

The PDK-USC Kappan

The Official Newsletter of the University of Southern California Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meet the Speaker	1
President's Message	2
Special Dinner Discount	3
Calendar of Events	3
Membership Info.	4
Member Application	5
Photos/Research News	6
Member Spotlight	7
PDK Leadership Summit	8



MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Phi Delta Kappa shall be to promote quality education, in particular publicly supported education, as essential to the development and maintenance of a democratic way of life. This purpose shall be accomplished through research, service, and leadership in education.

*From the Constitution of
Phi Delta Kappa International*



2010-11 PDK-USC GOVERNING BOARD

President	<i>Lisa M. Regan</i>
VP Membership	<i>Dr. Ed Robillard</i>
VP Programs	<i>Dr. Barbara Shannon</i>
VP Projects	<i>Dr. Guillermina Jauregui</i>
VP Projects	<i>Dr. Nick Nichols</i>
Secretary	<i>Dr. Thomas Tucker</i>
Treasurer	<i>Dr. Patricia Whitman</i>
Research	<i>Dr. E. Janeane Dimpel</i>
Historian	<i>Guadalupe Simpson</i>
Foundations	<i>Gizelle Monarres</i>



PDK-USC Web Site

<http://www.pdk-usc.org>

Advisors

*Dr. Marian Fukuda
Meg Palisoc
Adda Serenil*

Faculty Sponsor

Dr. Melora Sundt

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster

Dr. Nick Nichols

Join us for our first PDK-USC Dinner Meeting

"Education in the Global Society"

Friday, September 10, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

!!! New Location !!!

USC Davidson Conference Center

To RSVP, see page 4

For a 10% discount on this year's dinner meetings, see page 3

Meet the Speakers...

Meg Palisoc, Co-Founder/CEO, Synergy Charter Academies




As an administrator at the University of Southern California, Meg noticed that college students who came from inner-city public K-12 schools were often not as academically prepared as their peers. For this reason, Meg transitioned from higher education and became an elementary school teacher. As a teacher, she saw that inner-city

schools were not improving quickly enough. Therefore, Meg co-founded Synergy Charter Academy and Synergy Kinetic Academy to more rapidly create educational equity for all students. Meg will be speaking about her trip to Costa Rica to study Spanish as a second language.

Elizabeth "Liz" Peisner, Assistant Director, Southwestern Law School



Elizabeth has served professionally in higher education administration for nearly 10 years at CSU, Northridge, USC, and Southwestern Law School. Before that, Elizabeth's undergraduate and graduate experience included serving as an advocate in Student Affairs for disabled populations, and the general student body, at CSU, Northridge. After receiving her BA and MPA from CSU, Northridge,

Elizabeth turned her passion and interest for the rights of disabled students into a life-long career pursuit. Her professional experience not only includes higher education student affairs, but also HIV/AIDS education and policy development for the deaf and hard of hearing in Los Angeles. Elizabeth is completing her Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration at the USC Rossier School of Education, and is on track to graduate in May 2011. Her dissertation topic, The Internationalization of Experiential Learning for Physically Disabled Populations: A Case Study of Accessibility and Globalization, expands Elizabeth's research in the disabled community to a global arena. Liz will be speaking about her recent trip to China and Asia to study education initiatives in those countries. 

Message from the President – Welcome Back Kappans

By Lisa M. Regan

The Greek philosopher Epictetus (c. 55-135 C.E.) once wrote, “No great thing is created suddenly.” As I reflect upon the past year in public education, I see teachers, leaders, politicians, and policy officials scrambling to bring the latest innovations to their classrooms, schools, and districts. Even the new round of funding battles being waged in Sacramento and Washington place a heavy premium on “out of the box” thinking, competition, and creativity. But that quote by Epictetus reminds me that in order to be creative, one must deeply understand all there is to know about something so that creativity may flow from that place.



