

May 2005

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Hart House – Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

Please note the change of date from the Winter 2005 newsletter. So many members remember the terrific Christmas initiation parties in the Great Hall and the October 19<sup>th</sup> was the only time Hart House could accommodate us. Please call, write or e-mail with your special memories so we can create the very best anniversary party possible. Most importantly, plan to come, join friends and help us celebrate. It should be a very special evening. The costs are reasonable. Patrons, whose names will appear in the program, pay \$50.00 for 50 years, with the monies going to help fund new initiates. Student teachers pay \$20.00 and all others pay \$30.00. Please fill in the tear off part of the enclosed flyer and send it with your cheque made out to Phi Delta Kappa to Jocelyn and Ed Badovinac, 1849 Lincoln Green Close, Mississauga, Ontario, L5K 1C4, or call 905.823.2819, or e-mail edandjocelyn@sympatico.ca.

**OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** This spring marks the end of an exciting year at PDK, with several important developments. We strengthened our ties with Faculties and Colleges of Education, which was evidenced by the increased number of applicants for the Jackman award, and the increased number of Universities and Colleges they represented. (See separate article). We initiated a new award, the Excellence in Student Teaching Award, and re-connected with International's Doctoral Dissertation Award. These awards serve to raise our profile at Faculties: indeed, through the work of John Myers and Ruth Childs, we participated in OISE's Professional Preparation Conference, and have joined the Ontario Staff Development Network. We continue to work to upgrade our website, and anticipate that there will be further changes to it next year.

We have benefited from the wisdom of our Past Presidents. In addition to the very successful Past Presidents' Luncheon, we have tapped into their expertise at the Appreciative Inquiry meeting which is helping set the direction for the next 50 years.

Our program meetings reached out to the College and University level with the excellent session by Eleanor Pierre, Megan Jack and Prof. Alan V. Morgan on the challenges and opportunities of distance education. (See the website for notes, thanks to Kari Peters).

The collaboration with the Trinity Chamber ensemble has continued, making a delightful set of evenings that pleased both ear and taste. In addition to hearing a wide range of music, including contemporary Canadian pieces, the event served as a small source of fundraising.  
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Our Outstanding Educator, Heather-jane Robertson, delighted the Initiation evening with a very provocative session. There was a delightful social time prior to the meeting, with opportunity to network, hear flute music provided by Allison Payne, and see the wonderful array of pictures from various PDK events prepared by Carolyn Moras and Pauline Shou. Jocelyn and Ed Badovinac displayed a photo album highlighting the features of Hart House, where our 50th Anniversary celebration will be held. At the AGM, after last year's minutes were adopted, Treasurer Charles Manahan showed the UT-PDK is in a sound financial position. He tabled a proposed budget, and the Treasurer's report was approved. Jocelyn and Ed also had information about the anniversary at each table, and spoke of the plans.

A slate of officers was presented for the 2005-6 year, and they were acclaimed. The new officers were installed by Chapter/Member Liaison John Stewart, who, with his wife Barb, came to support the Chapter.

Our final event of the year will be the social held at beautiful Bluffer's Restaurant on June 9. See the flyer for details.

As this year draws to a close, we wish all PDKers a wonderful summer and hope to see everyone next year.

## NEW INITIATES

**Ruth Childs** is an associate professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE/UT), where she teaches in the Department of Human Development and Applied Psychology and in the Initial Teacher Education Program. Her research focuses on analysis approaches for large-scale testing programs and the impact of testing programs. She is currently working on a project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) studying how Ontario Grade 3 teachers prepare their students for the province-wide standardized tests.

**David Keffer** is an experienced teacher, having taught children, adolescents, adults and seniors in Canada and abroad (United Arab Emirates and the Czech Republic). He has also lived in France and England, and traveled to lots more countries, for the past 15 years. His recently completed B.Ed. at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology has focused his skills more towards intermediate and senior level students, but he loves to teach students of all ages. He is highly computer proficient, and widely traveled, and applies these skills and experiences to his teaching, greatly enhancing the learning environment. In his classroom, he loves to engage his students in the learning process, guiding them to discover methods and solutions, and incorporating many real-world experiences and examples. He, quite simply, loves to teach!



**New Kappans after their Initiation Ceremony**, from left to right, Shelley Thomas, Ruth Childs, David Keffer and Chapter President Susan Seidman.

**Shelley Thomas'** life has been fuller than most. At twenty-eight years of age she possesses a Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature from the University of Western Ontario and Masters in English Language and Literature from McGill University and most recently she has completed a Bachelor of Education from the University of Toronto. At the moment she is completing an internship in Ecuador with a Non Governmental Organization (NGO) that sustains not only a full community development program, but also a fully accredited High School. This is not the first NGO that she has participated in. While studying in London, Ontario, Shelley was a field manager for Greenpeace and a volunteer for OXFAM. She also worked for Cantilevers peacemedia, a publication for a United Nations tribunal held during the Year of the Child. In addition to excelling as both a student and as a humanitarian, Shelley has worked as a teacher in a variety of settings, distinguishing herself as an outstanding educator in each instance. Shelley is a dedicated runner, an extraordinary artist, an opera enthusiast, and an animal lover who caters to her two cats, Marmalade and Maple and her true love, a beagle-shepherd cross who answers to Murphy.



