Edition, Editor: Tracy D. Connors. John Wiley & Sons, expected publication 2011

Poley, J. K. Journal Article, Broadband in the Rural Economy, USDA ERS Think Tank, Washington, D.C., September 30, 2008

Publications in 2008:

Poley, J. K., Chapter, Information Matters: From Delivery to Access for inclusion in Agriculture, The Fuel for Sustainable Economic Development: Proceedings of the 2008 Capitol Hill Forum and Riley Memorial Lecture, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Poley, J. K., Asynchronous Learning Networks: Policy Implications for Minority Serving Institutions and for Leaders Addressing Needs of Minority Learners, *Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks* (JALN) Policy Issue.

Poley, J. K., Globalization in Online Learning, *Handbook of Online Learning*, Second Edition, Sage Publications, Kjell Erik Rudestam and Judith Schoenholtz-Read, Editors.

Book Chapters:

Poley, J. K. (2002) Globalization, Distance Education and Distributed Learning in the Encyclopedia of Distributed Learning, Sage Publications, Inc., Thousand Oaks, CA.

Poley, J. K. (2001) The American distance education consortium: From rural provision to virtual organization(for book titled Leadership and Management in Open and Flexible Learning (pp. 131-138), commissioned by Kogan Page Open Learning Series, London, Donald E. Hanna and Colin Latchem, Editors.

Poley, J. K. (2001) Digital Learning and Libraries: Toward Consortia and Collaboratories in Global Digital Library Development in the New Millennium - Fertile Ground for Distributed Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration. Ching-chih Chen, Editor. China: Tsinghua University Press.

Poley, J. K. (2001) Technology Leadership: Communication and Information Systems in Higher Education *Quarterly sourcebook* (pp. 83-93). George Maughan, Editor. California: Jossey-Bass, Inc.

Poley, J. K. (2000) Building a knowledge marketplace: Best practices to create learning value in cyberspace. *The Nonprofit Handbook*, Second Edition, Management, 2000 Supplement (pp. 71-87). Tracy D. Connors, Editor. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Poley, J. K. (2000) (Leadership in the age of knowledge((pp. 165-183); and Global access to learning: gender, poverty, and race((pp. 239-257), *Higher Education in an Era of Digital Competition: Choices and Challenges* published by Atwood Publications, Madison, WI, Donald E. Hanna, Editor.

Poley, J. K. (1998) Distance learning for not-for-profit organizations: Getting started for *The Nonprofit Handbook*, Management, 1998 Supplement (Second Edition), Tracy D. Connors, Editor. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., pp. 116-137.

Articles:

Poley, J. K. (2007) Lessons Pertinent for Teaching with Computers, *The Clearing House: Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues, and Ideas* (co-author with Roger Hiemstra), Vol. 80, No. 3, pp. 144-148, January/February.

Poley, J. K. (2006) Rural Internet Use Via Broadband Connections: Real Challenges for Lifelong Learning, *PAACE Journal of Lifelong Learning (Pennsylvania Association for Adult Continuing Education)*, Vol. 15, 2006, pp. 85-101 (co-author with Roger Hiemstra).

Poley, J. K. (2005) Lifelong Learning: Distance Education and the Role of Family and Consumer Sciences, *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences*, Vol. 97, Issue 4, November 2005, pp. 3-7.

Poley, J. K. (2004) Digital Inclusion, *Sloan-C View*, The Sloan Consortium, ISSN 1541-2806, Volume 3, Issue 1, Page 4.

Poley, J. K. (2003) Digital Academe: New Media in Higher Education and Learning, book review, *American Journal of Distance Education (AJDE)*, vol. 17, no. 4, 247-249. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. (William H. Dutton and Brian D. Loader, eds., London: Routledge, 2002, 304 pp.).

Poley, J. K. (2002) Moving Forward with Distance Education, *NACUBO Business Officer*, (pp. 18-23), National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), Washington, D.C.

Poley, J. K. (1999) Ten big questions and ten small questions about the impact of technology in contemporary society, *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences: From Research to Practice*, Technology Issue, Volume 91, Issue 3, pp. 38-40

Poley, J. K. (1999) Focusing the distance education blur. Special Issue of *Family Science Review*.

Poley, J. K. and Luis F. Alvarado (1999) World Wide Distance Learning, Keynote Summary in International Council for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport and Dance (ICHPER-SD) Journal, Vol. XXXVI, No. 1, p. 19, Fall 1999.

Poley, J. K. (1998). Distance education for American universities and the world. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* Vol 80, No.5 973-978, Spiro E. Stefanou, Editor. Lawrence, KS: Allen Press.

Poley, J. K. (1998) Leadership in distance education: creating shared leadership environments for distance education in institutional and international settings. *The American Journal of Distance Education*. Michael Grahame Moore, Editor. University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State University, Vol. 12, pp. 16-25.

Papers:

Poley, J. K. (2007) Strengthening Africa's Capacity to Build Capacity Concept Paper (with Mortimer Neufville, NASULGC; Krishna Alluri, Commonwealth of Learning (COL); and Ralph von Kaufmann, (International Livestock Research Institute [ILRI]) at the Africa Round Table, Washington, D.C., May 3, 2007.

Poley, J. K. (2006) Report of Distance Education Consultancy Team to the U.S. Military Academy (USMA) at West Point (with Jonathan Becker, Bard College; Don Goff, University of Maryland University College [UMUC]; and Ken Udas, World Campus, The Pennsylvania State University).

Poley, J. K. (2005) Asynchronous Learning Networks and Organizational Change, Wisdom Paper, *Elements of Quality Online Education – Engaging Communities: Wisdom from the Sloan*

Consortium, pp. 221-228.

Poley, J. K. (2004), Co-author Distance Learning Technology for Enhancing International Cooperation(, Proceedings of The Fifth Conference on American-European Universities Partnerships in Food and Agricultural Research and Education. Sponsored by Interuniversity Consortium of Agriculture and Related Science in Europe/National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, Athens, GA, April 6-9, 2004, p. 18-22.

Poley, J. K. (2003) At the Crossroads: The Long Now! A Future of Possibilities, Wisdom Paper, The Ninth Sloan-C International Conference on Asynchronous Learning Networks (ALN): The Power of Online Learning: Implications for Teaching and Learning, Orlando, Florida, November 14-16, 2003.

Presentations

More comprehensive list of presentations available upon request

2008 - 2012

Multiple presentations as featured sessions at the Sloan Consortium Annual International Meeting; the University of Wisconsin Distance Teaching and Learning Conference; the National Outreach and Scholarship Conference (NOSC); ADEC National and International Conferences; Conferences and Video Presentations to Administration and Faculty at ADEC Member Universities; Capitol Hill Forum and Rural Development Forum - Russell Senate Building speaking to members of Congress, staffers and D.C. Based Organizations and Associations. Facilitated and presented at multiple national webinars for ADEC, Cooperative Extension, the Sloan Consortium, the Coalition for Lifelong Learning Organization and others.

References Available Upon Request