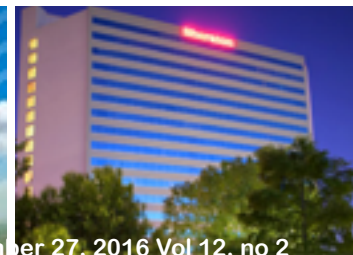


NNER

National Network for Educational Renewal



September 27, 2016 Vol 12, no 2

Join us at the 2016 Conference of the National Network for Educational Renewal!

*2016 THEME: PROGRESS THROUGH PURPOSE: SHARING OUR JOURNEY
TOWARD RENEWAL*

The 2016 Conference hosted by the University of Texas at Arlington will take place October 27-29 in Arlington, Texas. UT Arlington is located in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex, about 20 minutes from the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. The conference will include a tour of exemplary schools, presentations from educators, opportunities for networking with colleagues from around the country, and sessions that focus on four conference strands: 1. Partnering Through Collaboration; 2. The Agenda for Education in a Democracy; 3. Leadership and Policy; and 4. Instruction and Assessment.

2016 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: DR. GEORGE WRIGHT AND MS. SHANNA PEEPLES

Keynote speakers are **Dr. George Wright** (below left), President of Prairie View A & M University, and **Shanna Peeples** (below right), 2015 National Teacher of the Year. Dr. Wright is a noted historian, having written extensively about the history of social issues in this country. Ms. Peeples, a UT Arlington alumna, teaches at Palo Duro High School in Amarillo, Texas. Many of her students are refugees fleeing war-torn countries and about 85% live at or below the poverty line.



Dr. George Wright



Shanna Peeples, with President Obama

This year's venue will be the **Sheraton Hotel** in North Arlington.

The Sheraton's many amenities include a free shuttle from Dallas Fort Worth International Airport. There is NO shuttle for Dallas's Love Field Airport

EDUCATION IN A DEMOCRACY

2016 NNER Journal nearing publication

The University of Connecticut Neag School of Education looks forward to sharing the 2016 version of *Education in a Democracy: A Journal of the NNER*. This year's journal offers perspectives and research on several important topics in our current politically charged climate. The journal will invite readers to explore various renewal efforts taking place in NNER settings as well as consider the current state and health of our democracy.

UTA welcomes new dean



The College of Education at the University of Texas at Arlington are delighted to welcome new Dean Dr. Teresa Taber Doughty. Dean Doughty comes to the College from Purdue University. She is a nationally recognized leader in special education, autism, and developmental disabilities, with more than 30 years of experience. Prior to her 17-year tenure at Purdue, Dr. Doughty held positions at Georgia State and Oglethorpe.

Doughty sat on the Indiana Commission for Higher Education's Statewide General Education Transfer Core Task Force, the National Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation Board of Visitors and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education Board of Examiners. In 2013, she was inducted into the Purdue Book of Great Teachers.

Gerlach takes new position



Effective February 1, 2016, former University of Texas at Arlington College of Education Dean Jeanne Gerlach is dedicating her full attention to this critical area of raising the bar for UTA's support of an increasingly educated citizenry, as UTA's full time Associate Provost for K-16 Initiatives, a title and set of responsibilities she has already ably pursued for years in conjunction with the deanship. In this capacity, she will focus her complete efforts on helping lead UTA's increased focus on the K-16 educational pipeline and enable a greater contribution by the university to Texas's stated goal of having 60% of adults age 25 to 34 hold degrees by the year 2030.

Fairfield gains honors



The Fairfield Magnet School for Science and Math in the Fairfield County School District (partner district with Winthrop University), was named a 2016 High-Flying School by the National Youth-At-Risk organization. With over 85% poverty and 84% minority, the school has consistently shown growth in student achievement over time and maintains active school and community engagement. Students at Fairfield Magnet are involved in clubs, student government, and service projects. Principal Gale Whitfield writes, "Our mission is to provide a quality educational environment that enables all students to develop their abilities to the fullest potential by completing a rigorous curriculum so that they will develop essential skills, become contributing members of society, and life-long learners."

League of Democratic Schools reorganizes, Stoicovy to chair



New chair takes helm

Donnan Stoicovy, principal of award-winning State College PA elementary school Park Forest Elementary and long-time League of Democratic Schools participant, will chair the group through December 2017.



Donnan Stoicovy

Members confirmed her nomination in early May. Next steps for the League include a May 19 ZOOM video meeting, participation in the National Network for Educational Renewals July

18-19 strategic planning meeting in Albuquerque, and a presence at the NNER annual conference in Arlington, Texas, October 27-29.

