

PODC Report to ECOP

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Keith Niemann, Chair
kniemann@unl.edu

Action Items

Partnership Erosion

PODC recently discussed the erosion of the federal/state partnership and how this erosion impacts all states. Our question to ECOP in February was “What does ECOP see as PODC’s role in this issue?” The question still remains.

Summit Proposal (Preparing for Future Workforce Challenges)

As a result of the joint meeting of PODC, SPC and PLC in May, the National Summit for Future Workforce Challenges is being proposed to bring together the best and brightest minds in extension, research and academia to discuss an impending change in academic culture, the workforce of the future. As the current generation of employees within the land-grant community moves toward retirement, the system must look toward succeeding generations who will replace those engaged in extension, research and teaching, as well as examine the clientele and students they will serve. Hank Allen, Jon Ort, George Cooper and Keith Niemann will present this proposal.

Guidelines for Professional Development in Extension

The updated Guidelines (formerly called Policies) will be available in hard copy and electronic form. The target audience is directors and staff development personnel. A draft hard copy will be distributed to ECOP for review and suggested changes at the August, 2000 meeting

Administrative Management Conference Planning Committee

We would like to make a request to have a PODC representative on the planning committee for the Administrative Management Conference. Judith Jones has volunteered to serve in that capacity.

Organizational Culture Work Group

Benchmarks - The Benchmarking project is now underway. The first step consisted of self-assessment and external reviews. The work group sent letters and surveys to directors and administrators with responses from 31 states indicating 15 use some sort of benchmarks. The project is now moving towards the goal of developing a self-assessment tool and a training module to help states measure success by developing benchmarks. Bill Peterson will coordinate with Howard Ladowig (Texas A&M), the person hired to do data base collection for the system. The work group’s project should complement, not duplicate Ladowig’s task.

Scenarios in Major Publications - The scenarios project is finished and articles have been submitted to and are appearing in the national publications of ESP, NACAA, NEAFCS, NEA4-HA and the Journal of Extension.

Value of Ag – Rural/Urban Interface Work Group

This work group's final document includes: introduction, background of today's agriculture, what extension educators can do, resources, and benefits to the community. It is to be circulated to states, 1890 and 1994 institutions and the professional associations. It is geared toward an interdisciplinary Extension faculty audience interested in promoting the value of agriculture.

Training Work Group

Leadership Development Opportunities - The wide array of leadership programs listed in Myron Johnsrud's survey will be combined with a listing of opportunities (developed from a web search) into a resource for current and future Deans/Directors/Administrators to access for their training needs. The resource list will be part of PODC's web site.

Grantsmanship - PODC found two excellent web sites dealing with Grantsmanship, which do an exceptional job of explaining the writing and management of grants. The first is a workshop recently conducted by CSREES and the University of Delaware, which is archived on their web site (<http://www.udel.edu/UMS/grantsmanship/archive.html>). The second, titled a "Guide for Writing a Funding Proposal," was authored by Dr. S. Joseph Levine and can be found at Michigan State University's site (<http://www.canr.msu.edu/aee/dissthes/proposal.htm>). Both sites will be listed as resources on the PODC web site.

Electronic Data Base - The focus of this project is to gather and retain the corporate memory of PODC - reports, papers and minutes. Our past Chair (currently James Smith) will develop a list of everything PODC has generated over the last 4 - 5 years. Judith Barth, Paul Warner, JoAnn Gruber-Hagen and Lu Harper have been identified as resource contacts.

PODC.com - PODC hopes to create a separate web location within the CSREES page where all of the work recently completed can be stored and easily accessed.

General Items

Future training - The Organizational Culture work group has proposed the following subjects for next year's joint meeting of PODC, SPC and PLC: Cultural Competence; Benchmarking Workshop; and, regional sharing of impact from the Change Agent States project. PODC's Subcommittee on Extension Diversity could be a useful resource on many of these topics.