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**Vote! Time sensitive!**

If mailing:  
Send by May 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Electronic:  
Vote by May 30

**Not red, green, blue  
or orange ! A PDK  
Vote!**

Vote for next PDK  
president-elect and  
the ratification of the  
proposed updates to  
the PDK bylaws.

**On P. 6, Area Director  
Susan Seidman has  
expressed the  
importance of the  
PDK vote to us as  
Canadian PDK  
members.**

**Is Education  
Preparing Students for  
the Complexities of  
the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?  
See P. 7**

**Awards: Are you aware of the extent of our chapter's awards? What? Whom? When?**

Are you or a colleague or a family member working on your doctorate or have recently completed one? Doctoral Dissertation Award Due Date: August 12, 2011. Our website has further details.

Please join us on Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Spring Social to learn more about the Jackman Award and to honour the 2011 Winner. Details are in the enclosed flyer.

PDK Awards are funded through ChalkWalk, our annual Walk for Education; support the awards programme by attending and/or contributing.

**The award winners pictured below were honoured at the AGM.**



**Josef Astorga receiving the Prospective Educator Award from Kari Peters & Pauline Quan**



**David Booth, 2011 Outstanding Educator, with Bev Freedman**



**Zenobia Omarali presenting the Excellence in Student Teaching Award to Linda Ristevski**

**Kudos and Appreciation to Ed and Jocelyn**

We would like to thank our historian Jocelyn Badovinac for her many years of archiving the history of our chapter, managing the initiation materials and paraphernalia, as well as directing the initiation ceremonies. Jocelyn, along with her intrepid sidekick, husband Ed, is stepping down from the position. We are looking for someone to fill large shoes. If you are interested, please speak to President Elect Bev Freedman. The role should begin July 1<sup>st</sup> to align with the PDK year which is July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30.



**Jocelyn Badovinac**



**Ed Badovinac was First Reader for the Initiation Ceremony, 2011.**



**Jocelyn, as she has done for so many years, preparing the initiates.**



**Michelle Bailey, Co-Chair of ChalkWalk 2011.**

**The ChalkWalk 2011 Committee**

You can have fun while gaining leadership, community skills, and experience to add to your resume. Two meetings have been held; the next two are May 14 and June 25. We would value your expertise and invite you to join us.

**Contact Co-Chairs**

Joulie Georgopoulos  
[jgeorgopoulos@yahoo.ca](mailto:jgeorgopoulos@yahoo.ca)  
Michelle Bailey  
[bailey4michelle@yahoo.com](mailto:bailey4michelle@yahoo.com)



**L: to R: Nathan Thirunathan, Amanda Denman, Moveeta Nanton, Reneta Racheva, Pauline Quan, Carolyn Moras, Fred & Joulie Georgopoulos.**



### Bev's Findings

It is hard to believe the school year is two thirds through; another AGM is over and your executive is considering plans for 2011-2012. Although there are disparate parts to this section the theme of increasing student achievement serves as a link. I have been in contact with EQAO and have included some of their research for your consideration.

**1. Preparing Students for the World Beyond the Classroom: Linking EQAO Assessments to 21st-Century Skills**

[http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/ResearchBulletin7\\_en.pdf](http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/ResearchBulletin7_en.pdf)

See P. 7 for more about this link.

**2. Exploring the Underlying Traits of High-Performing Schools**

[http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/ExploringUnderlyingTraits\\_web.pdf](http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/ExploringUnderlyingTraits_web.pdf)

This literature review confirms key observations about effective schools and provides educators with important ideas for enhancing school-improvement efforts as well as giving support for schools' current practices. It presents new ideas and strategies that schools can consider addressing in their unique local contexts. Building on this literature review, a full research study with original data collection is now being conducted. Results will be released later this year.

**3. Strategies That Work for Schools: Thinking Globally in a Postmodern World**

[http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/Crb36\\_0310\\_web.pdf](http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/Crb36_0310_web.pdf)

This report shows that many of the strategies used to address global issues are the same as those advocated by leading educators to ensure that school staff engage in practices that promote ongoing school improvement. The study involved a systematic review of the practices that were featured in an EQAO collection of school success stories. These themes have been demonstrated in countless schools across Ontario.

