

PDK-UT Annual Walk for Education (Oct. 27)



WALK REPORT

~ John Myers

On Saturday Oct. 27 the rain held off long enough for the intrepid PDK all-weather walkers to do the annual Walk for Education around Queen's Park.

The walk was to raise money to support student scholarships, programmes such as Future Educators Association, and other Chapter activities.

It was a great success.

Other highlights, in addition to the fundraising and the weather, included

- good company and great conversations among the trekkers
- fantastic prizes in a post walk draw due to some generous donations.

Thanks to all who participated either through the walk itself or through your generous donations, especially to Moveta Nanton and Shelley Thomas, the walk organizers.

We look forward to you joining us next year and attending other PDK-

2007 PDK ANNUAL WALK FOR EDUCATION

~ Fred Georgopoulos

On Saturday October the 27th members of the PDK did the Walk for Education. It was an enjoyable event where we exercised for a good cause. This was my second time walking for the PDK and it was just as enjoyable as last year. We were lucky because it looked as though it was going to rain but it had held off and we had a comfortable day. After the five laps around Queens Park, we went back to the YMCA where there was an assortment of wonderful prizes to be won through a draw and correctly answering questions. My family did a good job at winning prizes and every body else ended up winning something as well. All together the PDK Walk for Education was a fun time and a great success. I hope next years walk is just as successful as this years and I am looking forward to seeing everyone again.



Fred Georgopoulos, right most in the picture on the left, and the rest of the participants at the Walk for Education



PDK 2007 Walk for Education chaired by Moveta Nanton (centre) and Shelley Thomas.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO CHAPTER OF PDK (85) www.pdk-ut.ca

2007 Fall Events

PDK-UT Global Education Series Opener (Oct. 2, 3)

GLOBAL EDUCATION: LOOKING OUT TO JOIN IN

~ John Myers

On Oct. 1 and 2 Dr. Yong Zhao whose work out of Michigan State University focuses on both global education and technology gave two addresses as part of PDK's research series Global Education, Looking Out to Join In.

The audiences included teachers, administrators and school trustees from the Toronto, Peel, and York Catholic District School Boards, as well as teachers and students from OISE/UT. California Kappan Randall B. Lindsey, author of *the Culturally Proficient School* (a useful look at the impact of global education published by Corwin) was also present.

His talks and the subsequent question/answer periods were as provocative as they were far-reaching and wide-ranging. Here are some questions based on his opening session that you might consider as the PDK series progresses.

- What do you make of the trend in North American schools towards centralization and testing when the systems we are copying are moving towards decentralization and creativity?
- How will technology change schooling? Is it a two-edged sword?
- What connection to test results REALLY have with global economic competitiveness?
- What is a global perspective and how do we promote this in schools?
- Is Ontario curriculum out of step with global trends?
- What do you think of the following phrases which stuck in my mind from Dr. Zhao?
 - o "Technology defines talents."
 - o "Creativity drives the economy."
 - o "Our students are affected by global forces, cultural clashes, and different value systems."

Dr. Zhao also posed the following question. "What knowledge is of most worth?" (Herbert Spencer, 1859) His answer then was science.

What is our answer now and for the near future?

Here is another question Dr. Zhao posed.

"If 10 birds are sitting in a tree and you shot one, how many would be left?"

If you said "nine" you would be wrong.
If you said "none" you would be correct.

Think about it. <http://zhao.educ.msu.edu/default.asp> leads you to more on Dr. Zhao.

Kappans at Dinner: Walt Winchell, Susan Seidman, Barbara Stewart, John Stewart, Jo Ann Fujioka, Pauline Shou, Stephanie Fetterolf, Ashley Winchell, Carolyn Moras



Dr. Yong Zhao, Jo Ann Fujioka, and TDSB's Judy Whitfield visit the parenting program at Charles G. Fraser School.



PDK-UT President Elect Stephanie Fetterolf, International Past President Jo Ann Fujioka, and Dr. Yong Zhao at Wine and Cheese.



