



Na Ho'olaha I Na Kumu o PDK

To spread far and wide the news of PDK

University of Hawaii Chapter 0067
Founded in Hawaii in 1949

PHI DELTA KAPPA
Research -- Service -- Leadership

Volume LIII No. 19

April 2008

Spring Calendar and Index

The following activities involve PDK/Hawaii meetings, co-sponsored events, and other programs of interest

April 15-17: Technology, Colleges, and Community (TCC) is a worldwide online conference co-sponsored by PDK Region A with discounted registration (*see article below*).

April 30: Interisland, Interstate, International PDK Informational Meeting and focus on Newly Visions of PDK of the Future (*page 2*)

May 1: Deadline for PDK/Hawaii Willis B. Coale graduate scholarship (Details in Foundation Report (*see page 5*))

May: Teacher of the Year program and annual installation/initiation of members (TBA).

TCC 2008 PRACTICE YOUR TECHNOLOGY SKILLS AS YOU COMMUNICATE WITH AN INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF EDUCATORS

Phi Delta Kappa (Region A & the University of Hawaii Chapter) is partnering with Technology Colleges and Community (TCC) in a worldwide online conference designed for university and college practitioners including faculty, academic support staff, counselors, student services personnel, and administrators.

The Conference will take place April 15-17, 2008 AT YOUR DESK or IN YOUR CLASSROOM, with a pre-conference equipment testing event scheduled for April 2nd and 3rd.

ONLINE ANYTIME ALLTIMES - something will be happening. Experience a VARIETY of formats for reading, writing, thinking, and participating, LIVE or at your leisure.

A DISCOUNTED rate is being offered to current or new PDK members of \$25.00 (regular registration after March 31st is \$99.00). Log on TODAY to register: <http://tcc.kcc.hawaii.edu/2008/tcc/welcome.html>. Register under the Individual category (disregard the \$69 or \$99 cost for individual members). To receive your discounted rate, under the when asked your College/Institution, fill-in PDK-\$25 and your PDK ID#. (Sample: PDK\$25 77901; or PDK\$25 New Member). Credit Cards ONLY, phone number listed for making payment at bottom of TCC registration form.

If you need to renew your membership go to http://www.pdkintl.org/joinpdk/renew_mbr.htm

Want to encourage others to take advantage of this opportunity? Professional colleagues who are not PDK members can become members at <http://www.pdkintl.org/aboutpdk/membership.htm>.

You may select direct membership in PDK for only \$90.00. If you choose to join the local University of Hawaii chapter of PDK, the fee is \$100. Discounted pricing is available for undergraduate students and career changers. Please review <http://www.pdkintl.org> thoroughly to be certain that you are taking advantage of all

options. To learn more about the University of Hawaii chapter of PDK specifically, please visit <http://www.hawaii.edu/pdknews/>.

Win-Win-Win

1) WIN: For PDK current members in being able to have a 75% discount in the Technology, Colleges and Community WorldWide OnLine Conference April 15-17.

This experience will not only provide a chance to participate from office or home in TCC but gain valuable experience with CyberPlace communication tools that benefit members use of PDK on-line, web-based resources.

2) WIN: For attracting new PDK members who will, in joining PDK have a year's membership but also the immediate value-added benefit in enjoying the TCC/PDK 75% discount for the same reasons.

3) WIN: For PDK and TCC in that this year's \$25 discount cost will provide possible income if more than the basic group registration fee is earned...50% for PDK and 50% for TCC.

JOIN US IN THIS EXCITING NEW VENUE.

Practice your skills, experience the new learning technologies, blog with the best, listen to outstanding presentations, and much, much, more. Proceeds after deduction of the institutional registration fees will go to TCC/PDK 2009 Planning. Questions to: andreson@synergyltd.com or south@hawaii.edu

The rush for this issue is the lead article about the TCC 2008 online conference we are co-sponsoring with Region A PDK.