**4. Towards an Understanding of Gender Differences in Literacy Achievement (Bulletin – Full Report)**

[http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/Crb5\\_ne\\_1109\\_web.pdf](http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/Crb5_ne_1109_web.pdf)

[http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/FINAL\\_ENGLISH\\_Gender\\_Gap\\_Report\\_As\\_of\\_May\\_11\\_2010.pdf](http://www.eqao.com/Research/pdf/E/FINAL_ENGLISH_Gender_Gap_Report_As_of_May_11_2010.pdf) = Full Report

This report examines factors that could account for large or small gaps in literacy achievement between boys and girls in English-language schools. This study found that student factors (such as IEP or ESL status and self-concept) accounted for the majority of differences in boys' literacy achievement. The study also identified some school factors that were positive or negative predictors of boys' literacy achievement (such as a principal's knowledge of primary literacy instruction and absenteeism, respectively). A parallel study in French-language schools was also conducted.

There is some new research regarding the number of women in engineering. This is important because some young women with strengths in math and science who could choose to enter engineering are not. What can schools of engineering do to make it more "female friendly"? <http://www.studyofwork.com/tag/dr-nadya-fouad/>

According to [msnbc.com](http://msnbc.com), boys who have a "warrior gene" or MAOA or "low activity 3-repeat allele", are more likely to join gangs and turn to violence as a strategy. The research was published in Comprehensive Psychiatry. EQAO conducts and publishes research but it is also Ontario's accountability metric.

There has been some interesting research conducted by Purdue University and published in the journal, [Science](http://www.sciencemag.org). **It appears that taking a test is an active retrieval factor in helping people remember facts, concepts and skills better and not just a "passive mechanism"**. Students who read a passage, then took a test asking them to recall what they have read, retained about 50 percent more information than students who used other methods.

**Retrieval via tests works better. The stress of test-taking helps the brain in reinforcing the material learned.**

**Feedback that triggers thinking and reflection**

Another interesting piece of research comes from Dylan William. For feedback to be impactful on student learning it needs to:

- Recognize what they did well
- Focus on what needs still to be done and in particular how to go about it
- Is forward thinking

In this way feedback triggers thinking and reflection. This is what the Ministry has been promoting through 'assessment for learning' and 'success criteria'.

**The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat or LNS offers:**

- What Works: Research into Practice, their Capacity building Series
- Webcasts on [www.curriculum.org](http://www.curriculum.org)
- Inspire.

For a complete listing of LNS resources, go to <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/lite/lacynumeracy/publications.html>.

Working for LNS was one of my most memorable experiences. Next time you see me, ask me about it.

**Learning Forward**, (formerly the National Staff Development Council) has published draft revised standards that promote quality capacity building. You may want to check these out

([www.learningforward.org](http://www.learningforward.org)) since individual and collective capacity building of educators is another way to improve student learning. The standards are organized thusly:

**Context Standards:**

- Learning in communities
- Ensuring leadership
- Prioritizing resources

**Process Standards:**

- Using data
- Applying learning designs
- Supporting implementation

**The International Confederation of Principals**

August 15-18, Toronto will host an International Principals Conference co-sponsored by OPC at the Fairmont Royal York. If you are interested in learning about leadership, from a Canadian and an international perspective, then mark the dates on your calendar. A colleague and I will be presenting a workshop on Canada's Outstanding Principals. Check out their web site at [www.icp2011.ca](http://www.icp2011.ca).

Until next time, take care.

By Dr. Beverley Freedman



**Research Through Travel!**

Kappans Nancy Nightingale & Irene Manahan visited Chinese schools during their PDK trip to China.

