

PROGRAM FOR FALL AND WINTER 2007

Global Education Series: Session #2:	Wed. Nov. 21	Pierre Laporte Middle School, 1270 Wilson Ave , between Keele & Jane streets	7:00 PM
Doctoral Dissertation & Initiate Dinner	Fri. Nov. 30	The Host, 14 Prince Arthur Avenue	6:00 PM
Trinity Chamber Ensemble Concert	Sun. Dec. 9	Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd East	7:30 PM
Niagara Falls Get Together	Sun. Dec. 16	Michael's Inn, Niagara Falls, Contact Elizabeth Manker	1 PM Tea 2 PM Concert
Global Education Series: Session #3:	Tues. Feb.12	Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre, 5075 Yonge St.	7:00 PM
Trinity Chamber Ensemble Concert	Sun. Mar. 2	Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd East	7:30 PM
Niagara Falls Get Together	Sat. Mar. 29	Michael's Inn, Niagara Falls, Contact Elizabeth Manker	5 PM Dinner
PDK Book Club	Sat. April 12	Contact Mary El Milosh	5 PM Dinner
Annual General Meeting, Outstanding Educator Presentation and Dinner	Wed. April 23	Faculty Club, University of Toronto 41 Willcocks Street - east of Spadina, north of College	6 PM Social 7 PM Dinner

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Chair of Jackman Award: Ruth Childs

Chair of Doctoral Dissertation Award: Clay Lafleur

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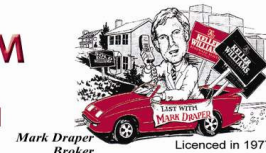
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November 2007



Chapter President
Walt Winchell

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have now begun our fall program in earnest and I am pleased to report that the two-day event on October 1-2 "Global Education, Looking Out to Join In" was very well received. We were extremely grateful that Dr. Yong Zhao, University Distinguished Professor in the College of Education and Director of the Confucius Institute at Michigan State University, agreed to present both sessions and that the immediate past-President of PDK International, Jo Ann Fujioka, was able to attend as well. Special thanks for developing and organizing this event is extended to Stephanie Fetterolf, John Myers and their team. The combined audiences included teachers, administrators and school trustees from Toronto, Peel and York Catholic District School Boards, as well as faculty and students from OISE/UT. It was our good fortune to have presented this timely topic just ahead of this year's annual *PDK International* conference held in Canada on October 18-20 in Vancouver. Several of our executive members participated at this year's conference. Highlights of these sessions are reported in this newsletter and shall be posted on our chapter's website: www.pdk-ut.ca

Recently we had a very successful 2007 *PDK Walk for Education*. The annual *Walk* at Queen's Park took place on Saturday morning, October 27th and this international event promoted PDK's advocacy for public education and raises funds for our awards program. Please refer to the enclosed insert for full details. In the coming months, we shall continue on with sessions #2 and #3 in the Global Education forum. November 21st will mark the date for session #2 and session #3 will be held on the 12th of February, 2008. In addition to our research based programs, the chapter is also sponsoring a concert series in Niagara Falls (Ontario) and resuming with the chamber music ensemble in Toronto. Please refer to the program page on our website for full information about these future programs. In addition, service initiatives begun last year, the Future Educator's Association (FEA), and hosting a regional *Spelling Bee* shall be continued from last year. Please feel free to contact any member of our executive (their e-mails are posted on the executive page of the website) for additional information on our programs, membership, awards and other activities.

GLOBAL EDUCATION SERIES: LOOKING OUT TO JOIN IN

The Global Education Series continues with 2 more sessions scheduled to take place. All Kappans are encouraged to promote the event and to attend both sessions. Further details are in the enclosed flyer.

Mark your calendars and register at pdkut.register@gmail.com

Session 2: Global Education and the Curriculum: Past, Present, and Future, 7PM – 9PM on November 21 at Pierre Laporte Middle School

Session 3: Dr. Mark Evans (OISE) will share some of his work on Global Citizenship 7PM to 9PM on February 12 at the Simon Wiesenthal Centre



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Global Education Series Flyer



PDK Book Club Hostess Sheila Smith-Bennett was surprised to receive a framed Kappan poster as a thank you gift. It was a double surprise as the idea for reproducing our very large Kappan poster to picture size so it could be hung in an office originated with Sheila.



