

Phi Delta Kappa
Executive Board Planning Meeting
August 28, 2011

Members Present: Harriet Gould, YJ Moses, John Creswell, Anastasia McNulty, Drew Ramaekers, Jessica Rivera, Melissa Casper, Alicia Dallman, Sue Heine, Jaime Pella, Mike McDonald, Jackie Florendo, Ryan Mueller and Brent Cejda.

Absent: Doug Christiansen, Jody Isernhagen, Ron Joekel, Carrie Campbell and Tim Golden.

Meeting place: social and supper at Harriet's B&B Pine Crest Farms B&B

1. Mike began with previewing the meeting's agenda and summarizing the events and accomplishments of last year.
- 2) Brent from University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) Education Administration Department talked about the support that they are going to lend as an Education Department in supporting PDK. They are sponsoring seven graduate student's memberships for the 2011- 2012 year and are considering a panel that could discuss what the 21st Century classroom SHOULD look like. It could also be about school improvement, certification, and student loan restructuring.
- 3) Introduction of the board and their positions in the group. Brent suggested that we add a "nominating committee" to help increase membership from UNL.
- 4) Drew and Anastasia discussed the future of the website. Possible ideas to improve PDK website: make it more interactive, "in the cloud," increase traffic. Also we want to add PDK to Facebook and have additional contributors for events and information. We also talked about doing PayPal for event registration—this ensures we get money even if people don't show up to an event. We have a good foundation for information on events and additional information about the group, but we can really do a lot to grow and make getting information more convenient.
- 5) Mike discussed some of the different events that University of Nebraska at Omaha's (UNO) chapter has done in the past years. We may want to find some different venues and possibly use Deer Springs Winery for one of our fall/spring events when the weather is nice. We also may want to use Southeast Community College Culinary School for an event site.
- 6) Next we split into groups to discuss different roles in PDK, issues in education that we want to address this year, information on what is needed or happening in local schools, how to tie to school improvement, and make sure we are being most beneficial to our members.
- 7) Review of each group's brainstorm ideas:
Website: We need to make ties to long term members, new members, and contemporary research/practices. We need to have a stronger research section and recognize our Joekel scholarship winner-Bradley Baurain. We should showcase new upcoming research from UNL students in the education department. We also should list all scholarships that our

members can apply for-both for UNL and PDK (local and international). We should also add a Facebook badge onto the main website.

Programming: We need to set the dates for events as soon as possible. We need to keep the Showcase of Teaching and make sure we still include and recruit undergrads, but find a way to give our current members something to take away. It was discussed that perhaps we should do fewer events and really try to make big events that will draw larger amounts of people. It could be good to partner with other organizations to bring more people (i.e. Nebraska Council of School Administrators, people from different teacher groups, college departments). Also discussed “What should schools look like in terms of technology? It may be good to invite the Superintendent of Omaha Public Schools (OPS), a UNL graduate, to speak at a meeting reflecting on his time in education, new ideas in education, and Learning Community-desegregation and magnet schools, also he could discuss what has happened in OPS during his tenure.

Technology: We need to have one meeting in the fall that showcases our Joekel scholarship winner (Bradley) and then have our Scholar in Residence present in the spring to balance the year. Alicia suggested that we bring in the Model United Nations/International teaching organizations to discuss what they are doing and what teachers can do to join. This would give us a multicultural focus. The April meeting that generally spotlights our Scholar in Residence could be from the Model United Nations. Action Research area (Jeff Mills) is another possibility for April. We need to make a plan to raise funds for the Joekel Scholarship for the years to come (private contributions).

8) Mike went over the current assigned roles for the year on the executive board. At this time, people could step forward and request a change in roles. No changes were made.

9) We discussed if we want to do many events or fewer. It was proposed that we keep the format as it is for now, and then implement fewer bigger events next year. Possible topics:

October: Social

December: Leadership

February: Showcase of Teaching

March: UNO-Student Achievement and Teacher Evaluation

April: The United Nations and Multicultural Education

June: Recognition/Initiation

Upcoming Events (tentative):

Exec. Bd. meetings, Nov. 14, Jan, 25, and April 2nd, 5:00-6:30 at NWU.

Activity Dates-- Oct. 24 or 26th (to be finalized by September 20th), Dec. 5th, 7th or 8th (to be finalized by Sept 27th), Febr. 6 (Snow Date February 13th), March 28th (finalized), April 18th (finalized), and June 5th (finalized) for PDK Activities.