

SERVICE

SPELLING BEE

U of T Chapter PDK is involved in not one but two Spelling Bees: one in Toronto and one in Whitby. Kappans Carolyn Moras, Irene Manahan, Joulie Georgopoulos, Susan Seidman and Lisa Hill have been coaching weekly. The big days come soon: Saturday April 5 for the Toronto East Region and Saturday April 12 for the Whitby Bee.

If you would like to help the day of the Bee – and there are lots of different jobs - contact either Susan or Carolyn.



Irene Manahan with two of the Intermediate students she coaches, at the Spelling Bee coaching session. In the background is a CBC crew who came to tape Irene and the students as part of a program they were compiling on Memory.

PDK INSPIRES!

Carolyn Moras kindly forwarded me the notice of the Lieutenant Governor's Levee, sent by Ed and Jocelyn Badovinac. I was grateful for this, and joined them and Susan Seidman at the Levee. I was especially pleased to listen to the Ojibwa presentation, where the native-attired Steve Teekins told the legend of "The Drum."

Two weeks earlier I had begun a project on "The Drumming Circle", Niagara members of which played at an event I arranged, "Winter Reflections." The "fantastic" reception of this Circle encouraged me to undertake this project which will focus on heritage and cultural preservation. To hear the Ojibwa legend at the Levee was a coincidence! I will be interviewing the storyteller later.

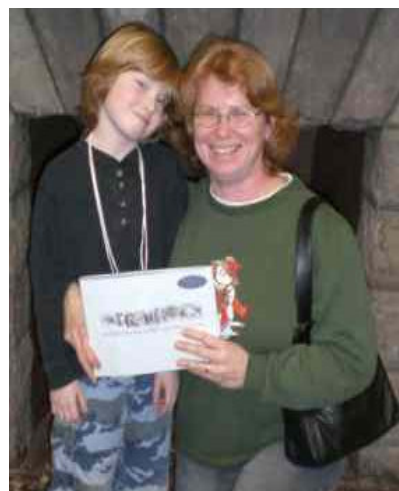
Also encouraging was the Lieutenant Governor's Book drive, for which PDK members collected many books for the aboriginal children of the far north. PDK's efforts inspired me to ask for books at my church in Niagara Falls, and we were happy to deliver 74 books to the OPP office!

Next year at church we will start the collection of books a month early, for our people were so excited about the books they chose - they showed them around and couldn't stop talking about them!

Now does PDK inspire - or what?!! ~ Elizabeth Manker

MORE BOOKS FOR THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

We had collected some 55 books to be distributed to the aboriginal community in the far north in the renewed book drive by the new Lieutenant Governor, David Onley, and delivered them to the nearest O.P.P. office close to us. This O.P.P. officer had worked in the L.G.'s office at some point and was quite familiar with His Honour, James K. Bartleman. ~ Ed and Jocelyn Badovinac



Cameron Millar and his mother Ruby contributed to the Book Drive as did other participants in the Toronto East Spelling Bee.



Left: Ed and Jocelyn dropped books at a local OPP Station
Above: Susan, Pauline, Moveta & Carolyn dropped books at a local Police Station

LEADERSHIP

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION



Shelley Thomas won an Excellence in Student Teaching Award, at both the Chapter and International levels in 2005. Her grasp of the heart of teaching and scope of outlook showed Shelley's promise as an educator who would engage students in the classroom and beyond. While a student at OISE, Shelley did her internship in Ecuador. Now in her third year of teaching, Shelley, an English teacher, has taken her students on tour to England with drama productions. She co-chaired our chapter's Walk for Education the past two years. As an educator who views the world as part of her classroom, Shelley attended PDK's Summit on Global Education as a Henkin Conference Scholarship winner.

Read below to see Shelley's current project where she is teaching students to be caring citizens of the world.

Dream no small dreams for they have no power to move the hearts of men. – Goethe

Knowing that we can make a difference in this world is a great motivator. How can we know this and not be involved? - Susan Jeffers (author)

Below you will find a project summary (written by the students), as well as the link which will bring you to our official Tiger Bytes webpage where you can track our story, make a donation (tax receipts issued), see class photos, and view videos:

Ms. Thomas' grade eleven Media Studies class of Ridley College has recently embarked on a worthwhile and ambitious project, TIGER BYTES: Ridley College For a Media Literate Canada. As students who have access to laptops on a daily basis, we recognize how privileged we are and we aim to connect with the many young people who cannot communicate with the rest of society because of deprived living conditions, poverty, cultural divides and other impediments.