## EQAO Research Bulletin Investigates Students' 21st Century Readiness

How well our education system is preparing students for success in the increasingly complex and information-rich world of the 21st century is a topic of growing discussion. Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has released a research bulletin highlighting how Ontario students are progressing toward acquiring 21st century skills related to communication, numeracy, critical thinking and problem-solving. The bulletin is based on an analysis of the 2010 Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test results in relation to descriptions of 21st century skills stated by the Conference Board of Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. The findings suggest the majority of students are well on their way. Areas where students may need additional support include using critical-thinking skills to solve problems, communicating ideas coherently and making real-life connections to numeracy and literacy skills.

[Preparing Students for the World Beyond the Classroom: Linking EQAO Assessments to 21st-Century Skills](#)

Kathleen Garrett, APR, Senior Communications Officer, Education Quality and Accountability Office

## Lunar New Year Chinese Banquet

"Pace yourself"

That was my advice to my tablemates at the fundraiser for TEOF (Toronto Educational Opportunity Fund) This organization provides up to \$100,000 annually to subsidize nutrition education and food programs in Kindergarten classes of forty Toronto schools. It also provides a weekly hot lunch in 20 Parenting and Literacy Centres.

This 10 course (yes, 10 courses!) was held at the Forestview Restaurant on Dundas Street West, in the heart of Toronto's "old Chinatown".

Valerie Mah, a former Principal in the Toronto Board of Education was the hostess for the evening. I have an interesting connection to her, as I had taught her brother Bill Wen (then called Billy) in my first year of teaching in 1971. The staff at my first school, with partners and friends, went to an Imperial Banquet at the Sai Woo, a Chinese Restaurant owned by their family in the downtown Chinatown.

The Banquet grew and I've been to it most years since that first one. Approximately 500 were on hand to share each other's company, along with delicious food, for a very worthwhile cause.

What seemed to be an army of waiters and waitresses brought each dish, typically explaining what each one was for the uninitiated. It's difficult to imagine the organizational and culinary skills that worked behind the scenes. The largest group I have ever had for dinner was about 12 people; and that was a challenge!

The evening also included entertainment. Singers, dancers and traditional Chinese instruments also performed for the diners. There were door prizes and a raffle, with quite a few prizes. I won 2 raffle prizes (yippee!). Three of the 10 people at our table won prizes! It was obviously a lucky night for us.

As we departed, with very full stomachs, we said "Goodnight" to new and old friends as we left the restaurant.

*Kung Hoi Fat Chow* (Happy New Year)!

By Kappan Phyllis Hill

Service has many forms.  
Several Kappans attend the annual TEOF dinners to generously donate.

## In Memoriam

### **Dr. Ouida Wright (1928-2011) chatting with Susanna Tang at a PDK Spring Social.**



Ouida joined the Toronto Board of Education in 1976 as Superintendent of Curriculum, having come from the Peel Board. She was in charge of Inner City programmes, Women's Studies and Status of Women Committee, Arts programmes, as well as many programmes initiated by individuals, groups and schools within a highly innovative Board.

When Ouida left the Toronto Board, she worked as Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education. With her husband Lee, she received the Harry Jerome Lifetime Achievement award. Ouida was a Kappan for 37 years.

### **Dr. W. J. Lambie (Bill) Ed.D**

**1936-2011**



It was with profound sadness that we learned on April 19, 2011, of the passing of Dr. W. J. Lambie. His commitment to education has been well- documented, from secondary school principal to superintendent in the Peel School Board. During his secondment to the Ministry of Education, he co-ordinated the Curriculum Division that eliminated Grade 13.

It was his lasting professionalism which inspired our chapter to honour him with Outstanding Educator of the Year Award in 1986.

## President's Message



**CHAPTER PRESIDENT**  
**Moveta Nanton**

This is the last newsletter of my presidency. I have to say that it has been a most rewarding time for me because of the amount of learning I have gained and also the friendships I have developed.

The calibre of the programmes we have been able to offer our members has always impressed me but in these last two years, I feel that we have excelled.

We start each PDK year with ChalkWalk, a fundraising event to support our awards and spelling bees. Thanks to Pauline Quan and Kristin Hopper for their leadership.