League of Democratic Schools a longtime fixture

The League was originated by Richard Clark and John Goodlad, who believed there were many elementary and secondary schools committed to civility engagement and democratic practices, but were unable to be part of a larger school-university

partnership network due to cost. The League has always had a connection to the National Network for Education Renewal, through Goodlad's Institute for Educational Inquiry. When the Institute disbanded several months ago, League assets were transferred to the University of Wyoming Foundation with the Wyoming School-University Partnership assisting as a fiduciary and organizational home.

School-level membership in the league carries \$250 yearly dues. The 11 League members include in Spokane Washington: Pasadena Park Elementary School, West Valley City School, Spokane Valley High School, and Orchard Center Elementary School. Westside Village Magnet School in Bend, Oregon, is a member, and in Pennsylvania, Park Forest Elementary and the Delta Program. Four Wyoming schools are members: UW Lab School in Albany County, Woods Learning Center and Star Lane Center, Natrona County, and last, Guernsey-Sunrise High School in Niobrara County.

The League is actively recruiting new members. If you would be interested in your school's becoming a member, please contact Donnan Stoicovy at dms11@scasd.org or Audrey Kleinsasser at dakota@uwyo.edu for more information.

NNER Chair message



Greetings to you all. A special thanks for the opportunity to continue serving as Chair of NNER - a Network of professionals who work diligently toward the goal of high quality education in a democracy for everyone. I want to begin this message by letting you know how much we all appreciated the individuals who participated at the Summer Strategic Planning Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico, July 17, 2016. It was a productive time spent collectively developing a clear vision for NNER efforts over the next 3 to 5 years. The Strategic Plan is currently posted on the NNER Web site for your reading. Please take a few moments and read the highlights and recommendations made for actions in the future. There are two sessions scheduled at the NNER Annual Conference in Arlington; 1) orientate more folks on the planning that occurred; and 2) to update the participants who attended the Summer Institute on actions being proposed. An Action Plan Draft will be presented for input at the conference session scheduled for Friday, October 28th at 10:30 in the Wimbledon room. Please check the Conference Program for more detail on both sessions to include time and room location. We encourage you to attend the sessions.

As a friendly reminder - The NNER 2016 Annual Conference is scheduled for October 27-29th at the Sheraton Hotel in Arlington, Texas. The Conference Theme: "Progress through Purpose: Sharing Our Journey Toward Simultaneous Renewal" is a perfect theme for the collective impact work ahead for us with our partnerships both at the PreK-12 level and in higher education. The Program looks great and so I hope many of you make a special effort to attend this annual meeting. The conference provides us the opportunity to network and move the AGENDA forward and it also creates a venue for NNER colleagues and friends to share their commitment to quality schooling and the stewardship of our profession, especially insights on how to face difficult challenges in today's schools and communities.

There is much work to be done, so I hope to see the engagement of many of you with the efforts proposed at the planning sessions in October. The work is important and can only be done when we all engage and dedicate ourselves to what is possible. I am inspired about the future due to the conversations this summer and the on-going conversations with the Executive Board and Governing Council members. John Goodlad always said that "human conversation was the essence of transformation" and I find myself thinking about the conversation we had at the Summer Institute and the on-going planning and transformative work since July. Timing is so important and I do believe we are ready to move forward with new energy and innovative thoughts and actions.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the October NNER Conference in Arlington. Special thanks for all you do to improve the lives of children, families, and communities.

Vi Florez
Chair, Governing Council
University of New Mexico

Wright State Network for Educational Renewal Conference

Partnering with 9 regional districts and community organizations since the 1990s to encourage simultaneous renewal



Dr. Joseph Keferl, Dean of the College of Education and Human Services, opens the conference.



4th annual

The latest Wright State University Network for Educational Renewal Conference, attended by over 250 local educators from twenty-two school districts was held on May 7, 2016, in Allyn Hall, the home of the College of Education and Human Services, on the WSU campus.

The event began with breakfast and the Kick Off speech by Marcy Kennedy Keifer, Director of the Center for PDS Partnerships in the Patton College of Education at Ohio University and the Past President of the National Association for Professional Development Schools. Kiefer emphasized the importance of university/PK-12 partnerships to improve both student achievement and teacher preparation and to encourage the process of simultaneous renewal. Over attended. Faculty members from Miami University, and the Ohio University also participated.

Three 45-minute presentation sessions featuring 39 separate proposals submitted by teachers and administrators from eight partnership school districts and WSU faculty and students followed the welcoming segment. All were related to the central theme, Showcasing Academic Achievement Strands and developed one or more of the following strands: Innovative Teaching Strategies, Technology that Enhances Instruction and Community Resources that Complement and Enhance the Learning Process. Microsoft, a conference sponsor for the past three years, conducted sessions on Microsoft products designed to be effective classroom tools. Microsoft trainer, Derek Berry, demonstrated OneNote, Sway and OfficeMix.