One of the things that makes Phi Delta Kappa so important in the national debate over public education is that we, as Kappans, preserve the legacy and tradition of those best practices within our profession, while carefully studying and presenting creative and innovative solutions for the future. PDK Executive Director Dr. Bill Bushaw, who gave the keynote address at the first PDK-USC/Rossier School of Education Leadership Summit this past June, reminded me that Kappans across the globe are continuing to push for excellence through research, leadership, and service. That is how I selected this year’s theme for our PDK chapter: **“Mirrors of Excellence, Windows of Opportunity.”** In the past decade, teachers and school leaders have used research-based strategies and pedagogy to propel students into the 21st Century. So as we embark on the second decade of that new era, I believe it is time to renew our focus on those “mirrors of excellence,” or best practices that help all students learn and succeed, while pursuing those “windows of opportunity,” or places where creativity, innovation, and out-of-the-box thinking are necessary to achieve lasting reform in public education. Our cadre of 2010-11 PDK-USC Dinner Meeting speakers, the 2011 Stoops Lecturer, the March Research Discussion, and the second PDK-USC/Rossier Leadership Summit next spring will shine light on this theme throughout the year.

So how can you be part of this exciting conversation this year? Here’s a simple list of things to do this year as a Kappan:

- To start, attend the September 10th Dinner Meeting, where two Kappans, Liz Peisner and Meg Palisoc, students in the USC Ed.D. program in Educational Leadership, will share their experiences traveling to other countries to study educational issues (to RSVP, see page 4).
- Ensure that your membership remains current. **Check the address label on this newsletter to see when your membership expires.** If it already has, contact PDK International today at (800) 766-1156 or online at www.pdkintl.org/join/index.html.
- Encourage a friend to join PDK by sending him/her the application on page 5.
- Send in your subscription to attend all five dinner meetings this year – a 10% discount (see page 3).
- Plan to attend the PDK International Conference in Atlanta this February. The theme, “Innovations in Teaching and Learning,” complements our chapter theme. To learn more, visit www.pdkintl.org.
- Watch your mailbox for the brochure for the 2011 PDK-USC/Rossier School of Education’s Leadership Summit, coming this spring. If you missed this year’s event, read the article in this newsletter on page 8.
- Stay in touch with your PDK-USC Chapter on Facebook (Keyword: USC Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa) or on our website, www.pdk-usc.org.

Again, join us at the USC Davidson Conference Center on September 10th for our first dinner meeting. I look forward to seeing each of you throughout this exciting year. 🌀



Special Discount for Dinner Meetings!!!

*Purchase all five dinner meetings in advance and receive
a 10% Discount to those meetings (a savings of \$18).**

Mail the form below and your check for **\$162.00** per person, made payable to PDK-USC Chapter, to:

PDK-USC Chapter, c/o Dr. Guillermina Jauregui
3025 11th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90011

**DON'T MISS OUT – THE LAST DAY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SPECIAL DISCOUNT IS FRIDAY SEPT. 3rd 2010.
Your check and this form must arrive before this date.**

* Sorry, no refunds will be given after purchases are made. All five dinners will take place at the USC Davidson Center*.
If you are unable to attend a dinner meeting after purchasing this special package, please inform Guillermina Jauregui at 323-633-3010
or GJauregu@lausd.net at least one week in advance so your dinner expenses can be your contribution to the PDK-USC Chapter.
Parking is free (included in the cost of dinner) when you park at USC Gate #4 at Jefferson Blvd. and Royal St. (across from the Shrine).

_____ **YES**, sign me up! I want to take advantage of the PDK-USC special dinner discount.
_____ **Regretfully**, I cannot attend the dinner meetings. Instead, here is my \$162.00 contribution to the PDK-USC Chapter.

Name: _____ PDK Membership # (if applicable) _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Additional Guests' Name(s), if applicable: _____

Dinner #1: _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

Dinner #2: _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

Dinner #3: _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

Dinner #4: _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

Dinner #5: _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

2010-2011 USC Phi Delta Kappa CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

10 – PDK-USC Dinner Meeting

USC Davidson Conference Center, 6:00 p.m.

16 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, VKC Library, 5:30 p.m.

February

3 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, VKC Library, 5:30 p.m.

17-19 – PDK International Conference

Atlanta Marriott, Georgia

November

12 – PDK-USC Dinner Meeting

USC Davidson Conference Center, 6:00 p.m.

18 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, VKC Library, 5:30 p.m.

March

11 – PDK-USC Dinner Meeting

USC Davidson Conference Center, 6:00 p.m.

24 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, VKC Library, 5:30 p.m.

January

28 – PDK-USC Stoops Lecture Dinner Meeting

USC Davidson Conference Center, 6:00 p.m.

