

# 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*



## 2006-07 PDK-USC GOVERNING BOARD

|                      |                                 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>President</b>     | <i>Dr. Alexis Sheehy</i>        |
| <b>VP Membership</b> | <i>Lisa Regan</i>               |
| <b>VP Programs</b>   | <i>Dr. Janeane<br/>Dimpel</i>   |
| <b>VP Projects</b>   | <i>Dr. Bill Wright</i>          |
| <b>VP Projects</b>   | <i>Dr. Nick Nichols</i>         |
| <b>VP Projects</b>   | <i>Dr. Barbara<br/>Shannon</i>  |
| <b>VP Projects</b>   | <i>Victor Gonzalez</i>          |
| <b>Secretary</b>     | <i>Dr. Patricia<br/>Whitman</i> |
| <b>Treasurer</b>     | <i>Dr. Ed Robillard</i>         |
| <b>Historian</b>     | <i>Dr. Paul Sparks</i>          |
| <b>Research</b>      | <i>Gizelle Monarres</i>         |
| <b>Foundations</b>   | <i>Teresa M. Miller</i>         |

## PDK-USC Web Site

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

## Advisor

*Dr. Marian Fukuda*

## Faculty Sponsor

*Dr. Melora Sundt*

## Newsletter Editor

*Dr. Barbara Shannon*

*Join us for our first PDK-USC Dinner Meeting*  
**"Supporting High-Quality Public Education  
 through Leadership, Research, Service"**

**Friday, September 7, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Vineyard Room: Davidson Conference Center**

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Darline Robles**  
 Superintendent: Los Angeles County Office of Education

*To RSVP, see page 4*

## Meet the Speaker... *Dr. Darline Robles*



*Dr.* Robles has served as the executive director for the nation's largest regional education service agency since returning to California in 2002. As executive director, she sets the values, visions and goals for the Los Angeles Office of Education. In addition to supervising an executive staff that directly educates students who are part of the Los Angeles County Court system and special education students, she recruits and trains staff to serve the instructional needs of the school districts. *Dr.* Robles and her team work with the districts' low-performing schools and direct the nation's third largest Head Start Program.

Prior to her return to California, *Dr.* Robles served as Superintendent of Schools for the Salt Lake City unified School District (1995-2002). During her tenure in Utah, she saw many of the Districts' goals accomplished including the improvement of SAT-9 scores, a decrease in student drop-out rate, the passing of a \$136 million capital bond, and the receipt of the only Annenberg Challenge Grant given for system-wide reform.

*Dr.* Robles began her career in education as a Teacher Corp Intern at the Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall Court Schools. The many hats she has worn since then include teacher specialist in bilingual/bicultural education, principal of an elementary and intermediate school, and both an assistant superintendent and a superintendent of the Montebello School District.

A product of Southern California schools, *Dr.* Robles received a B.A. in History from California State University, Los Angeles, a M.A. in education from Claremont Graduate School, and a Ph.D. in Education Policy and Administration from the University of Southern California.

# Message from *the President*

By Alexis Sheehy

Welcome to another year of leadership, research, and service as Phi Delta Kappans! I am pleased to serve as your president this year, and am fortunate to be assisted by a talented group of people serving on the PDK-USC Board. I want to give a particular welcome to the thirty-six new members who joined PDK-USC in 2006-2007. We are starting our 86<sup>th</sup> year as a chapter.

Our theme for this year is *Supporting High-Quality Education through Leadership, Research, and Service*. We have many great educational leaders in PDK-USC, and our association's publication, *The Kappan*, is highly respected in the area of research. This year, PDK-USC is going to publicize some local areas of service that our members may want to support with time and resources. Please let me know if you know of any service opportunities that would be of interest to other USC Kappans. You can email me at [alexisheehy@yahoo.com](mailto:alexisheehy@yahoo.com).



Our new President-elect of Phi Delta Kappa International is Sandee Crowther. Sandee has stated that Phi Delta Kappa "must be visible nationally and internationally as a strong advocate for publicly supported education. Both in North America and internationally, we need to share what is "right" with public education." In line with these thoughts, our first speaker of the year, Dr. Darline Robles, Superintendent of the Los Angeles County Office of Education, will talk to us on September 7 about what is "right" with public education in our own backyard,

Your board has been working on revising our bylaws to be in compliance with a template from Phi Delta Kappa International. One item that will affect the membership is that Board elections will now be held in March rather than in May beginning next year to conform with PDK International Bylaws. So you will want to make sure to attend the March 7, 2008 dinner meeting to vote for 2008-2009 officers. The bylaws will be ready for your review at the September dinner meeting, and the membership will vote on them at the November dinner meeting.

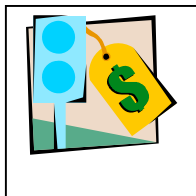
Phi Delta Kappa International's Summit on Global Education; Preparing our students for work and citizenship in a global society will be held October 18-20, 2007 in Vancouver, British Columbia. The impact of globalization experts will tackle this issue in a moderated session on Thursday, October 18. On October 19, Gene Sperling, director of the Center on Universal education at the Council of Foreign Relations, will give the keynote address. Breakout sessions Friday afternoon and Saturday will further encourage dialogue on global education.

