

MNADE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

A Word from our President

--Mary Thurow

In April I felt privileged to attend two of the three MNADE spring regional meetings. Diane Morken from South Central College, Patty Wheeler-Andrews from Anoka Ramsey Community College, and Vicky Williams from St. Cloud State University facilitated those marvelous gatherings. Once again I want to thank those inspired women for their many efforts to arrange for the meetings. We enjoyed wonderful food, stimulating conversation, and important networking opportunities.

If you have not done so already, be sure to block out the dates of September 27-28, 2007, on your calendars. Those are the dates of our annual fall conference at the Holiday Inn Mankato. The conference theme is: "Creating Communities of Learners: Promoting Student Connections." We are excited to have Russ Hodges, who teaches at Texas State University at San Marcos, as our keynote speaker. This year Russ will be facilitating a workshop the morning of September 27. In the past our conferences have started at noon.

This MNADE newsletter contains the Call for Proposals for the conference. All of you have many quality ideas to share with us. Please consider presenting one or more of your curricular innovations or program initiatives with us. Also, encourage your colleagues to submit proposals or join you in preparing a proposal. The Conference Program Committee looks forward to reviewing those submissions, which are due on June 15.

Enjoy the remainder of spring semester and your summer activities. Take care.



Call for Proposals

“Creating Academic Communities: Promoting Student Connections”

CALL FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS

The Executive Board of MNADE invites proposals for one-hour sessions on the issues of college readiness, the freshman experience, retention, and the impact of developmental programs and courses on our students. This year's conference theme will focus on how to best acclimate new generations of students to the academic environment as suggested by the conference title, "Creating Academic Communities: Promoting Student Connections." Developmental educators play an important role in welcoming and retaining new students to their campuses. We especially encourage sessions on "best practices" that will allow participants the opportunity to learn what innovations institutions around the state have implemented to improve students' reading, writing, and math skills as well as college retention efforts and the extent to which those programs impact developmental students.

Our keynote speaker, Russ Hodges, has taught at Texas State University-San Marcos since 1986 and coordinates the university's learning framework course, EDP 1350, Effective Learning. He is a former president of the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) and is

MNADE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

the co-author of *Academic Transformation: The Road to College Success*.



As you reflect on what you and/or your campus colleagues have to share on various aspects of the first-year experience, please consider

- classroom activities that you have developed
- departmental initiatives
- college-wide programming for new students
- policies that promote readiness and retention
- research that you and/or others on your campus have conducted

Proposals should include names of presenters, a primary contact person (including phone, address, and e-mail), session title, a brief description of the proposed presentation (250 words maximum), and short two-three sentence presenter biographies suitable for submission in the conference program. Please indicate your audiovisual needs; overhead projectors will be available, and other equipment may be arranged or rented. A form is on the last page of this newsletter.

Send to:
Laurel Watt, MNADE President-Elect
lwatt@inverhills.edu
1531 Osceola Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105

Due date: June 15, 2007

Remembering Fancher Wolfe

--Kathy Wellington

A tribute to a remarkable colleague and friend

Developmental education lost an invaluable champion when long-time MNADE member, Fancher E. Wolfe, died at age 79 on April 19th, 2007. A faculty member, academic advisor and mentor to countless students and colleagues at Metropolitan State University from 1975 until his retirement in 2001, Fancher taught courses in mathematics, statistics and economics. For many years, he also served on the university's assessment (for incoming students) committee, continuing to offer invaluable insights at meetings even after 2001. Fancher was passionate about reaching all students, and for his tireless efforts, he was recognized by the university with its Excellence in Teaching Award in 1992.

A true lifelong learner, Fancher earned a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in adult education at age 71 and, up until his death in April, he actively worked on math assessment projects and regularly circulated articles of interest to appreciative colleagues, friends and family members. Fancher will be enormously missed by the many people whose lives he so profoundly touched.

MNADE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

CALLING ALL MNADE MEMBERS

--Gretchen Starks-Martin

The MNSCU Assessment for Course Placement Committee had their last meeting in April. Cut scores using Accuplacer were recommended in reading, writing and mathematics. A session at the next MNADE conference in September will summarize the results. Meanwhile, the Committee is looking for new members for next year. Reading faculty are especially needed. If you are interested, contact the Chair of the committee, Linda Lade at the address below.