Early Years Manager Ruth Sischy explains Parenting Programmes to Yong Zhao



PDK-UT at Niagara Falls Lighting (Oct. 13)

&

PDK-UT: PDK International Conference on Global Education in Vancouver (Oct. 18 – 20)

NIAGARA FALLS LIT UP SPECIAL FOR PDK-UT

~ Elizabeth Manker

Niagara Falls Mayor Ted Salci invited PDK-UT to visit the famous lighting facilities on Saturday, October 13th, when the falls was lighted in red and white in our honour.

Mayor Salci and his wife accepted our dinner invitation to Michael's Inn, we had our traditional "sherry and shortbread" reception at the home of our Niagara Falls member, Elizabeth Manker. Our members then went along to the Niagara Arts Centre for the concert by The Three Tenors. By this hour the falls had been lit up, and we were escorted to the site, to be thrilled by the ceremony of lighting of the falls in honour of PHI DELTA KAPPA - University of Toronto Chapter!

This is the second year we have expanded our chapter territory and attended the Niagara Concerts series, and this year we were recognized in programmes as Concert Sponsors.



Niagara Falls Mayor Ted Salci and Kappan Elizabeth Manker



Kappans Susanna Tang, Kristin Hopper and Elizabeth Manker with Niagara Falls Mayor Ted Salci and wife Sharon

Kappan Elizabeth Manker shines PDK colours on Niagara Falls with operator Pete Gordon's assistance



Kappans at Membership lunch, Vancouver Summit, 2007



Shelley Thomas won the Henkin Scholarship.



Past International President Jim Fogarty and past U of T Chapter President Carolyn Moras on Walk for Education in Vancouver



Ottawa Chapter President Sheila Perry sits with Stephanie Fetterolf, Susan Seidman, Moveta Nanton, Carolyn Moras and Pauline Shou at the Chapter Leaders Meeting at the Summit.



Above: Canadian Kappans assemble at the Summit, right before the Walk for Education, Vancouver 2007

Right: Vidya Jaisaree, winner of the Gerald Read Travel Scholarship for the PDK trip to Finland.



Summit on Global Education Conference Centre and Hotel The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver Canada



BEYOND THE CHAPTER – AT THE SUMMIT

~ Susan Seidman

A sizeable contingent of Kappans from University of Toronto Chapter attended PDK's Summit on Global Education held in Vancouver from October 18-20, 2007. They joined Kappans and participants from across Canada, the United States, Europe and Asia.

The Summit opened with a panel discussion on "Global Education entitled Preparing Our Students for Work and Citizenship in a Global Society." The discussion was moderated by Lloyd Axworthy, and included Dr. Yong Zhao, who had just given sessions in Toronto. Following a keynote speech by Gene Sperling, Director of the Center for Universal Education and former official in the Clinton Administration, entitled "A Global Compact for Universal Education, participants broke out into facilitated discussion groups, looking at such aspects of the topic as curriculum, teacher preparation, creativity/competition. Each group summarized their discussion, and the results will be published in January's Kappan.

A traditional highlight of the Summit is the discussion of the 2007/8 Gallup Poll findings. Lowell Rose and PDK Executive Director Bill Bushaw did a thorough presentation, and took questions. The trend shown by the Gallup Poll shows that the public is increasingly skeptical about the benefits of so much large-scale testing, and increasingly concerned about the resulting narrowing of the taught- so there is information to share. Contact us.

In addition to the formal sessions, the International PDK Walk for Education took place in misty, scenic Stanley Park. UBC Chapter Kappans lead the way, and pointed out storm damage still visible, as well as giving background information on the many points of interest.

Perhaps of even greater lasting value than the actual curriculum. Each Summit participant has a 10-minute DVD of the poll highlights: if you are interested in viewing it, contact us.

Sessions at the conference ranged from presentations by Graham Pike (now of University of PEI, formerly of OISE/UT) on "What is Global Education," to the Asia Society, to a session on "A Systems Approach to International Education" by Amelia Joy Turnbull of University of Alberta. Our Chapter participants tried to ensure that we covered a range of sessions, and each person collected the session handouts sessions was the opportunity to talk personally with Kappans from across Canada, North America, and the wider world, as well as connecting with Regional Reps and staff from the different aspects of PDK.

U of T Chapter Kappans who were recognized at the formal Recognition Luncheon included Shelley Thomas, who won a Henkin Scholarship to attend the conference, and Vidya Jaisaree, who won a Gerald Read Travel Scholarship for the PDK trip to Finland.