

PHI DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL

Official Newsletter

University of Toronto Chapter

May 8, 2002

Newsletter Highlights

Past President's message

Installation of President

Upcoming events:

Research Symposium

Dinner at Bluffer's Park

Event Report:

Panel on teacher testing

PDK International

President's Message

Member News

It is my honor to introduce you to our newly elected President for 2002-2003, Eleanor Pierre. She has previously served the chapter as Vice President of Program. Eleanor is currently completing doctoral studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

Robert Hookey

The presentation of the gavel marks a new tradition for the University of Toronto PDK Chapter. The gavel was donated to the Chapter by outgoing president, Robert Hookey in recognition of the friendship and support of fellow Kappans during his two years as PDK-UT President.



Past-President Bob Hookey presents the Gavel to President Eleanor Pierre at the PDK - U. of T. AGM 4/02

Photography: Charles Manahan

Plan to be at our June Social. Bluffer's Park, Scarborough. (See flyer insert.)

For information, contact Susan Seidman, T. 416 656 6929

Thinking Outside the Box

Robert Hookey

This has been a successful year for our chapter. We have had an outstanding group of professional educators willing to volunteer their time to the goals of this organization. Thanks go to Rhodes Arnold, Jocelyn Badovinac, Ed Badovinac, Carole Benson, Sharon Carere, David Graham, Mary Hookey, Clay Lafleur, Charles Manahan, Eleanor Pierre, Peter Ross, Bernard Schwartz, Susan Seidman, Eileen Winter, Walter Winchell, Rebecca Ullmann,

During the last year, we have developed strategies that will ensure that we have informed and dedicated elected officers and appointed personnel to carry on the work of the chapter from year to year.

We are using the following strategies:

1. We have formed an executive structure we are calling the *triumvirate*. The members of the triumvirate are the President, Eleanor Pierre; the Vice President of Programming, Susan Seidman; and the Vice President of Membership, David Graham. These executive officers will work as a team and share the work. As a team, they will become acquainted with the duties of all three roles and be able to step into the duties of another role if an officer is not able to perform their duties in either the short or long term.

Another benefit to this structure will be the ease with which the members could move the following year into one of these executive positions with a solid knowledge and skill base. At the end of the academic year, we will report on how effectively the triumvirate structure has worked to achieve these goals.

2. In order to do the volunteer work of the chapter, we believe that “many hands make light work”. We are aware that some members are unable to commit as much time as they would like to important chapter leadership opportunities. However, they may have pockets of time to help as a member of a specific event committee, as a greeter on a program night, a mentor to a new member, or as the person who makes that important personal telephone call about chapter activities to another member. If you can dedicate “pockets of time” to your chapter, we encourage you to become a member of the University of Toronto Chapter’s RESOURCE GROUP. Please respond to the call for Resource Group members that appears below. We look forward to having you join us in the work of our chapter as we celebrate its 47th year of dedication to public education through Leadership, Research, and Service.

Resource Group: Leadership and Service

How does your professional expertise and interest link to leadership opportunities in our chapter? How could you combine opportunities for professional networking with service to the chapter? Please contact Eleanor Pierre with your answer and become part of our Resource Group. Your name will be listed in the Newsletter and on the Web Site. Members of our chapter executive will have information about your contact information and your chapter leadership and service interests.

Eleanor Pierre T. 905-829-0334 E. eleonorpierre@sheridanc.on.ca epierre@oise.utoronto.ca

Congratulations, William Hogarth, PDK-UT Educator of the Year 2002

It seems that everyone agrees that teacher induction for new teachers is necessary and desirable....A valid induction program will cost money. Is the Ministry going to increase funding to boards? Audience question

Eve Proffitt Visits PDK-UT

On November 13, 2001 while on a business trip to Toronto, it was my professional opportunity to attend the University of Toronto PDK Chapter meeting. The meeting was a panel discussion involving four experts from diverse backgrounds addressing teacher certification and competency testing. In the states this is highly debated, but I learned so much from the informative presentations of the presenters. This program allowed each presenter an opportunity to present information from their perspective and then respond to each other as well as questions from the audience. Two hours flew and the panel was called to a halt in the interest of the lateness of the evening hour. Some of the specifics I experienced include the following:

1. The proposal is research-based.
2. Teachers, for the most part, are opposed to competency testing.

TEACHER TESTING PANEL – A HIGH INTEREST EVENT

Can you explain “servant leadership?” How can a test facilitate it? Audience question

Kappans had a unique opportunity to hear a range of perspectives

on teacher testing reform in Ontario. Cecilia Reynolds, Associate Dean, University of Toronto; Paul Anthony, Ministry of Education; Doug Wilson,

3. Higher Education Institutions do not always feel a part of proposals that impact their programs, but have a real desire to be involved.

4. Major players have a great need for more discussion on educational reforms such as this. Failure to do so will diminish the understanding and acceptance of such.

The evening did not end with the presentation. The chapter Kappans stayed and had cookies and tea while informally talking with the panelists and among themselves. What a wonderful opportunity to meet with fellow educators and not only receive wonderful information, but to chat and establish network contacts for a lifetime.

As we are a traveling society, I would encourage all Kappans to visit chapters as they travel. Chapter meetings such as the University of Toronto greatly enhance our expertise in the field, allow opportunity for discussion, and provide a forum for education to network and discuss pertinent issues. As we enter into another year, make a resolution to attend Kappan Meetings. You will only stand to enhance your professional skills.

Eve Proffitt, Ed.D.
PDK International President

Ontario College of Teachers; and Lindy Amato, Ontario Teachers Federation gave informative and detailed presentations. Participants had many more questions for the panel than there was time to answer!

Has a college guarantee been considered? Audience question

Eileen Winter organized the panel and also moderated. Thanks also to Susan

Seidman and Eleanor Pierre who organized the hall and reception.

**Research Symposium:
Collaboration among three key
organizations supporting
educational research in Ontario.**

Kappans Clay Lafleur and Rebecca Ullmann have provided the leadership for a new venture. Three Ontario associations, with members dedicated to increasing knowledge through research, will present a joint symposium, *Making a difference: Promoting and using research and best practice in Ontario*. This event will be hosted by the University of Toronto Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International (PDK), the Association of Educational Researchers of Ontario (AERO) and the Ontario Educational Research Council (OERC).

The Symposium coincides with the meeting of the Canadian Society for

the Study of Education at the University of Toronto.

Join your colleagues!

***Making a difference:
Promoting and using research
and best practice in Ontario.***

Monday, May 27, 2002

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Sesquicentennial Museum,

263 McCaul Street,

**directly behind the Toronto Education
Centre at 155 College St.**

ALL ARE WELCOME

**Check the flyer for more information, or call
Rebecca Ullmann 416 921 0742 or
Bob Hookey 905 936 2643**

May 7 02 Reg and Barbara McKennitt



Photography: Charles Manahan

**Congratulations to
Reg McKennitt,
PDK President 1962-63**

**PDK Member for
45 years**

**90 years young
on May 18, 2002**

**Best wishes to Reg and
Barbara from
Phi Delta Kappa**

**EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS, 2002-2003
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO CHAPTER, PHI DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL**

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