

## EDC Grant Final Report

### *Mapping the Canadian ED Landscape: Demographics and Practices of Post-Secondary Educational Development Centres*

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Margaret Wilson, Norquest College  
Janet Z-K Wolstenholme, University of Guelph

Our research philosophy has been to be completely inclusive at each stage of the work, allowing researchers to step on and off the team as their own time and interests permit. Thus we had several researchers named on the original grant, and a dozen assisting with the literature review (we each read and summarized two articles), and about half a dozen compiling the initial stage data. These various persons either appear as co-authors on papers or are specifically thanked for their contributions to each stage.

### **Study Summary**

The purpose of this collaborative national study has been to describe the demographics and practices of Canadian post-secondary (university and college) Educational Development (ED) centres, with the overall intention of gathering and compiling sharable information. Our research team reviewed available international literature on ED centre demographics and practices and compiled a list of 39 questions we found answered in that body of work. We then compiled responses to these questions based on our own centres.

Subsequently, we hired a research assistant (Jolyn Lee) to assist with continuing this compilation with other post-secondary ED centres across Canada, and we now have forty-one listed. Our eventual aim is to have information collected and verified for every centre (some of the finishing of this work will be completed under the EDC 2009 continuation grant we have been awarded).

An emergent finding has been the nature of what we communicate via our websites and what we do not. Specifically, in attempting to compile responses to the 39 questions via websites, it became clear that while there is much excellent web communication, our websites are not always clear regarding the questions that we posed based on our summary of the ED literature. Anecdotally, we have been told this information has been very helpful to centres reviewing and updating their websites.

### **Dissemination of Results to Date**

#### **Conference Presentations**

Simmons, N., Cassidy, A., Kustra, E., Macpherson, A., Potter, M., Rodgers, R., Scrimger, A., & Wilson, M. (2010). *ED Website A, B, C, D: A Bridge for Cross-Cultural Dialogue?* Accepted for presentation at the Educational Developers' Caucus (EDC) conference, Kamloops, BC, February.

Simmons, N., Cassidy, A., Kustra, E., McPherson, A., Potter, M., Rodgers, R., Scrimger, A. (2009). *The Ebb and Flow of Canadian Educational Development Practices*. Presented at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) conference, Fredericton, June.

Simmons, N., Kustra, E., Potter, M., Rodgers, R., Scrimger, A., & Wolstenholme, J. (2009). *An evolving landscape: demographics and practices of Canadian educational development (ED) centres*. Presented at the Educational Developers' Caucus (EDC) conference, Oshawa, February.

#### **Publication**

Simmons, N. (pending). *Canadian Educational Development (ED) websites: More ebb than flow?* Submitted for publication.

#### **Future**

We have begun work on a summary of the ED literature review which will be submitted for publication as well.

We also intend to have the completed database of centre information posted on the web.

### **Budget Update**

We have spent the entire 2008 grant budget, and are very grateful to EDC for the 2009 grant that will permit continuation and completion of our work!

Our original request was for \$2494.20, to cover RA salary and benefits and also a \$75 item for breakfast for our research meeting at EDC 2009. In the end, we did not spend the \$75 for that purpose, but rather to cover additional RA hours. No additional costs were incurred.