

EDC Corner

It is my great pleasure and honour to be writing my first column as the new EDC Chair, and I want to acknowledge that through the contributions of past Chairs, Teresa Dawson and Joy Mighty, and Vice-Chairs, Lynn Taylor, Alice Cassidy, and Trevor Holmes, I truly do “stand on the shoulders of giants.” It is because of their mentorship that I feel at all able to rise to the task ahead of me! While of course I feel some trepidation, I join an extraordinary executive in Ruth Rodgers, Secretary; Janice MacMillan, Treasurer; Jeanette McDonald, Vice-Chair (Communications) and our new Vice-Chair (Professional Development) Paola Borin. My warmest thanks to them and also to our membership for the kind welcome. I would be remiss in not also thanking Sylvia Avery for the ongoing wonderful support she provides for our work.

What an exciting year is ahead of us! Our ED resource is evolving and growing under the new guidance of Marla Arbach, who has done a fantastic job building on the past efforts of Cathy Baillie and Jennifer Jasper to create a blog for new and archived resources (see <http://edcresourcereview.blogspot.com/>). We’re looking forward to our annual conference at Algoma University in Sault Ste. Marie, February 23 (preconference), 24-25, 2011. Watch for further information at <http://www.stlhe.ca/en/stlhe/constituencies/edc/EDC%20Conference/2011.php>. We’ll be getting ready for another round of EDC grants <http://www.stlhe.ca/en/stlhe/constituencies/edc/Grants/index.php> and we’ll also begin planning for the first of our institutes to provide professional development for both new and experienced developers.

The theme of this newsletter, *Exploring, Shaping, Knowing*, serves as a great motto for me as incoming EDC Chair. Taken in reverse order, *knowing* the EDC membership is my first priority, one I can only achieve by asking for input and hearing your ideas and goals. I’ll also be looking closely at the data collected in the recent STLHE survey of membership where it pertains to the EDC. Second, the executive and I will be working on *shaping* the direction for this next year and the future based on our Living Plan (see <http://www.stlhe.ca/en/stlhe/constituencies/edc/documents.php>; scroll down for the plan and overview) and EDC members’ additional suggestions. Further, we’ll focus with members on *exploring* additional ways to enhance the collegial experiences and professional development of our members – both present and future.

Wishing you a wonderful start to the academic New Year!

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