

The Professional
Association in
Education



PDK
International

The Official Newsletter
of
The University Of Toronto Chapter (85)
of
Phi Delta Kappa International

Winter 2005

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Mark this date on your calendar: April 20, 2005

Join fellow Kappans and guests for the presentation of the PDK-UT Outstanding Educator Award, an Initiation and the Annual General Meeting at the Faculty Club, University of Toronto.

(See the back page for information and registration.)

PDK-UT's Outstanding Educator Award 2005 goes to Heather-jane Robertson

The University of Toronto Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International is pleased to announce this year's honoree, Heather-jane Robertson. Ms. Robertson is well-known to us for her "In Canada" column in the *Phi Delta Kappan*. She specializes in exploring the relationship between education reforms and the social, economic and political environments that shape them.

Her career in education has included classroom teaching, working for a provincial teachers' organization and serving as director of professional development for the Canadian Teachers' Federation. Ms. Robertson was named as 'a distinguished educator' of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and has also received the Teacher of the Year Award from the Canadian College of Teachers.

With co-author Maude Barlow, she wrote the 1994 best-seller *Class Warfare: The Assault on Canada's Schools*. Her second book, *No More Teachers, No More Books* deals with the effects of the convergence of slashed budgets, globalization, technology and commercialization on education. Ms. Robertson has contributed chapters to another half dozen books and many articles to professional journals. Her opinions are sought out frequently by media, academics and community activists.

Heather-jane Robertson has run as a federal election candidate, performed a leading role in a theatre production in Ottawa, writes humour (under a pseudonym, of course) and is a regular on a weekly political talk-radio program. In between, she writes for and consults to a number of organizations, and acts as National Vice-President of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. She serves on the Boards of *The Polaris Institute*, the e-magazine *StraitGoods*, and the education journal, *Our Schools / Our Selves*. Her most recent adventure was back-packing in Peru.

Kappans! Be sure to join us as we honour Heather-jane Robertson. Respond to the information on the newsletter's back page today.



Susan Seidman, President,
2003-2005
University of Toronto Chapter,
Phi Delta Kappa International

Our 50th anniversary!

YOU can help make this a success!

While the executive has many plans for the 50th anniversary, these plans will come to naught without people to volunteer to accomplish these jobs. Many thanks to Ron Deson and Bud Dilling who have already volunteered to help work on the anniversary. **Ed and Jocelyn Badovinac** will be spearheading this effort and have developed the following list of jobs. We need quite a few people, and most of the work can be done in bits and pieces well before the event. Other jobs may be short and intense. **Please contact Jocelyn & Ed Badovinac at T. 905-823-2819 or E. edandjocelyn@sympatico.ca** to volunteer your services or make suggestions.

- Membership

- go through old membership lists
- phoners – outreach to past/present members

- Commemorative book

- solicitation of support, letters of congratulations
- photos and editorial work
- layout
- printing
- miscellaneous

- Evening event

- participation in planning
- meeters and greeters
- musical ensemble(s)
- photographer(s), videographer

The President's Message focuses on the Chapter's Future and the Chapter Awards

- *Susan Seidman*

The UT chapter of PDK is now sponsoring a complete range of awards, from Prospective Educators in their final year of secondary school to Doctoral candidates.

Prospective Educator Award The winner of this year's *Prospective Educator Award* is Jenna-Lynn Burns, of Lindsay Ontario, who attends St. Thomas Aquinas School in Lindsay. The text of Jenna-Lynn's essay will be posted on our website. Special thanks to Viv Smith who spearheaded the committee, which truly exemplified PDK's ideal of Service. Viv visited secondary schools near his home in Port Colborne to raise awareness of the award, and carefully and collaboratively developed a decision-making process. The committee, which consisted of Carolyn Moras, Trudy Lum, Sherry Summersides, and John Chard as able back-up, is also considering modifications to the application form to more closely reflect the Ontario situation.

Excellence in Student Teaching Award The *Excellence in Student Teaching Award* is a new one for our Chapter. It has been listed on our website, and is being advertised in Faculties and Colleges of Education. We need several members to read submissions. If you would be able to help, please contact Susan Seidman.

Jackman Award The *Jackman Award*, which was established to honour our Founding President Henry Jackman, is open to students in Ontario educational faculties, including graduate studies. John Myers is co-ordinating this award, and information will be posted shortly.

Recent events Thanks to John Myers and colleague Dr. Ruth Childs of OISE, PDK participated in the OISE-UT Job Fair, advertising the *Excellence in Student Teaching Award*. Representatives from many boards were there from Ontario; from Greater North America such as Los Angeles; and from international opportunities. The students represented quite a range of ages, backgrounds and experiences. UT Chapter of PDK was there to raise awareness of our Chapter and our International organization, and to highlight the Award.