April 30 Meeting: Interisland, Interstate, International

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Time: 4:30pm HST

Locations: Sites secured as of press date (contact John Southworth, south@hawaii.edu or 808-956-6871 for information about other electronically-connected locations):

UH Hilo: UCB 102 (Telecommunications Room) For further details/information contact Nina Buchanan (ninab@hawaii.edu; 808-974-7583)

UH Manoa College of Education: Everly Hall 123A/B

Program:

This special meeting is targeting both the CyberPlace technologies used in PDK/Hawaii Chapter to allow for its members whether spread from Hawaii to Canada to Panama to Japan.

Discussion on the topic of School Reform is scheduled for Dr. Buchanan's graduate student class with those participating in the various remote sites.

Pass the word and bring a friend!

2007 Hawaii Teacher of the Year

For the Honolulu Advertiser's notice of Mililani High School Teacher (and local Mililani Wal-Mart store winner) being announced as Hawaii Teacher of the Year, here's a copy of the article:

A lei-bedecked Mililani High teacher Amy Perruso accepts a \$10,000 grant for her school after being named the Wal-Mart and Sam's Club State Teacher of the Year. With her are Wal-Mart representatives Pua Conte and Xan Trent with John Southworth (left), representing the Phi Delta Kappa Chapter which coordinated the selection of the state winner.

The retailer announced that Perruso, who teaches social studies at the school, is the Hawaii winner of the 12th annual Wal-Mart and Sam's Club State Teacher of the Year program.

Perruso, who was hailed at a special surprise ceremony at Mililani High, learned that the school would receive a \$10,000 grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation on her behalf. "This award recognizes those teachers who go the extra mile for their students and instill a love of learning long after graduation," said Earl Cressman, store manager of the Mililani Wal-Mart. Perruso was honored as a local Teacher of the Year in May.

Her other prizes include a leather tote, crystal apple trophy, business cards and certificate.



Teacher of the Year Introduction/Thanks

by Amy Perruso

I just wanted to thank the leadership of PDK for participating in this teacher recognition program. It has been extremely gratifying to be able to help bring resources into our school and more importantly, to increase public awareness of the commitment most public school teachers demonstrate to the young people in Hawaii and around the country.

Also, I have to say that I still get teary-eyed when I think about those student nomination letters being read aloud in front of the MHS faculty. I will never forget the completely humbling feeling of that moment. So, again, thank you, and I look forward to working with PDK this year!

Aloha, Amy Perruso

Graduate Award Money Available

Each year the PDK/Hawaii chapter offers a scholarship of \$500.00 in honor of Willis B. Coale to a graduate student in the field of education. To be eligible, the student must be officially enrolled in an accredited college or university for the fall semester of 2008 and studying for an advanced degree in some area of education. Phi Delta Kappa has as primary goals for members to further service, research, and leadership in education. The student who applies for the scholarship is to:

- Submit a typewritten statement no more than two pages describing how he/she will, in the future, exemplify the three goals of Phi Delta Kappa.
- Submit a resume describing educational and employment history.
- With the above submit two letters of recommendation. At least one of these letters must be written specifically in support of this application.

These three items should be mailed by May 1, 2008, to Martha Haberman, PDK/Hawaii Chapter Foundations Representative, 500 University Ave, Apt 1422, Honolulu, HI 96826

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by John Thatcher

The newly reorganized PDK International website is well worth a quick visit. Members are now able to create their own website log-in user name and password rather than needing to remember their membership number. With our institutional membership, staff at my school can logon to access the digital Kappan and selected articles in audio format; read the latest issue of EDge featuring a single, up-to-the-minute, cutting-edge article of importance to educators; explore practitioner-oriented research summaries in electronic form; gain full access to the Publication Archives, including abstracts of all PDK publications and Kappan articles from September 1998 to the current issue; and access 39 years of Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Polls of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools.



Our local chapter is fortunate to also have a reorganized website maintained by our webmaster, Mr. Bao Le. Bao is an English teacher from Vietnam. One of his strongest professional interests is integrating educational technology into teaching English as a Foreign Language. Bao is currently living in Oklahoma but has been able to stay active in our Hawaii chapter. Be sure to visit our website at www.hawaii.edu/pdknews/pdkhawaii.html. Thanks Bao for your dedicated service enabling our local chapter to support innovative programs, relevant research, and visionary leadership.