Thankfully, non-profit organizations such as Frontier College in Canada have already recognized this pressing issue and are opening the doors of literacy to people all over the country. With collaboration from One Laptop Per Child, an organization that sends laptop computers to developing countries, and a fundraising total of \$30,000, we will purchase 100 machines and donate them to Frontier College. The laptops will be sent to aboriginal communities and to urban centers where living conditions are poor and literacy is minimal.

The fundraising will be done over a number of months, through a variety of initiatives such as a school-wide Read-a-thon, an Internet-based donation forum, a Dress-Down day, a Scrabble Night, as well as community service activities that will involve Ridley members and the general public alike. Our school website is up and running! We encourage you to track our progress on this website and support this initiative in any way you can. Every bit helps, and brings us that much closer to our goal. http://www.ridleycollege.com/school_life/academics/inside.asp

We also have an open Facebook group called Ridley College Tiger Bytes, where we have class videos, discussion boards, and photos.

Thank you,
Media Studies 07-08 and Shelley K. Thomas
Phone: (905) 684-1889 Ext. 2540
Email: shelley_thomas@ridleycollege.com



THE GEORGE CROSKERY MEMORIAL AWARD WINNER



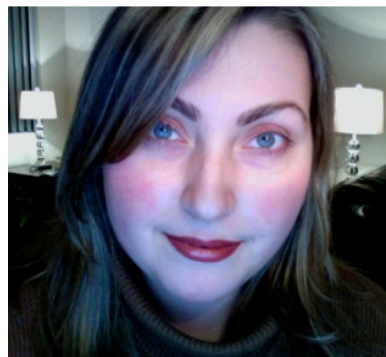
The Canadian College of Teachers – A National Learned Society Within The Teaching Profession – has presented its highest honour, "...in recognition of exceptional achievement and service to Education in Canada" to Kappan Valerie-Dawn Girhiny. She has served meritoriously at the regional, national and international levels as an educator and senior bureaucrat with the Ontario government and has also been honoured as Director Emerita by the International Council on Education for Teaching, an NGO of UNESCO, for representing Canada "... with distinction, contributing her leadership and expertise to improve the quality of teacher education around the world."

Valerie-Dawn is a U of T Chapter member of 25+ years standing.

INITIATES – AGM 2008

SUSAN MARAR

Susan Marar came to OISE/UT after obtaining her B.F.A. - Honours Visual Arts Degree from the University of Windsor and an Advanced Diploma of Applied Arts in Graphic Design from St. Clair College. Susan studied and worked abroad as an Assistant Exhibitions Officer and Collections Manager Intern for Stonington Stables & ICON Museum of Art in Melbourne, Australia where she developed two Education Kits for Secondary Schools. She worked as a TA and Research Assistant in Visual Arts and Design at College and University and is presently a Student Teacher in the Visual Arts and Social Sciences at Secondary Schools. Her professional career outside of teaching includes serving as a Juror for Stills photography exhibition, Creative Director & Owner of Quantum Graphic Design and participating in numerous art exhibitions.



LIANNE TAN

Lianne received a Bachelor and a Master of Engineering degree from McMaster University, where she specialized in biomedical applications of electrical and computer engineering. She continued her work in the Radiology Department at McMaster University Medical Centre, where she was employed for the following three years to assist in the development of pioneering digital radiography image systems. While thoroughly enjoying this work, Lianne received a call to teaching, and was hired in the dual role of chapel organist and science teacher at Appleby College, Oakville, where she has been teaching for the past eight years. Lianne took a leave of absence this year to obtain her formal training in education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto.



LISA HILL

My name is Lisa Hill and I have been teaching for 11 years. I received my *Honours Bachelor of Arts* at the University of Toronto and completed a two-year *Diploma in Child Study* at the Institute of Child Study, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. I am Primary, Junior and Intermediate qualified and have Special Education and Early Childhood Education qualifications as well. I am currently teaching Grade 1 with the Durham Catholic District School Board. I have completed course work that will enable me to take the Principal's Qualification courses as I plan on pursuing a career in administration. I would also like to complete my Master's degree, as the program at I.C.S. became a Master's Program the year after I graduated.

