

# The PDK-USC Kappan

The Official Newsletter of the University of Southern California Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International

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### MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Phi Delta Kappa shall be to promote quality education, in particular publicly supported education, as essential to the development and maintenance of a democratic way of life. This purpose shall be accomplished through research, service, and leadership in education.

*From the Constitution of  
Phi Delta Kappa International*



### 2005-2006 PDK-USC GOVERNING BOARD

<b>President</b>	<i>Meg Palisoc</i>
<b>VP Membership</b>	<i>Dr. Alexis Sheehy</i>
<b>VP Programs</b>	<i>Dr. Ed Robillard</i>
<b>VP Projects</b>	<i>Dr. Emery Stoops</i>
<b>VP Projects</b>	<i>Stephenie Winn</i>
<b>VP Projects</b>	<i>Dr. Robert Whipple</i>
<b>Secretary</b>	<i>Dr. Robert Nelli</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Linda Weber</i>
<b>Historian</b>	<i>Billie Jean Barrett</i>
<b>Research</b>	<i>Dr. Bill Wright</i>
<b>Foundations</b>	<i>Adda Serenil</i>

#### PDK-USC Web Site

<http://www.pdk-usc.org>

#### Advisor

*Dr. Marian Fukuda*

#### Faculty Sponsor

*Dr. Stuart Gothold*

#### Newsletter Editor

*Lisa Regan*

Join us for our next Dinner Meeting

## The PDK-USC Stoops Lecture

### Guest Speaker: Dr. Bill Bushaw

Executive Director, Phi Delta Kappa International

Friday, January 20, 2006

6:00 p.m.

USC Upstairs Commons Garden Room

Inspiration by Dr. Joyce King Stoops, Professor Emerita  
USC Rossier School of Education

To RSVP, see page 3

## Meet the Speaker... Dr. Bill Bushaw



This year's annual PDK-USC Stoops Lecture will be given by Dr. Bill Bushaw, executive director of Phi Delta Kappa International. Our chapter is extremely honored to have this distinguished leader come to our campus to speak about "PDK Today." His talk will be preceded by an Inspiration by Dr. Joyce King Stoops, Professor Emerita from the USC School of Education. The Stoops Lecture is named for Dr. Emery Stoops, former PDK International President and longtime PDK-USC board member. The lecture has been an annual PDK-USC tradition since 1956.

Bushaw is a former middle school teacher and high school principal. For several years, he directed the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) program in Michigan. Following that, he served as chief academic officer and deputy superintendent at the Michigan Department of Education and as a director at Merit Network, Inc. Bushaw also served in the U.S. Navy, both on active duty and in the reserve, retiring in October 2000.

A Michigan native, Bushaw received his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, his master's degree from Eastern Michigan University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. His professional interests center on education policy, student assessment, school evaluation, and the deployment of technology in classrooms and schools. He is a strong advocate for public schooling. The Phi Delta Kappa International Board appointed Bushaw as PDK's sixth executive director on October 1, 2004.

# PDK International Conference Highlights

By Meg Palisoc and Linda Weber

In early November, chapter members Meg Palisoc, Ed and Rosa Robillard, Adda Serenil, and Linda Weber attended the 2005 PDK International Conference in Chicago, Illinois. There were over 60 topical sessions and many outstanding presenters from around the world.

We attended a variety of informative workshops on curriculum and instruction, school governance, and PDK chapter involvement and service.

In addition, we had an opportunity to meet members from other PDK chapters both near and far, including members from the local UCLA and San Fernando Valley chapters and members as far away as Russia. The San Fernando Valley chapter shared that they host an annual Teacher's Day at the California State University, Northridge campus each spring. Our chapter expressed an interest in collaborating in this event, combining the talents and expertise of our members with those from other chapters in our area. We will provide more information about this event to our chapter members when the details are finalized.



In November, PDK-USC Board Members Meg Palisoc, Linda Weber, and Adda Serenil attended the PDK International Conference in Chicago.

Below is a list of useful Internet resources we compiled from the different conference sessions. Enjoy!

**National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP – “The Nation’s Report Card”)** - <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>

**Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning** – <http://www.mcrel.org>

**National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)** - <http://nces.ed.gov>

**Middle schools making a difference around the country** - <http://www.schoolstowatch.org>

**Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study and Progress in International Reading Literacy Study**  
(TIMSS and PIRLS International Study Center) - <http://www.timss.org>

**The Framework for an Effective Victorian (Australia) Government School System**  
(Click on Knowledge Bank – Showcase for Best Practices) - <http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/blueprint>



## 2005-2006 PDK-USC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January

**20 PDK-USC Stoops Lecture Dinner Meeting**  
**Dr. Bill Bushaw,**  
**PDK International Executive Director**  
USC Upstairs Commons Garden Room, 6:00 p.m.