Linda Lade
Director of College Transitions
Minnesota State Colleges and
Universities 500 Wells Fargo Place 30
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Seventh Street St. Paul, MN 55101

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The MNSCU Board policies on Course Placement can be accessed at:

<http://www.mnscu.edu/board/policy/303.html> and
<http://www.mnscu.edu/board/procedure/303p1.html>

MNADE Fall Conference Registration

--Linda Russell

We are completely online! Our MNADE conference registration is handled through the MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning (the folks who supply us with a discipline workshop

grant each year). They have been terrific at setting up online registration, which will be available beginning July 1, 2007. Expect an email that gives you the link to the registration website. Do NOT expect a paper form in your mail! If you have any questions about registration, Zala Fashant (zala.fashant@csu.mnscu.edu) can assist you.

You will receive an email confirmation of your registration, which you should print and bring along to the conference.

New Listserv for MNADE

Ever since MNADE began our listserv in 1999, the University of Minnesota has hosted it. Cathy Wambach has been the listserv master, well, forever! Now that General College has closed, many of our colleagues there have new departments and new responsibilities. The MNADE executive board decided it would be wise to host our listserv from another source. We extend our sincere thanks to Cathy for her many years of managing our group's listserv!

Melissa O'Connor from MCTC has graciously agreed to be our new listserv master. She is the person who set up and maintains the Reading listserv which originated from a "Best Practices in Reading" session at a past MNADE conference.

We will be giving Melissa the email addresses of all MNADE members. She will then send an invitation to join a listserv, at which point you may follow up as you wish. If you have any questions, you may contact Melissa directly.

MNADE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

Melissa's e-mail address is
melissa.oconnor@minneapolis.edu.
(Note that there is no apostrophe in it.)



Membership form

The next page of this newsletter is our MNADE membership form. Please pass it along to colleagues at your school who may be interested in joining. Our goal is that ALL Minnesota developmental educators are members!

Common Book Conversations

--Patty Wheeler Andrews

At our fall conference, let's have some talk about the book(s) we've read over the summer. Here is a list of suggested titles, most of which are available at your local libraries. At one of the meals of the conference, MNADE members will sit with others who've read the same book to have a conversation about ideas, insights, or interactions with the book, the writer, or the questions they pose. Of course, you are welcome to read more than one of these, or suggest them to your campus colleagues for conversation, or even bring titles you'd like others to read for further discussion. Remember, the listserv is a great place to suggest books to other MNADE members.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time by Mark Haddon
West of Kabul, East of New York: An Afghan American Story by Tamim Ansary
Secrets of the Teenage Brain by Sheryl Feinstein
The Middle of Everywhere by Mary Pipher
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Ann Fadiman
Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven by Sherman Alexie

Newsletter Online

This newsletter is available in PDF form on the MNADE website, www.mnade.org. Please make it available to your colleagues who may not know about MNADE!

If you would like to contribute to the next newsletter, please contact Linda Russell at Linda.russell@minneapolis.edu or 612-659-6413.



MNADE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

**Minnesota Association for Developmental Education
MNADE Membership Renewal Form
Academic Year 2007-2008**

Name _____

Position Title _____

Area of Interest _____

Institution _____

Mailing Address (Please list the address where you would like MNADE mailings sent.)

Daytime Telephone (Please indicate office or home) _____

Email _____

MNADE Annual Membership fee: \$15.00

Please send a personal or institutional check made out to MNADE. For institutional checks the vendor number is #200331108-00. We cannot accept purchase orders or credit cards.

Mail your completed membership renewal form and check to:

MNADE
c/o Barb Schewe
Anoka-Ramsey Community College
11200 Mississippi Blvd. NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55433-3470

For Further information about MNADE events go to www.MNADE.org or contact:
Mary Thurow at Mary.Thurow@minneapolis.edu
Laurel Watt at lwatt@inverhills.mnscu.edu

MNADE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

**Minnesota Association for Developmental Education (MNADE)
Fourteenth Annual Conference
Holiday Inn Mankato
September 27-28, 2007**

**“Creating Academic Communities: Promoting
Student Connections”**

Session Proposal

Names of presenters: _____

Primary contact person: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Session title: _____

Brief description of the proposed presentation (250 words maximum): _____

Presenter biographies (2-3 sentences per presenter suitable for submission in the conference program):

Audiovisual needs: _____