



## The Educational Developers Caucus (EDC) Debra Dawson, Chair

This year the EDC executive has focussed on implementing the Living Plan with its eight themes. These themes, along with our values of open community, ethical practice, collaboration and a scholarly approach to our work, frame what we do in the EDC. In particular, we have worked on the following themes: *Building Professional Capacity: Developing Job Skills; Building Professional Capacity: Sustainable Career Path; Engaging our Community: Building Resources; and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*. 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 Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario. The conference had the largest number of delegates of any EDC conference to date. The 124 delegates from four different countries represented 42 post-secondary institutions. The conference theme of “Crossing boundaries, building capacity” was clearly one that resonated with our colleagues. The highly engaging keynote speaker, Dr. Connie Schroeder is the author of “Coming in from the Margins: Faculty Development’s Emerging Organizational Development Role in Institutional Change”. Delegates told us they came to the conference for professional development, to stay current in the field, to network, to meet new peers and to reconnect with colleagues. All of this was easily accomplished at the 38 concurrent sessions of this highly successful conference. Many formal and informal meetings were also held at the conference. Of particular note was the first meeting of Associate/Vice-Presidents or Provosts of Teaching and Learning in Canada. The success of the meeting has led Dr. Lynn Taylor (Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary) to invite this group again to meet at next year’s EDC conference in Calgary.

### *Building Professional Capacity: Sustainable Career Path*

One goal with this theme was to develop a longer professional development Institute that will occur separately from our conference. We are delighted to announce that our first three-day professional development Institute for new and experienced educational developers will be held from October 28-30, 2013 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Two very experienced developers, Ruth Rodgers and Alice Cassidy will lead the Institute.

More details will follow on the website (<http://www.stlhe.ca/constituencies/educational-developers-caucus/>).

### *Engaging our Community: Building Resources*

We continue to develop our resources to our community with our EDC Resource Review. We give special thanks to Janice Allen who has coordinated the resource review for the last few years and are also thankful to Julie Timmermans who has agreed to become our new resource coordinator. We also increased our use of social media with Twitter being used to provide a play by play of our recent EDC conference.

The larger role that social media plays in communication has led to the creation of a new action group on this topic devoted to establishing a clear vision for how we can leverage social media to enhance and build on our exemplary EDC community. Another new action group on sustainability was recently formed to share ideas, information and opportunities related to education for sustainability and its support at the educational developer, instructor, curriculum, institutional and national levels. Our other action groups continue to flourish.

### *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*

We awarded four new EDC grants in 2012. We congratulate Natasha Patrito Hannon and Nadine LeGros: *At our FingerTIPS: Extending the reach of the Teaching Innovation Projects Journal*; Janice MacMillan, Stephen Murphy, Faith Ratchford, Marie Nathalie Moreau and Louise Chatterton Luchuk: *FCC: The Next "Web" Wave*; Alice Cassidy, *Resource Repository for Sustainability Education and Leadership*; and Dianne Bateman: *Increasing Student Success through Formative Assessment*

### *Other*

We are proposing to expand the Living Plan to include a ninth theme on the *Role of the Educational Developer in Quality Assurance and Enhancement of Post-secondary Teaching and Learning*. Here we would seek to investigate how educational developers can best support valid, meaningful, appropriate assessment of teaching and living within our institutions.

We welcome as of June 2013, our new executive members: Stephanie Chu as Vice-Chair, Communications, Jordanne Christie as Vice-Chair and Erika Kustra for a second term as Secretary. We also give heartfelt thanks to Nicola Simmons and Natasha Kenny for their incredible work on the executive of EDC.