### February

**9 PDK-USC Board Meeting, WPH 900, 5:30 p.m.**

### March

**24 PDK-USC Dinner Meeting**  
**USC Ed.D. Student Presentations**  
USC Upstairs Commons Garden Room, 6:00 p.m.

**30 PDK-USC Board Meeting, WPH 900, 5:30 p.m.**

### May

**5 PDK-USC Dinner and Awards Meeting**  
USC Upstairs Commons Garden Room, 6:00 p.m.

### June

**8 PDK-USC Board Meeting, WPH 900, 5:30 p.m.**

**Chapter Dinner Meetings are in Bold.**

Everyone is welcome at the Board Meetings.

A map of the USC University Park Campus can be found at [http://www.usc.edu/about/visit/upc/driving\\_directions](http://www.usc.edu/about/visit/upc/driving_directions)

# PDK-USC Chapter Memories

## November Dinner Meeting



Above left: California Assemblymember and USC alumnus **Mark Ridley-Thomas** is the meeting's guest speaker, reflecting on education and the city of Los Angeles.



Above right: PDK-USC Board Members **Adda Serenil** (Foundations Representative) and **Linda Weber** (Treasurer) provide the evening's Inspiration, speaking about their recent attendance at the PDK International Conference in Chicago.



Right: Newly inducted PDK member **Sharon Winn** is congratulated by her daughter **Stephanie Winn**, PDK-USC Vice President of Projects.

## Save The Date !!

PDK-USC DINNER MEETING @ THE USC UPSTAIRS COMMONS GARDEN ROOM  
(Located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Student Union Building – STU on Campus Map)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

**DINNER RESERVATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Total # Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

PDK Membership # (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

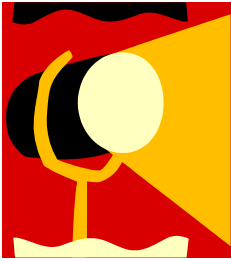
Meal Choice:  Beef  Salmon  Vegetarian

If you have already paid for all PDK-USC dinners this year, please e-mail your dinner choice to [swinn@usc.edu](mailto:swinn@usc.edu) or send your choice via U.S. mail.

Mail your check (made payable to *PDK-USC Chapter*) for **\$30.00\*** per person (NOT including parking) with this form before Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> to:

PDK-USC Chapter  
c/o Stephanie Winn  
15529 S. Normandie Ave., Unit A-1  
Gardena, CA 90247

*\*This amount does not include parking. Parking on campus costs \$7.00. Parking is no longer available through Gate #2. Please enter through Gate #3 off of Figueroa Street and USC McCarthy Way to park in Parking Structure X.*



# Member Spotlight

Send your important news to Lisa Regan, Newsletter Editor, at [lisa.regan@lausd.net](mailto:lisa.regan@lausd.net).

**Elizabeth Topkis** recently received the George H. Reavis Associate Recognition Certificate for her donation to the Phi Delta Kappa Educational Foundation. The award includes a bronze medal and a lapel pin. Congratulations to Elizabeth for her generosity.

Happy 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday to **Dr. Emery Stoops**! After writing his 18<sup>th</sup> book, *Prairie Pioneers*, Dr. Stoops was listed in *Who's Who In The World of Authors*. Dr. Stoops gave away a copy of his book to a chapter member at the most recent PDK-USC dinner meeting.

**Dr. Alexis Sheehy**, PDK-USC Vice President of Membership, was promoted to deputy superintendent of the Burbank Unified School District. Alexis previously served the district as assistant superintendent for instructional services and director of secondary education.

PDK-USC Chapter President **Meg Palisoc** and her husband **Randy Palisoc** are profiled in and featured on the cover of the current issue of *UrbanEd*, the magazine of the USC Rossier School of Education. This issue focuses on the innovations and challenges of charter schools. Meg and Randy are the co-founders of Synergy Charter Academy, a K-5 charter school near USC. To read the complete text of the article, visit [http://www.usc.edu/dept/education/news/urbanedfall\\_winter05/fall\\_winter05.htm](http://www.usc.edu/dept/education/news/urbanedfall_winter05/fall_winter05.htm).



**Lisa Regan**, PDK-USC Newsletter Editor, has been selected to present her research findings at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) this April in San Francisco. As part of the University of California Literacy Consortium's research project, Lisa and colleagues from several LAUSD middle schools and the UCLA Writing Project have been analyzing the effectiveness of using genre study to improve reading and writing skills among English learners (ELs) and standard English learners (SELs) in English/language arts and history classes. Lisa is currently an administrator in the LAUSD Division of Secondary Instruction central office, specializing in secondary literacy curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

New PDK member **Sheryl Mauricio** was honored by Region VI of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) with the "Rising Star" award. The honor recognizes graduate students who have the potential to make significant contributions to higher education administration in the future.

**Dr. Josephine Zarro** was promoted to assistant principal at Banning High School in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Her duties will include curriculum, instruction, professional development, and creating a humanities small learning community. Jo was a featured speaker at last year's Ed.D. student presentation PDK-USC Dinner Meeting and was awarded her doctorate in educational leadership from USC last spring. Previously, Jo was a faculty member and coordinator at Manual Arts High School.

## **The PDK-USC Kappan**

Phi Delta Kappa International Chapter #0029  
USC Rossier School of Education  
WPH 1101  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0031

**Address Correction Requested**