One of the innovative programs supported by many local Kappans is the newly emerging Global Youth Center (GYC). A bill that would statutorily establish this exciting project under the University of Hawaii has made its way through all required committees. The GYC will generate and link an international framework in which youth from around the world may become actively engaged in the attainment of world peace, environmental sustainability, and human and economic productivity for future generations. GYC Coordinator, Dr. Teresita Bernales, said, *"Hawaii has the potential to be a great instrument of peace being the crossroads of the east and west. By engaging the youth to be active participants in a variety of ways, we will develop a global population that is ready to meet the challenges of the future in attaining world peace, sustainability and productivity."*

GYC cofounder, Stephanie McCandless-Reford said, *"HB 2045 creates an opportunity for our Hawaii Global Youth Center to be the Pacific focal point for a new global youth initiative recently launched by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon himself - and to increase recognition for the ability of many of the best minds in Hawaii to help youth tackle the most pressing global issues of the day, including poverty, illiteracy and the environment... This Global Youth Center for Hawaii is the outcome of local effort and tradition. In 1887, King David Kalakaua knew that a modern Hawaii would need leaders to take its place among the nations of the world. He initiated a youth leadership education program to provide opportunities for future leaders to study abroad."*

I look forward to working with the GYC as we revitalize our secondary school social studies curriculum at my school. High school curricula are typically crowded, conservative with response to change, and expensive with respect to the development of new curricular material. The result is that in terms of novel content, high school curricula often lag behind the developments of the "real world". The situation becomes critical in an era of rapid and highly novel social change, such as that represented by globalization. High school students live a life dominated by the facts of a rapidly changing globalized world and often experience a disconnect between their own understandings and the materials studied in the classroom. The result is a range of well-documented difficulties associated with notions of motivation and relevance.

If "we" do not address this disconnect in a compelling and purposeful way, we risk educating students to a world that no longer exists. The pretense of this remark is as unsettling as it is true in that it signals the enormous challenges we face in all our social institutions to adapt in meaningful ways to the changes that have come upon us as a result of these phenomena. A globalization curriculum is one step in the direction of engaging young people in the confrontation with these dynamics and consequences of rapid change.

PTC2008 *Birds of a Feather* Session

by Julia Morton-Marr

On Wednesday January 17, 2008 a PDK team consisting of John Southworth, John Thatcher, Kathleen Andreson, Teresita Bernales, Angela Crandall, Namji Steineman, Bao Le, and Julia Morton-Marr participated in the Birds of a Feather session of Pacific Telecommunications Conference (PTC2008).

Our focus was showcasing the use of combined technologies. The group included the University of Hawaii, civil society organizations with large networks such as American Field Service (AFS), Phi Delta Kappa (PDK), Global Youth Center Hawaii (GYCH), International Holistic Tourism Education Centre (IHTEC), and the East-West Center; Schools and students.

It was another achievement in intercultural cooperation, sharing and participation with people from Viet Nam; Japan; Hawaii, California, New Mexico, Texas, Washington DC in the USA; and Ontario, Canada.

PDK members invite you to participate as we have the personnel who are willing to help teachers and students use these various technologies.

Membership Report

by John Southworth

For the best new member bargain in joining PDK see the lead story, where new members will also qualify for the same 75% discounted registration to the Technology, Colleges, and Community WorldWide OnLine conference April 15-17 as current members.

For those joining PDK as Professional, Undergraduate or International Electronic (overseas) Members, go to PDK membership webpage of <http://www.pdkintl.org/aboutpdk/membership.htm>

For those just needing to renew membership you can go to the webpage of http://www.pdkintl.org/joinpdk/renew_mbr.htm.

For those who have joined PDK/Hawaii this past year, the formal installation program is planned for the May meeting....details forthcoming.

Pass the word to your friends to join now and take advantage of the TCC 2008 conference discount and opportunity to interact with an international group of educators.

Foundation Rep Report

by Martha Haberman, PDK/Hawaii Foundation Representative

It's Graduate Scholarship Time! If you know of Kappans who are working toward graduate degrees in education, please point them to the PDK website at <http://www.pdkintl.org/awards/awardhome.htm> for information on our Graduate Fellowships and Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award. PDK offers scholarships at the master's, specialist, doctoral, and research levels in all fields of education. Also available are specific awards for educators pursuing degrees in Education Administration (R. Gerald Melton Memorial) and Music Education (Ruey Witten Fellowship). Contact scholarships@pdkintl.org with your questions or requests for additional information.