The Research Series on Social and Emotional Development for Academic Achievement has moved us forward with the final result being the creation of a "Classroom Tips" page. The vision for this began with John Myers and with help from Susanna Tang and Patty Pappas, the vision was realized. The 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations with a reception at Queen's Park hosted by His Honour, David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, followed by dinner at Hart House with Craig Kielburger as keynote speaker was certainly one of the highlights of this year. Special thanks to Jocelyn and Ed Badovinac who were the Co-Chairs of this event.

The 2010 and 2011 Annual General Meetings were key activities. Ben Levin and David Booth 2010 and 2011, Outstanding Educators respectively, added to the diversity and professionalism of our chapter. Also we have been able to capture the essence of our activities and ideas throughout the years in our chapter newsletter and website so that members are kept informed.

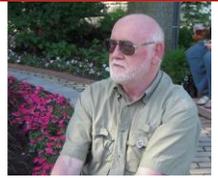
The work of Shak Ahad, Editor and Carolyn Moras, Coordinator has been invaluable in making our newsletter a success.

We end the year with a Spring Social on June 3 to celebrate and honour the recipient of the Jackman Award.

It has been a wonderful experience meeting so many Kappans both locally and internationally. What will remain with me most is the kindness of those who worked on the Executive Committee, who have been supportive and generous of their time and efforts. I thank Carolyn Moras, Past President and Chapter Advisor for her guidance over the years.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Bev Freedman as incoming Chapter President for 2011-2012 and all the executive members who will work with her. I look forward to continuing my involvement with the chapter and with Susan Seidman, PDK Area Director for Easter Canada.

**For a full Listing of our Chapter's Executive Team, visit our website. [www.pdk-ut.ca](http://www.pdk-ut.ca)**



**Programme Co-Chairs**  
John Myers  
Patty Pappas



**Newsletter Editor**  
Shak Ahad



**Membership Chair**  
Nancy Nightingale



**Foundation Rep**  
Pauline Quan

**PROGRAMME AND DUE DATES FOR AWARDS FOR SUMMER AND FALL 2011** VISIT [WWW.PDK-UT.CA](http://WWW.PDK-UT.CA) FOR MORE DETAILS. **NOTE:** OUR RESEARCH SERIES FOR 2011-12 WILL FOCUS ON "COOPERATIVE LEARNING FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY". EACH SESSION CAN STAND ALONE; ATTENDEES OF ALL THREE RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE. **QUESTIONS:** JOHN MYERS [johnjcmyers.myers@utoronto.ca](mailto:johnjcmyers.myers@utoronto.ca) 416-978-0197 OR PATTY PAPPAS [pattypappas@yahoo.ca](mailto:pattypappas@yahoo.ca) 416-622-5841

Spring Social and Jackman Dinner	Fri., June 3rd	To attend, contact Jackman Award Chair: Linda Massey Linda <a href="mailto:lmassage@principals.ca">lmassage@principals.ca</a> 416-488-0080	5:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Doctoral Dissertation Award Application due	Fri., Aug. 12	Contact: Dr. Bev Freedman, <a href="mailto:bevfreedman@rogers.com">bevfreedman@rogers.com</a>	
ChalkWalk	Sat. Sept. 17	Contact Co-Chairs: Joulie Georgopoulos or Michelle Bailey <a href="mailto:jogeorgopoulos@yahoo.ca">jogeorgopoulos@yahoo.ca</a> <a href="mailto:bailey4michelle@yahoo.com">bailey4michelle@yahoo.com</a>	9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Research Series #1	TBA	York University, Room TBA	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Niagara Falls Get Togethers	Sat., Oct. 15 Sat., Nov. 12 Fri., Dec. 16 Sat., Apr. 21 Sat., May 12	Niagara Falls - Contact Elizabeth Manker 905-358-3825, <a href="mailto:SIDEAR09@aol.com">SIDEAR09@aol.com</a>  Concert Details : <a href="http://www.niagaraconcerts.ca">www.niagaraconcerts.ca</a>	5:00 PM Dinner 8:00 PM Concert

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