May

6 – PDK-USC Recognition Dinner Meeting

USC Davidson Conference Center, 6:00 p.m.

19 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, VKC Library, 5:30 p.m.

Chapter Dinner meetings are in Bold.

Everyone is welcome at the Board Meetings.

A map of USC University Park Campus can be found at
http://www.usc.edu/about/visit/upc/driving_directions/

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON:

2011 PDK-USC/Rossier Leadership Summit

CHAPTER DINNER MEETING

New Location! Reduced Price! Free Parking!

USC Davidson Conference Center

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

DINNER RESERVATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, SEPT. 3rd, 2010

Name(s): _____ Total # Attending: _____

PDK Membership # (if applicable) _____ Phone #: _____

Meal Choice: _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

Mail your check (made payable to PDK-USC Chapter) for **\$36.00** per person with this form.
It must arrive before Friday, Sept. 3rd to:

PDK-USC Chapter
c/o Dr. Guillermina Jauregui
3025 11th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90011

Parking is included in the cost of dinner when you park at USC Gate #4. *Please consider carpooling.*
(Gate #4 is on Jefferson Blvd. at Royal St., across from the Shrine Auditorium)

To take advantage of a 10% Discount offer, see the form on page 3.

Have You Recruited a New Member to PDK?


Share the Benefits of Membership with a Dedicated, Deserving Educator

By Ed Robillard, VP Membership

Every September, educators all over Los Angeles make "new school year resolutions" that often include goals for professional growth. This year, make it your contribution to the education profession and your USC Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa to recruit new members to our dynamic organization. Our chapter offers numerous opportunities for teachers, counselors, administrators, and other school personnel to grow in the areas of research, leadership, and service to their schools and communities.

Why Join PDK-USC?

- Belong to the largest professional society of K-14 public educators in the world
- Connect with successful educators from various education fields
- Learn from dynamic speakers who serve in positions that influence education policy
- Link current research with your own professional practice
- Discover new ways to work toward improving public education in your community

By copying and distributing the 2010-11 Application for Professional Membership to all the dedicated, deserving educators at your school or in your community, you are planting the seeds that encourage today's educators to be tomorrow's leaders and innovators. As an incentive, sponsors and their new initiates each receive a complimentary ticket to the raffle held during that night's Dinner Meeting. 

Build the next generation of education leaders...

pass along the membership application to another fellow educator today! (See next page.)

For more information on membership options, please contact
Ed Robillard, VP - Membership, at ELRobillard@aol.com.

2010 Awards Dinner, Installation of Officers




May 7th was an excellent awards night, as we celebrated our awards in Leadership, Research, and Service. Also **Adda Serenil** received our highest honor, the Ted Gordon Memorial Award. We also said good-bye (for now) to one of our most beloved board members, our vice-president of projects, **Teresa Miller** who moved to Kansas with her family.



RESEARCH NEWS



Research in PDK the USC Chapter

Research is vital in providing the most appropriate tools for students, educators, administrators, and politicians to understand and work with the continuously changing dynamics of education. One of the benefits of being in PDK is having immediate access to the latest advances in research in education. Our PDK chapter of the University of Southern California invites researchers that attend our dinner meetings and share accomplishments in the education field that have direct impact on classroom instruction around the nation. Once a year our USC chapter puts together a research panel that consists of different leaders and experts in various areas of education. They present their latest findings or programs that provide our members with an insight to the continuous changes that occur in instruction and administration. It allows our members to be aware of the latest in research and provides answers to questions that many have on the subject matter. PDK also offers membership to the *Kappan*, which is a journal for education. It gives you information and provides growth at the tips of your fingers that can be used in the classroom, or for basic knowledge of worldwide education news. Every year, PDK International provides a conference for educators, who come from all over the world to share, and learn from each other, information vital in education. Each year, it is held in a different state in the U.S.A., or a different country, and people enjoy networking with each other. PDK invites everyone with a link to education to be part of our family of educators, which provides professional and personal growth to those who aspire to be leaders. 



Member Spotlight

The PDK-USC Kappan is looking for new information and stories about our members to highlight in upcoming issues and/or on our Web site. Several members took fantastic trips this past Spring and Summer – China, France, England. How many new principals, superintendents are there among us? If you or another PDK-USC member you know has an exciting achievement that is of note or importance, please share it with us so we can pass along the good news! How are you advancing the future of education?