Annual Fund The 2007-2008 Annual Fund giving campaign ends June 30, and many chapters are just a few donations shy of achieving a higher Club level. Use form at end of the newsletter to submit your donation that will help PDK/Hawaii reach it's 20/20 goal. Willis B. Coale Scholarship: [Copy item from Feb 2007 newsletter but adjust 2007 to 2008 and add #1422 to address for Martha Haberman, PDK/Hawaii Foundations Rep at 500 University Ave, #1422, Honolulu, HI, 96826.]

Region A Rep's Report

by Kathleen Andreson

Roberta Abbaday passed her National Teacher Boards to become the first National Board Certified teacher in Guam.

Dean Wiles has stepped down from his CML position in the Pacific and will be replaced by his wife Gayle for the remainder of his term.

Dr. Bushaw will be in Region A in May in California and President-elect Sandee Crowther will be in Nevada in May also.

RESEARCH REPORT

By John Wilt, PDK/Hawaii Research Rep

Since publication of the January 2008 Na Ho'olaha I Na Kumu o PDK newsletter, I came across this URL <http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/testing/> where our fellow PDKers can listen to a hour-long radio documentary (or read the transcript) of stories of the impact of **No Child Left Behind (NCLB)** on students, teachers and administrators at North Carolina-based Western Guilford High School. As we speak, I'm sure all of us are aware that the U.S. Department of Education is out collecting information from educators, state and local policy makers and others as to which direction to take NCLB. Officials from the U.S. Department of Education were recently in Virginia holding talks with Virginia's educators and receiving recommendations for possible "adjustments" to NCLB. Readers of this research report are referred to the December 2007 Phi Delta Kappan to get a sense of NEA's thoughts on the NCLB's reauthorization. Here are three brief passages from the December 2007 article "**The NEA Is Fighting For NCLB Overhaul**" by Joel Packer who is NEA's director of education policy and practice:

"Just because the NEA isn't advocating the impractical approach of repealing NCLB does not mean that we are standing on the sidelines. Indeed, I believe that the NEA and the Educator Roundtable want the same things from the federal government: a reduction in NCLB's single-minded, test-based, label-and-punish accountability system, coupled with the provision of funding for proven programs that make a difference, such as smaller class sizes and high-quality pre-K programs."

And, "Again, for us this reauthorization is about more than fixing the AYP (adequate yearly progress) requirements and other provisions of NCLB that have been problematic; it's about recognizing that providing a high-quality education to every student takes more than a measurement system. It's about sending a message to students that they are more than just test scores."

Finally, "We won't stand for more mandates or prescriptive requirements, for these will only detract from the essential elements of public education: good teaching and learning. We know that more mandates aren't magically going to make kids read or perform math at grade level. Tweaks to the measurement system won't ensure that students perform any better on assessments. Good teaching practice, involved parents and communities, and engaged students will do that."

Joel Packer has also written a second article for the December 2007 Phi Delta Kappan called "**The NEA Supports Substantial Overhaul, Not Repeal, of NCLB.**" In Mr. Packer's second and quite lengthy article, he points out that the NEA: (1) does not indorse an Educator Roundtable petition calling on members of the U.S. Congress to vote against reauthorization of NCLB; (2) agrees with many of the 16 reasons why NCLB cannot be salvaged; and (3) lets readers know that there is no chance that Congress will repeal NCLB.

Also from the December 2007 Phi Delta Kappan is this article and these two very insightful thoughts from Brent McKim who is a physics teacher at Manual High School, Louisville, Kentucky and president of the Jefferson County Teachers Association:

“The NCLB path has been fraught with numerous unintended consequences. Most fundamentally, NCLB fails to address the needs of the whole child and reduces the guiding purpose of public education from the development of effective and contributing citizens to an unending quest for higher scores on tests that cannot assess what we value most in a democratic society—things like critical and creative thinking, problem solving, effective and persuasive communication, cooperation, perseverance, caring, respect, and appreciation for diversity.”