We are excited about the new venue for our meetings, the Vineyard Room in the Davidson Conference Center. Come join your fellow Kappans at each dinner meeting to be a part of another exciting year in education. ☞

## 2008 Summit

Join us for the 2008 Phi Delta Kappa International Summit, which will be held November 13-15, 2008, at the Grand Hyatt in San Antonio, Texas.





## Special Discount for Dinner Meetings!!!

Purchase all five dinner meetings in advance and receive  
**a 10% Discount** to those meetings (a savings of \$20).\*

Mail the form below and your check for **\$160.00** per person, made payable to PDK-USC Chapter, to:

PDK-USC Chapter, c/o Nick Nichols  
24070 Eagle Mountain St., West Hills, CA 91304

**DON'T MISS OUT – THE LAST DAY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SPECIAL DISCOUNT IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>.**  
Your check and this form must arrive **before** this date.

*\* Sorry, no refunds will be given after purchases are made. All five dinners will take place at the Vineyard Room of the Davidson Conference Center. If you are unable to attend a dinner meeting after purchasing this special package, please inform Nick Nichols at (818) 456-9732 or [nick.nichols@lausd.net](mailto:nick.nichols@lausd.net) at least one week in advance so your dinner expenses can be your contribution to the PDK-USC Chapter. Parking is included in the Dinner Meeting subscription.*

**YES**, sign me up! I want to take advantage of the PDK-USC special dinner discount.  
 **Regretfully**, I cannot attend the dinner meetings. Instead, here is my \$160.00 contribution to the PDK-USC Chapter.

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

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Guests' Name(s), if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner #1:  Chicken  Fish  Vegetarian  
Dinner #2:  Chicken  Fish  Vegetarian  
Dinner #3:  Chicken  Beef  Vegetarian  
Dinner #4:  Chicken  Fish  Vegetarian  
Dinner #5:  Chicken  Fish  Vegetarian

## 2007-08 USC Phi Delta Kappa CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September

- 7 – PDK-USC Dinner Meeting  
Davidson Conference Center 6:00 p.m.
- 12 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, WPH 900, 5:30 p.m.

### October

- 18-20 – PDK International Conference  
Vancouver, British Columbia

### November

- 2 – PDK-USC Dinner Meeting  
Davidson Conference Center 6:00 p.m.
- 15 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, WPH 900, 5:30 p.m.

### January

- 25 – PDK-USC Stoops Lecture Dinner Meeting  
Davidson Conference Center 6:00 p.m.
- 31 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, WPH 900, 5:30 p.m.

### March

- 7 – PDK-USC Dinner Meeting  
Davidson Conference Center, 6:00 p.m.
- 13 – PDK-USC Board Meeting, WPH 900, 5:30 p.m.

### May

- 2 – PDK-USC Dinner and Awards Meeting  
Davidson Conference Center 6:00 p.m.

### June

- 5 – 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 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/)

## Save The Date!!!

PDK-USC Dinner Meeting @The Vineyard Room  
(Located in the Davidson Conference Center)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

**DINNER RESERVATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>.**

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

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

Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

Mail your check (made payable to PDK-USC Chapter) for **\$36.00\*** per person (Includes parking) with this form. It must arrive before Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> to:

PDK-USC Chapter  
c/o Nick Nichols  
24070 Eagle Mountain St.  
West Hills, CA 91304

\*This amount does include parking. Parking is available through Gate #4 off of Jefferson Street.  
**To take advantage of a 10% Discount offer, see above form.**



Pictured from left to right: Peter Nisotis, Paul Yokota, Jane Barnhart and Meg Palisoc

Thank you Jane for your support!

Former President Meg Palisoc presents an award to Jane Barnhart in memory of her late husband and long-time, devoted PDK-USC member, Henry "Barney" Barnhart.



# Member Spotlight



On March 29, 2007, newly Initiated PDK-USC Member Jennifer Epps was awarded the "Charter School Teacher of the Year" award during the 14th Annual California Charter Schools Conference in San Diego. Jennifer teaches at Synergy Charter Academy in South Los Angeles.

Jennifer (right) and Caprice Young (President/CEO of the California Charter School Association)

Congratulations to Meg and Randy Palisoc!



Synergy Charter Academy, a South Los Angeles public charter school started by PDK-USC members Meg and Randy Palisoc, was recognized as a National Charter School of the Year by The Center for Education Reform (CER) at a special awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., on May 16, 2007. This honor was given to 53 charter schools out of nearly 4,000 charter schools nationwide. Synergy was the only school in Los Angeles to receive this award.



## PDK-USC Chapter by-laws

The PDK-USC Chapter by-laws have been revised to reflect the template of PDK International. A copy of the new by-laws is available at [www.pdk-usc.org](http://www.pdk-usc.org). Copies will also be available on the tables at the September dinner meeting in preparation for the ratification vote at our November dinner meeting. Please take a moment to read the new by-laws.