Member Name: _____

USC Graduation Year: Bachelor's _____ Master's _____ Doctorate _____

Describe the news

Be as specific as possible. Include: new title, school/district/office, and responsibilities; recent publication title and journal/publisher; name of honor/award and awarding institution; career milestone or retirement, etc. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Submissions are welcome any time of the year.

Contact Phone Number: Day () _____ Evening () _____

Contact E-mail : _____

Please send via US mail or e-mail to:
 Nick Nichols Vice President and
 Editor, *The PDK-USC Kappan*
 24070 Eagle Mountain Street
 West Hills, CA 91304
 OR to nick.nichols@lausd.net

GO GREEN WITH PDK - USC : PAPERLESS ALWAYS AN OPTION?



Twice in the past several years, PDK-USC members were surveyed to see how many would prefer the newsletter mailed or sent via email. At this time, most members prefer mail and e-mail or just through the mail. At PDK-USC going paperless is always an option. Please indicate your preference below if you would like to receive your Newsletter by e-mail only or if you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail in addition to mail. If wish to continue receiving your newsletter as you are presently receiving it, there is no need to return this form.

Please place a check in the square before your choice:

- paperless**, via email please
 paperless and paper

 (Your Name)

 (e-mail address)

Please return to Nick Nichols, 24070 Eagle Mountain St., West Hills, CA 91304, or nick.nichols@lausd.net

L.A. Educators Gather at USC for First Leadership Summit

Historic partnership between USC Phi Delta Kappa and USC Rossier School of Education results in unique day-long workshop for K-12 teachers and school administrators

By Lisa M. Regan, President

On June 9, teachers and school leaders from the Los Angeles area convened at the USC Davidson Conference Center for the first-ever Leadership Summit. This inaugural collaboration between the USC Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa and the USC Rossier School of Education Office of Professional Development brought USC's greatest talent—its faculty, alumni, and students—to present on the most pressing issues and topics in education today.

The theme of the 2010 Leadership Summit, "Teaching, Leading, and Learning in a Time of Change" provided attendees with opportunities to hear the latest research and learn about practical applications for this new scholarship. The day began with an inspirational greeting from Dr. Karen Symms Gallagher, Emery and Joyce King Stoops Dean of the USC Rossier School of Education, and a keynote speech from Dr. Bill Bushaw, executive director of Phi Delta Kappa International. Morning sessions included topics ranging from brain-based learning (presented by Dr. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang), differentiation for gifted students (Dr. Sandra Kaplan), data-driven decision making (PDK Emerging Leader Dr. Courtney Malloy) and English language development through science (Dr. Eugenia Mora-Flores). Following an afternoon keynote by Dr. Myron Dembo, professor emeritus in educational psychology and longtime member of PDK-USC, participants attended afternoon workshops in Response to Intervention and professional learning communities (PDK-USC President Lisa M. Regan), facilitating online learning (PDK Faculty Advisor Dr. Melora Sundt with Dr. Ronni Ephraim), and learning through web tools (PDK member Devery Rodgers). The day's program concluded with a panel discussion on Los Angeles-area school reform initiatives. The panel was facilitated by Dr. Penny Wohlstetter, professor at USC and a leading expert in the area of school reform, and featured two Kappans among the panelists: Meg Palisoc, former PDK Region A international board member and co-founder of Synergy Charter Academies, and Dr. Ed Robillard, PDK-USC Vice-President of Membership and the chief school administrator of MLA Partner Schools.

Watch your mailbox for announcements for the 2011 Leadership Summit, "Mirrors of Excellence, Windows of Opportunity," coming this spring. 🐾



Dr. Karen Symms Gallagher (left), dean of the USC Rossier School of Education, welcomed attendees at the 2010 Leadership Summit on June 9, 2010 at the USC Davidson Conference Center. Pictured with her are Summit Keynote Speaker **Dr. Bill Bushaw** (center), executive director of PDK International, and **Lisa M. Regan** (right), president of the USC Chapter of PDK. (Photo by Guadalupe Simpson)

The PDK-USC Kappan
 Phi Delta Kappa International Chapter #0029
 USC Rossier School of Education
 WPH 502A
 Los Angeles, CA 90089-0031

Address Correction Requested