Physics teacher McKim's additional observation which should be seriously considered by those charged with what to do about NCLB, is this: *“The more teachers are compelled to focus on 'producing' scores, the less time they have to focus on the learning that they feel will most benefit their students in the long run. Tragically, because the pressure to teach to the test is the greatest in low-income schools that depend to a large degree on federal Title I funding, NCLB has actually widened the gap between the students at these schools and their more affluent counterparts at schools not dependent on Title I funding.”*

Other ideas touched on in Brent McKim's December 2007 article **“The Road Less Traveled”** are that (1) *“education for life has been reduced to preparation for tests”*; (2) *“testing and publishing companies have seen their profits soar”*; and (3) *“rather than promoting equity and closing gaps, we can now see that NCLB is actually making the disparities worse”*.

There is a very amusing article (December 2007) article by Bobby Ann Starnes called **“Thoughts on Teaching: Twisted NCLB or Twisting NCLB?”** which takes readers to the Roosevelt Elementary School located in the southern Appalachian Mountains where you will meet the Roosevelt Elementary School principal Dwain Arnold and the district's literacy coordinator Karen Reed-Wright. Principal Arnold describes Roosevelt Elementary as *“highly individualized, hands-on, and driven by formative assessment”*. For example, *“Spelling, reading, writing, and grammar are integrated into the social studies and science curriculum. Math grows out of real-world experiences infused in units created using the district's curriculum maps.”*

Here are a couple of additional quotes about how Roosevelt Elementary deals with NCLB:

“So how do you avoid “No Child Left Behind”? I (Bobby Ann Starnes) asked. “We don't avoid NCLB. It is the law.” (Dwain Arnold)

From Karen Reed-Wright: *“The trick is taking it apart and understanding how each part works. And learning the research. We really know the research, she told me, and we use that research to create child-centered learning environments.”*

As author Starnes concluded her discussions and tour at Roosevelt Elementary, she made this observation: *“And what I respected the most about the school was that the staff had found the key to beating the twisted reform that is No Child Left Behind. They had figured it out. Taken control of it. And once they understood it, they had twisted NCLB rather than allowing NCLB to twist them and their kids. Wow.”*

Here's an additional article by Kayt Sukel and published in govtech that you might find interesting: “**No Data Left Behind**”. A few highlights from “**No Data Left Behind**” are:

- (1) New Mexico has implemented an educational data tracking system to ease federal reporting, improve operational efficiency and help educators boost student achievement;
- (2) a longitudinal educational data system offers New Mexico better accountability; and
- (3) New Mexico can now determine the status of any teacher in the state.

Other articles that I have read and would recommend is an insightful research article by Gerald W. Bracey called “**The Proficiency Illusion**” (December 2007, Phi Delta Kappan) with a focus on “*state test cut scores*” which, according to Bracey, “*vary enormously*”. By reading Bracey's research article, educators can begin to appreciate these comments: “*...in Texas a student scoring at the 12th percentile on the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) tests would be labeled proficient. (I ignore Colorado's lower score because that state has a tougher standard for internal use than for NCLB purposes.) By contrast, for a student to be called proficient in California, he or she would have to score at the 61st percentile on the MAP.*”

Here are six final articles that have caught my attention after publication of the January 2008 Hawaii PDK newsletter:

- (1) “**The Return of Civic Education**” by Donovan R. Walling published in the December 2007 Phi Delta Kappan. This article by Center for Civic Education consultant Walling announces that organizations such as his Center are beginning to achieve success in their efforts to revive civic education;
- (2) “**We Need To Invest In Math and Science Teachers**” written by Linda Darling-Hammond and published in the December 21, 2007 Chronicle of Higher Education;
- (3) “**Panel Urges Streamlined Math Curriculum in U.S.**” published by the New York Times News Service/March 14, 2008 Richmond Times-Dispatch. The National Mathematics Advisory Panel has concluded that American students' math achievement is at a “mediocre level” compared with that of their peers worldwide;
- (4) “**U.S. 4th Graders Trail Peers in Other Nations in Reading**”. The study, reported in the Chronicle of Higher Education, was conducted by researchers at Boston College on behalf of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement;
- (5) go to <http://www.edweek.org/go/qc08> for a report called “**Quality Counts: 2008**” which gives Virginia a B-minus in overall educational quality, ranking the state fifth in the nation and better than the U.S. average. The **Quality Counts: 2008** report indicates that states that scored higher (higher than 82.3 out of 100) were New York, Massachusetts, Maryland and New Jersey;
- (6) January 17, 2008 Danville Register & Bee news article “**Many Students Spend a Year or More With Substitute Teachers**” written by Nancy Zuckerbrod. In the January 17, 2008 news article is this finding by Raegen Miller who is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington: “*His findings show that 10 teacher absences within a year cause a significant loss in math achievement. When the regular teacher is gone for two weeks, it can set students back at least that amount of time*” In his research Dr. Miller found big differences in teacher absence rates among schools in the same district. He said the ‘professional culture’ of a school and the relationship between teachers and administrators affect absenteeism”.

PHI DELTA KAPPA UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

President
John Thatcher
Connections Charter School
174 Kamehameha Ave.
Hilo, HI 96720
808-935-2395 h
808-961-2665 f
thatche@aloha.net

**Chapter Advisor and
Immediate Past President**
Dr. Loretta Krause
4707 Matsonia Dr.
Honolulu, HI 96816-4011
808-732-0608 h
lkrause@hawaii.edu

Vice Pres./Membership
John Southworth
999 Wilder Ave. Apt 1305
Honolulu, HI, 96822-2635
550-0129 h; 956-6871 w
south@hawaii.edu

Vice Pres./Programs
Frank Pottenger
frankp@hawaii.edu

Secretary
David Christman
169 Laula Rd.
Hilo, HI 96720
dchristm@harmonyschool.org
cell (812) 322-8487

Treasurer
Randy Kim
3408 Kupa'a Drive
Honolulu, HI 96816-2504
554-1763 h 843-3412 w
rakim@ksbe.edu

Newsletter Editor
Charles Schuster
4616 Sierra Dr.
Honolulu, HI 96816-3310
732-6770 h
cgschuster@eknahawaii.com

Chapter Historian
Currently vacant

**Technology Advisor and CML
Ab Rep.**
John Southworth
999 Wilder Ave. Apt 1305
Honolulu, HI, 96822-2635
550-0129 h; 956-6871 w
south@hawaii.edu

International Programming
Ron Scronce
ronald.scronce@yokota.af.mil

Research Representative
John Wilt, Asst. Professor
Danville CC
1008 South Main Street
Danville, VA 24541-4004
(434) 793-3765 h
(434) 797-8468 w
(434) 797-8449 fax
jwilt@dcc.vccs.edu

Foundation Representative
Martha Haberman
500 University Ave, Apt. 1422
Honolulu, HI 96826
808-941-3084
haberman@hawaii.edu

PDK Region A Representative
Kathleen M. Andreson
732 Wellesley Drive NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106-1935
505-256-7287 h;
505-266-3104 w
andreson@synergytd.com

PDK International
408 N. Union
P.O. Box 789
Bloomington, IN 47402-0789
1-800-766-1156, 812-339-0018 f
headquarters@pdkintl.org
www.pdkintl.org

Webmaster: Bao Le
baole@hawaii.edu

2006 Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year
Cynthia McAnish
ohikiguys@juno.com

2007 Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year
Amy Perruso
amyathomas@hotmail.com



PDK Foundation Donation Form

Submit to: Martha Haberman, 500 University Ave, Apt 1422, Honolulu, HI 96826

Yes I accept your challenge to help the University of Hawaii Chapter become a 20-20 Chapter for 2007-2008. (If you are donating more than \$5, indicate whether you want it designated as a "Single Donation" or a "Chapter Lump Sum Donation". (Each \$5 increment of your donation counts for an additional member, and boosts the Chapter further towards "20-20" status).

Donor Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address _____

Please check where applicable: _____ I designate my donation as a single member donation
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PHI DELTA KAPPA

Randy Kim
3408 Pupa'a Drive
Honolulu, HI 96816

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