# Member Spotlight

**T**he PDK-USC Kappan is looking for news, information, and stories about our members to highlight in upcoming issues and/or on our Web site. If you or another PDK-USC member you know has an exciting achievement that is of note or importance, please share it with us so we can pass along the good news! Have you or a fellow PDK-USC member recently been promoted or celebrated a professional accomplishment (e.g., career milestone, achievement, honor, award, publication)? How are you advancing the future of education?

**Member Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**USC Graduation Year:** Bachelor's \_\_\_\_\_ Master's \_\_\_\_\_ Doctorate \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the news

Be as specific as possible. Include: new title, school/district/office, and responsibilities; recent publication title and journal/publisher; name of honor/award and awarding institution; career milestone or retirement, etc. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

### Share Your Story - Building a Legacy: Honoring the Past and Advancing the Future

In honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Phi Delta Kappa International, share your memories of the proud tradition of the USC Chapter of PDK by describing some of your experiences with our chapter. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

**Submissions are welcome any time of the year.**

Contact Phone Number: Day ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_

Please send via US mail or e-mail to:

**Barbara Shannon**

Vice President and Editor, *The PDK-USC Kappan*

134 Fowler Drive

Monrovia, CA 91016 OR [bshannon@westridge.org](mailto:bshannon@westridge.org)



# Phi Delta Kappa International

## USC Chapter New Member Application

2007-08



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street/P.O. Box)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip/Postal Code)

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Title:  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Dr.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Education:  Student Teacher  BS/BA  MS/MA/MEd  Doctorate  
(Select all that apply):

Current Position (Select one):

Teacher

- (11)  Elementary
- (12)  Middle School
- (13)  High School
- (14)  Junior/Comm. College
- (15)  Vocational/Technical
- (16)  College/University

Administrator

- (21)  Elementary
- (22)  Middle School
- (23)  High School
- (24)  Junior/Comm. College
- (25)  Vocational/Technical
- (26)  College/University
- (27)  Asst. Supt./System
- (28)  Supt./System

Other

- (3H)  Student Teacher
- (39)  Curr. Spec./Counselor/Sup.
- (30)  Graduate Student
- (3A)  Educational Consultant
- (3B)  Professional Staff: State, Federal,  
Private Agency or Organization
- (3C)  Business/Industry
- (3D)  Retired
- (3E)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor's Membership ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ USC Chapter # 0029

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitting Your Application**

1. **Mail** this completed application with a \$140.00\* check made payable to **PDK-USC Chapter** to:  
**Lisa Regan**  
 PDK-USC Vice President, Membership  
 5861 Ernest Avenue  
 Los Angeles, California 90034
2. **E-mail** a brief, 100-word biography of your professional experience in public education and a digital photo of yourself to Lisa Regan, VP Membership, at [lisa.regan@lausd.net](mailto:lisa.regan@lausd.net).
3. **For more information**, contact Lisa Regan, PDK-USC Vice President of Membership, at [lisa.regan@lausd.net](mailto:lisa.regan@lausd.net) or (310) 951-1058.

\* This one-time new member fee includes your PDK International and Chapter Affiliation annual dues (\$100), a PDK International new applicant processing fee (\$5), and your meal at the next New Member Initiation and PDK-USC Chapter Dinner Meeting (\$40). In subsequent years, your annual membership dues (\$100) will be paid directly to PDK International.

## PDK INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

PDK supports educators who are pursuing graduate degrees in education through several fellowships and awards made available through the Phi Delta Kappa Educational Foundation and its endowed scholarship program.

**Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award** is funded through the PDK Educational Foundation. One cash award of \$5,000 will be awarded for the doctoral dissertation judged to be the outstanding submission in 2007. Deadline is September 1.

**Prospective Educator Scholarships** are for high school seniors intending to major in education and undergraduate members of PDK who are enrolled in a college education program. The submission deadline is February 1.

**Past President Emery Stoops Scholarship** is one of the PDK Scholarship Grants for Prospective Educators. **Dr. Emery Stoops**, international PDK president from 1954-56 and PDK-USC Past President, established this award in 1997 as part of the PDK Educational Foundation. The winner will be chosen by the committee that chooses the other recipients of PDK's Prospective Educator Scholarships, with preference for the scholarship being given to a student who intends to go to the University of Southern California. Deadline is February 1.

**Gerald Howard Read International Travel Scholarships** help offset the cost of traveling through the PDK International Travel Program. Gerald H. Read, a long-time member and PDK benefactor, probably is best known for enabling thousands of Kappans to learn firsthand about education systems around the world. He organized the PDK International Travel Program, leading the first group of Kappans to the Soviet Union in 1961. In 1980 he and his wife, Vicki, established an endowment with the PDK Educational Foundation that provides scholarships for Kappans to participate in the travel program. He also served on PDK's Commission on International Education from 1958 to 1968. Deadlines precede each program.

**R. Gerald Melton Scholarship** is for doctoral study in education administration. Deadline is May 15.

**Ruey H. Witten Fellowship** is for post-baccalaureate study in music education. Deadline is June 1.

**Graduate Fellowships in Educational Leadership** are for members who will be full-time graduate students from 1 July 2007 through 30 June 2008. Deadline is June 1. ↻

*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*