On a personal level, I have been married for 11 years and have 3 wonderful sons who keep me very busy. I am very honoured to be part of PDK



PAT HUMPHREY

Pat Humphrey retired in June 2000 from the Toronto District School Board after teaching for 35 years. She taught 32 of her 35 years at Sunny View School, teaching students with physical and multiple exceptionalities. In June 2000, Pat received The Council for Exceptional Children, Chapter 56 "Teacher of the Year Award," the CEC, Provincial "Teacher of the Year Award" for Zone 4.

Pat has also taught in the post-secondary setting. She is a past Instructor at George Brown College for the Support Care Program. And at York University, in the EDEX Program. Ms Humphrey served as an Executive Member for the Kidney Foundation of Canada, Ontario Branch and is currently the President of the CEC, Pioneer sub division.

From 1981 to 1992, Pat was one of the Founding Directors of Participation Apartments Metro Toronto, now PACE, an Independent Living Movement (housing) for adults with physical disabilities. In 1983, she was one of the Founding members of the sub division of the Ontario Division for the Physically Handicapped, of the CEC.



The U of T PDK Chapter welcomes new members from a wide range of levels.

INITIATES – DOCTORAL DISSERTATION DINNER

SUSANNA TANG

Susanna Tang, a student in the Master of Teaching program at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto, is the winner of the 2007 Henry Jackman Award, presented by the Phi Delta Kappa University of Toronto Chapter.

Ms. Tang won the \$500 award for her essay, "Using Assessment to Help My Students Succeed," in which she reflected on her experiences as a student teacher and how she uses classroom assessments to support learning.

Since winning, Susanna has been an active member of PDK, assisting with the PDK information table at OISE's Orientation Days and at the Job Fair in December. She helped with the planning of Global Education Session Two. Her attendance at various PDK events has added sparkle to them, including a Niagara concert event where she created her own colour combination to illuminate the Falls. Susanna will be part of our chapter's programming committee for 2008 – 2009.



BARNABAS EMENOGU, PH.D.

I presently work as a Researcher in The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat of Ontario's Ministry of Education where on a day-to-day basis I analyze assessment numbers as well as other student, teacher, school and board based data in order to inform policy.

At OISE, I taught graduate courses such as Intermediate Statistics and Research Design, and Introduction to Applied Statistics.

I have worked in the field of education for most of my life. For many years, I was a Principal Lecturer in a graduate teacher education program of the University of Nigeria Nsukka at the Alvan Ikoku College of Education, Owerri and at the Anambra State College of Education, Nsugbe. In the years before becoming a teacher of teachers, I was a high school mathematics and science teacher as well as an athletic and badminton coach. Today, I still enjoy playing badminton and jogging. One of my favourite volunteering activities is working with Habitat for Humanity Toronto to build homes for low-income people.



KRISTIN HOPPER

I am currently completing my Bachelor of Education in the Junior/Intermediate division at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. I completed my Bachelor of Arts in History and English at the University of Toronto this past year. Education is my true vocation in life and it is my hope that I will have the opportunity to share its benefits with many. My short experience so far with Phi Delta Kappa has been extremely interesting and has helped to further my devotion to public education. Working as the publicity person for the 2008 Walk for Education has been fun and challenging and it should be very fulfilling to see everyone out for the walk!



KATHLEEN VAUGHAN, PH.D.

Kathleen's website, akaredhanded, lists some of her experiences, work, and passions. Kathleen has taught within the Faculty of Education at York University, and worked with elementary and secondary school students for the Ontario Arts Council. She addressed the Convocation at Trinity College in 1999 about her series of paintings called The Bog Series. Recently her work has turned to the landscapes she observes on long ravine walks with her dog Auggie.

As a freelance consultant, she developed television scripts, speeches, marketing and advocacy materials, fundraising text, television licence application, curatorial and magazine articles, essays and more. She engages in research on issues of education, broadcasting, social policy, and the arts and culture.

