

The Educational Developers Caucus (EDC)
Debra Dawson, Chair

This year the EDC executive has focussed on the continued implementation of our *Living Plan*. With the expansion of the activities of our action groups we have seen substantial development of many of the themes of the *Living Plan*. Highlights of our work in these areas will be illustrated in this report.

Building Professional Capacity: Developing Job Skills

This theme was the focus of our annual conference held in February at the University of Calgary and Bow Valley College in Calgary, Alberta. We had 130 attendees and were particularly delighted to have present the president of HERDSA (our sister organization in Australasia) as well as a representative from SHED (Scotland Higher Education Developers). The theme “Conceptions of the Profession: How Institutional Directions Shape our Practice” strongly resonated with our colleagues. The keynote speaker, Dr. Joan McArthur-Blair spoke passionately on the use of appreciative inquiry to foster leadership, strategic planning and innovative strategies for organizational development. With over 70 participants in the pre-conference workshops the conference was an overwhelming success. At the conference we introduced the *Wall of Thanks* allowing all participants to recognize each others’ contributions. We also recognized first time attendees to ensure their welcome into our community. Two of our action groups also concentrate on building our professional capacity-the action group on *Mentoring* our own and the one on *Developing an Educational Developers Portfolio*. Both of these groups had numerous sessions at the conference and more information on their substantial progress can be found on our web site (<http://www.stlhe.ca/constituencies/educational-developers-caucus/edc-special-projects-action-groups/>).

Building Professional Capacity: Sustainable Career Path.

One goal with this theme was to develop a longer professional development Institute that would be separate from our conference. We are delighted to announce that our first three-day professional development Institute for new and experienced educational developers was held from October 28-30 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Two very experienced developers, Ruth Rodgers and Alice Cassidy led the highly successful Institute which focused on the development of facilitation skills. More details can be found in their report on our website (<http://www.stlhe.ca/constituencies/educational-developers-caucus/new-educational-developers-institute/>).

Engaging our Community; Building Resources

We continue to develop our resources to our community with our EDC Resource Review. We give special thanks to Julie Timmermans our new resource coordinator. Julie worked collaboratively with us to create many new resources on mentoring which can be found on our web site. We also expanded our use of Social media & communications

- 450 mailist members (stlhe-ido@lists.carleton.ca)
- EDC_RFPES twitter: 127 followers

- LinkedIn EDC group: 195 members
- www.facebook.com/EDCCanada: 56 likes

We revamped our current website to improve navigation and access to resources with increased contributions to resources by EDC community members (i.e., EDC institute resources, T&L Centres list, ED Must Reads List) on our website. We now have a new website under development. Though we appreciate being part of the STLHE site, we aim to provide a more dynamic environment that brings together EDC resources (e.g. ED review, twitter and social media), enables members to contribute and find resources more readily, increases the visibility of our members, and supports the EDC community outside of conferences, institutes and f2f meetings. The site will remain on the STLHE domain and will be located at: <http://edc.stlhe.ca>

We also have several new action groups starting this year - *Reward & Recognition* allows us a forum to acknowledge the contributions of all educational developers. Plus we recently had a call for interested participants in two new groups on *Starting a Centre: Resources and Support* and *Guidelines of Ethical Conduct Action Group*. Our EDC web site provides more details for how to get involved in any of our actions groups

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

We awarded three new EDC grants in 2013. We congratulate: Cynthia Korpan for her project “Preparing Teaching Assistants: A National Survey of Canadian Post-secondary Institutions TA Institutions, Stephanie Hayes for her project “Specialized Service: Faculty Development and Teaching Support for Art and Design Disciplines” and Nicola Simons for her project “Research on Teaching and Learning in Higher Education: An Annotated Literature Database”. Several members of the EDC will be giving papers at the International Consortium of Educational Developers (ICED) and POD strengthening our international connections.

In conclusion

We welcome as of June 2014, our new executive member Carolyn Hoessler (Vice-chair Professional Development). We also give heartfelt thanks to Paola Borins for incredible work on the executive of EDC. Finally, we have over 50 active members of our action groups and many individuals working on the renewal of our web site. I want to thank you all for your continued contributions to the EDC and for fostering educational development in Canada.