

Phi Delta Kappa UNL Ch. 15
Executive Board Meeting
Misty's on Havelock Ave.
January 16, 2011
Sun. 5:00-7:30pm

Welcome

President Mike McDonald welcomed our executive board and generously provided meals to all in attendance. Twelve members were present: Mike McDonald, YJ Moses, Jody Isernhagen, Ron Joekel, John Creswell, Drew Ramaekers, Melissa Casper, Loretta Sheets, Harriet Gould, Ryan Mueller, Jessica Rivera, and Carrie Campbell. While dinner was arriving, Melissa shared with us her recent experiences teaching English in Ireland.

Showcase of Teaching & Administration

Jessica reported on the Showcase of Teaching and Administration to be held on February 1, 2011 at Nebraska Wesleyan University, Callen Conference Room. Flyers were given to each member to distribute. Please RSVP by January 28 to Loretta at wsheets@radiks.net or 466-9040 if you will be able to attend. Cost is \$8 sent in advance or \$10 at the door. Jessica asked for and received volunteers to welcome invited speakers and assist them in setting up for their presentations.

Contact Database

Melissa shared information regarding the database of contact information she's collecting. Melissa is updating contact information to include email addresses for current assistant principals, associate principals, and guidance counselors. She has been using websites, such as the State Department of Education posts that Jody recommended, to gain phone numbers to further contact schools for the email addresses. Our goal as a database for scholarships is to reach doctoral students, undergraduates, and high school seniors. It was mentioned we include service units that might post information about our scholarship programs on their websites. Melissa has tried to include schools within a 75 mile radius. Our goal is to announce the PDK scholarships through this database February 1st.

Reaching Doctoral Students

A memo to online instructors from a peer (such as Dr. John Creswell), with a personal touch, either included in a Dean's newsletter or emailed directly to instructors was suggested as a good way to introduce our scholarship program to faculty and thereby students. A memo for students could be sent also for faculty to post or send along to their graduate students.

Treasurer's Report

Ryan announced Jim Havelka (a former superintendent) as this year's auditor. Jim will be reviewing records this year and then compare his audit with last year's to evaluate progress toward last year's goals. Ryan will meet with Jim on Wednesday. Ryan checked with PDK International regarding taxes, and they will take care of all tax paperwork for chapters. Ryan reported that our checking account balance has been pretty static around \$8000, and provided

a balance sheet with more details. Harriet moved that the treasurer's report be approved. Carrie seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes

Minutes from the last executive meeting (in November) were posted on GoogleDocs for revision and approval. Board members were given editing privileges to make any additions or amendments by a given deadline. By the given deadline, minutes are assumed to be approved by the board and ready to post for our membership website. This allows executive members to view a record of dates and other information from the meeting. Minutes are also approved much sooner than waiting until the next meeting, thus ready to post online for chapter members to view. November was the first trial for this experiment. Board members were asked whether this method worked for them, and no one dissented. Thus, minutes from our January 16 meeting will be posted on GoogleDocs for approval by board members by February 1st.

November meeting

Harriet summarized highlights from the November PDK event, held at Hy-Vee. Dr. Cindy Gray, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Assessment, and teachers and staff from Elkhorn Public Schools, presented. A scholarship winner also addressed those in attendance, and Joe Starita was presented with the award from our PDK chapter. Approximately 38 attended the November event. At least two educators joined PDK as new members. Mike McDonald, Roger Breed, Cindy Gray and the Elkhorn representatives went out afterward to talk.

PDK UNL Chapter 15 Awards

Harriet asked for our suggestions for our chapter PDK awards given to outstanding educators, friends of Phi Delta Kappa, and service key awards. The service key award can be given to chapter members who have contributed generously to the chapter with their time and effort, often serving on the executive board. The other awards can be given to community members who may or may not be members of Phi Delta Kappa.

Website

Drew has been working on the website and is meeting with Anastasia. He has begun posting pictures from recent events and will be posting scholarship information from the research committee. One project suggested was a 20 year history, starting 5 years at a time. Another suggestion was to cycle through pictures of members or prominent educators in the community on our website. Highlighting some new chapter members or young educators with testimonials "I joined PDK because..." might be a good idea. Drew was curious about the web size, which would be the only boundary for the number of video clips we could put on to the chapter website. The website is located at pdk.unl.edu.

Chapter Centennial

For our chapter centennial, are working on developing a book with a history of some influential chapter member profiles. This book may include a description of the time period surrounding each profiled person, such as the then-current educational system, and any major events of that year or decade. "What was it like when you were an officer?" If anyone has name suggestions

for these interviews, please contact Melissa.

April event

The event will be Monday, April 18 from 4:00-6:30pm and include dinner. Joan Richardson, editor of *The Phi Delta Kappan* journal, will speak on the uses of technology. Richardson is scheduled to present at the University of Nebraska – Omaha earlier Monday (approximately 12-2pm). She will then travel to Norris Public Schools, which will be hosting our PDK April event. Richardson is then tentatively scheduled to present Tuesday, April 19 from 12-1 at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. A poster will be made to announce the meeting at UN-L. Harriet will be hosting Joan at her Bed & Breakfast Monday night. Norris Public Schools will be including this meeting as staff development for their members. Jody suggested we invite neighboring schools and interested educators as well.

June 7

Bill Bushaw agreed to present at our June 7 event. Possible topics include the reorganization of Phi Delta Kappa, the new Phi Delta Kappa and where we're headed, trends, or a debate with policy makers.

Spring Newsletter

The Spring newsletter is 95% done. We have approximately 40 newsletters to send via mail. Larry Dlugosh may be a good person to do a focus article on. He is retiring this year from UNL and has contributed much service to our PDK chapter.

National Conference

The National Phi Delta Kappa Conference is from February 17-19. On February 19, there will be a special focus session on Future Educators of America. Ron would like Mike to attend this FEA session, connect, and get information on how to sponsor and support local FEA chapters. Mike is planning to attend the national conference and has points collected toward hotel and airfare, but asked if the chapter could help defray some of the cost of attending. In accordance with past chapter delegates and support, Harriet moved that we reimburse chapter president Mike McDonald up to \$1000 toward expenses to attend the national PDK conference as a chapter delegate. The motion was seconded and approved.

Ron Joekel Fund

It was suggested we speak with Jane Hayney from the University of Nebraska Foundation regarding options. John C. mentioned he would ideally like to see the amount given by \$1000. Carrie said that once we raise at least \$10,000, PDK International would be willing to hold our scholarship fund with their foundation and would contribute an additional \$2000. They would then distribute 5% each year to a winner, selected by our chapter or by their foundation (our choice). [Note: In order to distribute \$1000 each year, we would need to initially raise \$18,000 ourselves in addition to the \$2000 contribution from PDK International, for a total of \$20,000.] A fundraising campaign will begin soon.

Future meetings

- Tuesday, February 1, the UNL chapter of PDK presents a Showcase of Teaching and Administration. This will be held from 5:30-7:45pm at Nebraska Wesleyan University.
- On Wednesday, March 30, the UNO chapter of PDK hosts our Joint meeting. The topic of presentation will be charter schools and national trends.
- **Monday, April 4th will be our next executive board meeting. It will be held in the seminar room at Nebraska Wesleyan University from 5:30-7:00pm.**
- April 18-19 will feature presentations from *Phi Delta Kappan* editor, Joan Richardson. Norris Public Schools will be hosting Monday, April 18 from 4:00-6:30pm. UNO will host Monday 12-2pm and UNL will host Tuesday 12-1pm.
- June 7 is the date of our summer meeting. Bill Bushaw will present.