PDK BOOK CLUB - THE TIPPING POINT

On Saturday, September 8, 2007, the members of the book club had a wonderful afternoon and evening!

We met at Kelsey's in Whitby, at 5:00 p.m., to begin our get-together with a terrific dinner and a chance to share summer experiences and catch up with one another. After dinner, we went to Sheila Smith-Bennett's home for wine and treats and a lively discussion of

The Tipping Point, by Malcolm Gladwell, facilitated by Peter Ross.

Peter started us off by asking about our overall impressions of the book. We concluded that, although we had expected some degree of pop psychology, the book was actually well-researched and very readable. It was noticed that the approach was fresh and innovative and provided many answers to questions that might arise.

Our executive team, with the 50th as a catalyst, have been applying principles from this book, particularly the "Stickiness Factor". This principle illuminates the concept that by making small, but critical, adjustments in how ideas are presented, hurdles can be overcome. The team has, over time, changed the context of the message, the messengers and refined the message itself, for PDK, bringing a new look and energy to PDK. Displays are carefully structured for conferences and meetings, making the materials more visually enticing and have addressed the "value proposition" – what is in membership for the teachers?

Peter Ross pointed out that using points such as the "stickiness factor" and making them work for the organization was actually translation. The need to mediate from psychological, academic language to actual practice requires a translator. Peter also mentioned the need for "receptors" to carry the message, although this idea was not explored in the book.

We concluded our discussion with more reflection about the uses of this book for PDK. It is a resource that can be revisited many times and can be drawn upon for new thinking and direction.

We welcome you, as always, to join us for our next PDK Book Club, which is on Saturday, April 12, 2008, at the home of Vivian Smith, in Cobourg. We will be discussing The World Is Flat, by Thomas Friedman. The meeting will begin with a restaurant dinner in the late afternoon, and then move to Vivian's house. Maps will be provided.

maryelmilosh@hotmail.com



MARY EL MILOSH
BOOK CLUB
CO-ORDINATOR



Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher talks to Northern Horizons FEA, with Advisors Sharon Lang and Monica Prijatelj and Past President Susan Seidman

FEA

~ Susan Seidman

Last year, the first Canadian Future Educators Association was chartered at DA Morrison School. The Northern Horizons FEA started off this year with a luncheon attended by Trustee Sheila Carey-Meagher, Principal Pat Foreman, and Vice Principal Tripat Arjawal. Teacher Advisors are Sharon Lang and Monica Prijatelj.

Trustee Carey-Meagher talked with the students about her experiences as Trustee, and answered questions. The students spent the following session looking at the Professional Portfolios they started last year, and interviewed each other to link their summer experiences to the categories in the portfolios.

A keen group also met at Hilltop Middle School to start a new FEA club there. The group spans several grades. Teacher advisors are Elizabeth Hemmerick, Stephanie Fetterolf, both Kappans, and Lynn Nadasdi, and includes a co-op student from Richview Secondary School.

This group will spend the first sessions exploring the activities the group wants, and deciding on a name. Their Charter will be taken to the International Summit in Vancouver to set the official wheels in motion to formally set up the Chapter.



LOST IN THE SHUFFLE

~Mary El Milosh

Mary El Milosh is an active member of the Social Planning Council and was recently interviewed by CBC regarding her efforts. For those who missed the interview, below is a quick synopsis of her involvement.

For the past several months, I have had the privilege of participating in research conducted on the issue of the impact of homelessness on children's school achievement. Family homelessness "is largely women's and children's homelessness" and has been defined, for the purposes of this study, as spending anywhere from one night, to several months, in a shelter. School achievement has been defined as not only academic success, but as social/emotional success as well.

The annual population of homeless children in Toronto has ranged from a high of nearly 7,000 to a low of about 3,500, in recent years. The study involved focus groups and in-depth interviews, depending on the group, with school staffs from 6 elementary schools, 9 shelter staffs, as well as 42 parents and 41 children, currently in the shelters.