**Outstanding Educator Award Presentation**  
from Susan Seidman to Heather-jane Robertson.



**Excellence in Student Teaching Awards and Committee**, from left to right, Moveta Nanton, Susan Seidman, Shelley Thomas, Pauline Shou and Carolyn Moras.

**OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR**

**AWARD** Each year our chapter selects an Outstanding Educator to be honored at our AGM. The honoree is awarded \$500 for a charity of their choice. Each year the honoree shares insights from their research/ work to share with the AGM audience. Heather-jane Robertson, who writes the "In Canada" column in The Kappan, is a teacher, writer, and researcher with a post graduate degree in Futurism. Futurists look at long term trends. They look at how individual actions aggregate to form trends which may be unanticipated in direction. In her presentation, Heather-jane highlighted:

- \*the increasing privatization of education and the increasing corporate impact
- \*the feminization of education
- \*the earlier and earlier demise of childhood

The use of humour to cloak Heather-jane's serious warnings served to keep the audience focussed and leads to hope through our reflection on our role in meshing these trends with our values of advocating for public education, providing "Research", "Service" and "Leadership" to the educational community. We are celebrating 50 years in October as a PDK chapter; our work for the next 50 is just beginning and Heather -jane's warning reminds us of the importance of PDK members working together. Heather-jane is donating her award to the Education Project of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

**EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT TEACHING AWARD**

University of Toronto Chapter PDK presented a new educational award, "Excellence in Student Teaching" at the AGM. This new award was open to students in an undergraduate education program with a student teaching component. The committee (Carolyn Moras, Moveta Nanton, Susan Seidman) was so delighted with the quality and variety of entrants that two awards of \$100 and a one-year student membership in PDK each were given. Pauline Shou, a student teacher at University of Ontario Institute of Technology was one winner. Shelley Thomas, a student teacher at O.I.S.E. was the other.

Pauline has an undergraduate degree in Biology and Computer Science, has worked for a year as a Special Needs Educational Assistant, was an initiate to PDK last year, and will be our Newsletter editor in the upcoming year.

Shelley has an undergraduate degree in English and History and is currently working with a non-governmental agency in Ecuador.

When the committee saw the problem solving, the creativity, the educational engagement and the endeavours beyond the classroom of the two winners, they were unanimous in the decision of two winners and equally unanimous in the seeing concretely the quality of upcoming educators.

**HENRY JACKMAN AWARD**

The Henry Jackman Award is in honour of Henry Jackman, the first president for the University of Toronto chapter of PDK. The award was established in his memory by John Carrick. The \$500 award is presented to a student attending a faculty / school of education in Ontario.

This year's contest was interesting as we had submissions based on last year's essay topic and this year's topics. Using identical criteria enabled the committee of three (John Myers, Rebecca Ullmann, Susan Seidman) to do a blind assessment of submissions from four Ontario universities. The winning submission comes from Christina Didonato from the University of Windsor. We will be posting her entry on the website.

We hope you enjoy the essay as much as we did. The quality of submissions makes us more confident in the future of teaching in Ontario.





# **CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**

## **PHI DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL**

### **University of Toronto Chapter 0085**

Next year, our chapter will mark its fiftieth year. This grand occasion in the history of the University of Toronto Chapter will be celebrated throughout 2005 - 2006 and many of the 50th anniversary events will be announced in the next issue of our chapter newsletter. Information about the 50th Anniversary Banquet is included with this mailing. **Please respond to the following questions and return the form** so that your executive can have some idea of the likely response to various events and some idea of the willing hands that will help organize and set up our celebrations.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (residence/office)

Contact email address: \_\_\_\_\_

How will you help mark this special year for our chapter? (Check **all** that are appropriate for you)

\_\_\_\_\_ Serve as an officer (No commission in any armed forces necessary.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Serve as a committee member

\_\_\_\_\_ Make phone calls, especially for the 50th Anniversary Banquet

\_\_\_\_\_ Will attend the 50th Anniversary Banquet on October 19, 2005

\_\_\_\_\_ Will bring at least one guest to the 50th Anniversary Banquet

\_\_\_\_\_ Will organize a table of 10 at the 50th Anniversary Banquet

\_\_\_\_\_ Will attend at least one meeting

\_\_\_\_\_ Will attend at least two meetings

\_\_\_\_\_ Nominate at least one person for membership

\_\_\_\_\_ Will help with a chapter project

Comments/Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please **mail** the completed survey to:

**Jocelyn Badovinac, Historian**  
**University of Toronto Chapter 0085**  
**1849 Lincoln Green Close**  
**Mississauga, ON**  
**L5K 1C4**

# Phi Delta Kappa Social



*Great Company, Beautiful Surroundings, Excellent food*

**Thursday, June 9, 2005**

**6:00 pm Mingle**

**6:30 pm Dinner**

Enjoy the stunning views of the Cathedral Bluffs and Lake Ontario.  
Join friends and colleagues at

**"Bluffer's Restaurant"**

**7 Brimley Road S.**

**(416) 264-2337**

You can choose from any of the extensive entrees. Each person will be responsible for his or her bill and there is no cover charge.

In order to help us plan, please reserve a spot by e-mailing **Stephanie Fetterolf** at [stephaniefetterolf@hotmail.com](mailto:stephaniefetterolf@hotmail.com) or phoning (416) 537-6196 by **Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