Chapter issues: long term and short term In recent years, energy has been put into reactivating some awards and initiating new ones. New contacts have been made with faculties of education, and old ones reactivated.

However, in the short term, recent events have not been well-supported by our members and the number of initiates has dwindled. It is time to reconsider the program and activities of Phi Delta Kappa, and what an opportunity we have as we come into our 50th year. The executive is working hard on this and would welcome your input. We also would value your attendance at our AGM to ensure that the broadest spectrum of members are aware and have opportunity for input.

Executive The AGM in April is when a new slate of officers is presented and voted in by the membership. The current slate of mandatory officers have been serving a second consecutive term and many will not be seeking re-election. (These positions that need to be filled are President, and Membership). We thank Treasurer Charles Manahan for agreeing to continue in his position. Carolyn Moras has indicated willingness to continue as Foundation Representative. After several years of stalwart work as Newsletter Editor, Mary Hookey is stepping down. The role of the Newsletter is crucial to put a face to the people, activities, and work of PDK.

This is an opportunity for all members of PDK to step forward to ensure the continued success and existence of University of Toronto Chapter.

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Phi Delta Kappa International, University of Toronto Chapter will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at the Faculty Club, University of Toronto for the following purposes:

- .To receive the report of the Treasurer
- .To receive the report of the Nominating Committee
- .To elect officers and Members of the Governing Council for the coming year
- .To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting

Dated: January 30, 2005

Susan Seidman

Our 50th Anniversary October 11, 2005

In 1910, Phi Delta Kappa was formed by the amalgamation of three educational fraternities in the United States. When the University of Toronto Chapter, 85, was formed on October 22, 1955, we made the organization international. Our founding president, Henry Jackman, who served for two years, then continued on the executive for the rest of his life, had wonderful stories of the celebrations and the warm reception our executive received at American events. Dr. Archibald "Cliff" Lewis, Headmaster of U. of T. Schools and Dean of the Faculty of Education, was instrumental in the founding of the chapter and was Kappan # 1, the first amongst the 61 charter members.

*It is time for our 50th anniversary. Plans are underway for a very special reception and dinner on October 11, 2005, starting at 6 p.m. We hope to bring together as many of our members as possible. If you can help, please call **Jocelyn and Ed Badovinac at (905) 823-2819**. We will be contacting people and will continue working on the arrangements.*

Calendar of events 2005

PDK-UT Chapter

February 27 *Trinity Chamber Ensemble Concert*

March 8 *Creative Teaching Strategies with Technology*

April 20 *Annual General Meeting, Outstanding Educator Award and Initiation*

October 11 *50th Anniversary*

The Governing Council of the University of Toronto Chapter, 85, 2004-2005

President: Susan Seidman, 13 Raglan Ave., Toronto, M6C 2K7 T. 416-656-6929 F. 416-656-6929
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RESOURCE GROUP: Rebecca Ullmann, Bev Freedman, Ed Badovinac, Viv Smith, Sheila Bennett, John Myers



University of Toronto, Chapter 85
Phi Delta Kappa International

What: Dinner and Fellowship
Membership Recognition
Presentation of the Outstanding Educator Award to:
Heather-jane Robertson: teacher, writer, researcher, speaker
Annual General Meeting and Initiation

When: Wednesday, April 20, 2005

6:00 p.m. - Social hour

7:00 p.m. - Dinner

8:15 p.m. - Presentations

Annual General Meeting

Where: The Faculty Club, University of Toronto

41 Willcocks St. (east off Spadina, north of College, south of Bloor)

PARKING: At Graduate Residence Building: entrance on Glen Morris St., 1 block N of Spadina and Harbord OR St. George Parking Lot: entrance-103 St. George, N of Harbord St., across from Roberts Library

Cost: Kappans: \$45.00; Guests: \$48.00

Cash Bar

We look forward to seeing you. Bring a guest to share in the fellowship of PDK!

Please make your cheque payable to “**Phi Delta Kappa**” and submit it along with the information below **by Wednesday, April 13, 2005** to: Susan Seidman, 13 Raglan Ave., Toronto, ON, M6C 2K7 (416 656-6929)

..... **Please detach here**

KAPPAN’S Name _____ E-Mail Address _____

Address _____ Phone (____) _____

Guests’ names: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

Number attending April 20, 2005 ____ . Choose: vegetarian dinners ____ chicken dinners _____