

First, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate Joy Mighty, past EDC Chair, on her recent election to the STLHE Presidency. Those of us who have had the privilege of working with Joy know what a wonderful President she will make. Her experience leading the Caucus is bound to stand her in good stead for the myriad challenges and opportunities the STLHE will be facing in the coming years. To repeat the adage, Joy, the reward for hard work seems to be more hard work! Joy continues to work for Caucus in her capacity as past chair on the Exec where her experience still guides us.

I am deeply honoured to have been elected to serve as your Caucus's second chair starting this past June. As you can imagine, Joy's is a hard act to follow, but I know that with your help we will succeed. As a result of Joy's inaugural leadership, and the work of the small but extremely effective Executive Committee, the Caucus has received excellent stewardship. I take over the reins of a Caucus that has a strong organisational, procedural and financial structure beyond its years. Financially we are in good order thanks to our Treasurer, André Oberle, and to the hard work of each and every one of you who has promoted STLHE and EDC and encouraged colleagues to join us. Please contact Trevor Holmes (Vice Chair—Communications, tholmes@uoguelph.ca) if you want to join EDC, or have a colleague who does, or if you wish to be added to the listserv.

Work is continuing in support of the STLHE parent organisation in the development of its Articles of Incorporation. The Caucus Executive thanks the STLHE Steering Committee for its commitment to capturing the unique relationship with EDC in those Articles. Carole Dence, previous chair of the EDC bylaws subcommittee, and Margaret Wilson, who works tirelessly on behalf of STLHE to achieve incorporation, have both been particularly instrumental in this regard.

Those of you who were at Toronto in June will recall hearing Jeanette McDonald's "Bright Idea" initiative for sharing good ideas with colleagues from educational development centres across Canada. Her idea has grown into at least two, with ideas both for ED type centres and for individual teachers now featured in this STLHE Newsletter. Contact Jeanette McDonald or Erika Kustra if you have a "bright idea" to contribute. In addition, Jennifer Jasper has delivered on her promise to be the first EDC Resource Sharing Project Coordinator. We have all benefited enormously (particularly from the contributions of Nicola Simmons), as you will have seen from the now regular resources sent to the listserv. Trevor Holmes is currently heading up a subcommittee to explore how we can use the Society web site to make these shared ideas and resources accessible on an on-going basis. He is looking for volunteers to assist in this area so please contact him if you would like to help.

Beyond these ongoing initiatives, I want to take this opportunity to give you some examples of the exciting new projects headed your way with the help and dedicated support of hard-working Caucus members.

Thanks to the conference sub-committee, plans are forging ahead for the February 2007 EDC Conference entitled, "Engagement and Educational Development", co-hosted by the Universities of Guelph and Waterloo. Two pre-conference workshops are scheduled for Wednesday, February 21 (per our carefully thought out professional development plan facilitated and developed for us by Lynn Taylor, outgoing Vice Chair—Professional Development); one for new educational developer colleagues and one showcasing the University of Waterloo's successes in engaging faculty. Our keynote speaker for the conference will be Matt Ouellet, incoming POD President, who knows a great deal about engaging

diverse audiences in educational development in North America and beyond. I very much hope that you will join us at what I know will be a fabulous event.

We will soon be announcing the availability of EDC grants that are “designed to enhance critical reflection, inquiry, and communication about educational development practice within in the EDC community.” Alice Cassidy (Vice Chair—Professional Development) and I will offer a brief information session and workshop during the February Conference for all members interested in applying. As a result of your hard work in garnering STLHE institutional memberships, the STLHE Board of Directors unanimously voted to have a significant percentage of funds raised by those memberships to go specifically to the EDC grants program in order to support its members in educational development projects.

Finally, since at least one position on the EDC Executive (Vice Chair—Communications) will be open shortly. I encourage you to consider putting your name forward. Remember that all members in good standing are welcome to stand. We particularly encourage our colleagues from colleges and university colleges, as well as from universities, consider running in order to further diversify our group.

Teresa Dawson, EDC Chair
University of Victoria