Many of the children had been in several schools, resulting in a fragmented education, significantly compromising of these children's education, both in the present situation and over the longer term. The Phase 3 Kidbuilders Research Project report is the culmination of three phases of data collecting and analysis undertaken as a joint project by Aisling Discoveries Child and Family Centre, the Community Social Planning Council - Toronto, and the United Way of Greater Toronto. To quote from the Key Messages document produced by the CSpC-T for the launch of the report, "The problems faced by homeless children in the education system are structural. The experiences of these children stem directly from two deeper root causes: lack of affordable housing and violence against women."

Several immediate and long term recommendations have been developed. It is to be hoped that some may be implemented.

OBITUARY: ROBERT H. MCGILLIVRAY, PRESIDENT OF PDK-UT FROM 1967-1968

~Ed and Jocelyn Badovinac

ROBERT H. MCGILLIVRAY "DR. BOB" (B.A., B. Paed., Ed. D.) Peacefully, on Thursday, October 11, 2007, at home, in his 88th year. Dear husband and best friend of Lorraine for 60 years. Bob was born in Bruce County and grew up in Uxbridge Township. He attended public school at S.S. No. 9 Uxbridge and Uxbridge High School before attending Toronto Normal School. Bob began his teaching career at S.S. No. 8 East Gwillumbury. After spending two years in the Royal Canadian Air Force, he taught at Goodwood Public School and McGregor School in East York. In 1947, he joined the Toronto Board of Education serving at Morse, Frankland, Park, Island, High Park Forest, Earls court, Christie and Essex Schools. He was a Public School Inspector in the East End of Toronto before he was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Personnel for the Toronto Board of Education. Bob continued in this position until he retired in 1982. Bob was a long time Elder and active Member of Westview Presbyterian Church.

KAPPN TIPS ON PDK INTERNATIONAL

One of the many benefits of joining PDK are the many useful resources on their website. In the Classroom Tips section of the PDK International website www.pdkintl.org there is an issue from a Canadian member, John Myers.

Go to http://www.pdkmembers.org/classtips/Tips_Oct07.pdf to read the Tips!

SPELLING BEE OF CANADA

~ Susan Seidman

Last year one of the most successful service projects U of T Chapter had was the Spelling Bee. It was successful for the student participants, who developed their word knowledge, spelling skills, poise, and focus. It was successful for the parents, who were very supportive of their children. It was successful for the Toronto Bathurst Lions Club and Gerrard Square, who partnered with the U of T Chapter. And it was successful for the Chapter in involving a number of members in coaching (such as Joulie Georgopolous, Irene Manahan, Carolyn Moras and Susan Seidman), a number in serving as officials on the day of the event (Ruth Childs, Irene Manahan, Stephanie Fetterolf, Simone Scantlebury, Pauline Shou and Connie Lam), as well as raising the profile of PDK at OISE/UT. Volunteers from OISE as well as Metro Prep helped coach and run the event smoothly.

The Chapter will be running a Regional Bee again, and would love to have more members involved. If you are interested, either in coaching during weekly sessions in January, February and March, or in volunteering on the day of the event (date TBA), please contact Susan Seidman or Carolyn Moras.



DOCTORAL DISSERTATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathleen Vaughan and Barnabas Emenogu were the co-winners of the PDK Doctoral Dissertation Award winner 2007. A celebratory dinner and initiation ceremony will take place at the Host on Nov. 30!



See the announcement about Barnabas's award under www.oise.utoronto.ca/oise/About_OISE/News_Events.html
See the announcement about Kathleen award under http://www.yorku.ca/grads/newsarchive/0711_pdkaward.html

Bev Freedman recently defended her doctoral dissertation entitled, Looking for Leadership; Increasing Principal Presence Through Walk-throughs and the Resulting Influence on Principal-Teacher Professional Relationships. Congratulations to Bev for being granted her doctorate.

ORIENTATION @ OISE/UT

~ Susanna Tang

September marked back to school time for many students across Ontario, including a new crop of future teachers at OISE/UT. Carolyn Moras and Susan Seidman, along with new member Susanna Tang, represented PDK at the B. Ed. orientation on Sept. 5 and 6, 2007. Information was shared about PDK events such as the Walk for Education and the continuing Global Education seminars. PDK awards for student teachers were also highlighted. Several students also expressed an interest in volunteering with PDK.