One of 39 presentations

Publications underscore Goodlad legacy

Two recent national publications highlight the legacy of John Goodlad and our work in the National Network for Educational Renewal. Both provide an opportunity for us to make our work known and advance our cause.

First, we were invited through Ann Foster to edit the October/December issue of Kappa Delta Pi's peer reviewed journal, *The Record*. A decade ago the NNER responded to a similar request. I accepted the Executive Board's invitation to edit the issue and we invited articles that demonstrated John's legacy and our ongoing work. The issue is entitled **Democracy and Social Justice: The Legacy of John Goodlad**. I am pleased to say that 12 NNER settings are represented in the issue. My overview article highlights John's legacy and our continued work, and all the following articles provide rich, vibrant descriptions of how the work is carried out in our settings. I couldn't have hoped for a more attractive and informative vehicle, and the authors are to be congratulated.

Second, the September issue of *The Journal of Teacher Education* carries an article by two scholars not in NNER settings, Paufer and Amrein-Beardsley. It is entitled "Educational Renewal Within Current Contexts of Accountability: Reflecting Upon John Goodlad's Twenty Postulates" and explores how our collective work can be used in the current policy context. The work of the NNER is seen as a vehicle for change, especially through the Centers of Pedagogy model.

We should call attention to both of these among our colleagues, the public, and policy makers and use them to begin a concerted effort to influence policy in the current context, and especially with a presidential election upon us. Certainly both of these speak to our current standing in the educational community.

--Nick Michelli

Education in a Democracy invites manuscripts

For the 2017 edition of NNER's journal, we invite submissions that would consider how the NNER might take a lead role in reshaping current debates and policy regarding educational reform. For over a decade now, educational reform in the United States has been dominated by two models - outcomes-based accountability and market-based reforms. Concerns about the democratic purposes of schools and their role as public institutions have been marginalized if not silenced. We believe the NNER can and should play a vital role in giving voice to these concerns and in providing viable and vibrant alternative visions of educational reform and renewal. To that end, in addition to the more traditional mission stated above, we seek manuscripts that will address the following:

What ideas, commentary and practice-based examples do sites/partners have about how to use John Goodlad's work as a springboard for:

1. **Strengthening the NNER's role in creating and sustaining schooling for democracy in the 21st century?**
2. **Renewing the NNER itself?**

See facing page for submission details

NNER Journal Manuscript submissions

All manuscripts must be submitted as email attachments in Microsoft Word. Deadline for submissions is February 1, 2017. Contact with authors, including acknowledgement of receipt of manuscripts, will occur by email.

A triple-blind review process is used in considering acceptance. Therefore, any information that could identify the authors or institutions should not appear in the manuscript. A separate cover page should be attached that includes the title of the article, the author's name/s, e-mail address, phone number, mailing address, affiliation, and one-sentence biographical statement. Submissions should be sent to Dr. René Roselle at rene.roselle@uconn.edu and/or Dr. Dorothea Anagnostopoulos at dorothea.anagnostopoulos@uconn.edu

Manuscript criteria: Manuscripts for publication in *Education in a Democracy* will be reviewed on the following dimensions:

- Significance of topic to the Agenda for Education in a Democracy (AED) with clear connections to Goodlad and/or his work;
- Topic/report/findings are of interest to university-/college-based educators AND school-/district-based practitioners;
- Advancement of theory, practice or research related to democratic education;
- Clear, coherent, and well-written Manuscript.

Manuscripts must follow American Psychological Association (APA) (Vol. 6) style and be no more than 5000 words. Manuscripts not following APA (Vol. 6) style will not be accepted. An abstract of no more than 100 words should be provided along with a brief list of keywords or phrases. The editors reserve the right to make minor editorial modifications that do not alter the substance of the article. NOTE: Each issue of the journal is fully copyrighted by the NNER. As a condition of publication, authors grant the NNER permission to post or print the full text of an article for the use of its members.

Tentative Timelines:

Deadline for submissions will be February 1, 2017

Round 1 reviews back by end of March 2017

Return by authors by end of April 2017

Round 2 reviews back by end of May 2017

Return to Editors the by the end of June for final review before publication

Watts selected to Direct University of Wyoming Trustees' Education Initiative

Rebecca Watts began work September 19 as the executive director of the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees' Education Initiative.

"I am anxious to work with university faculty, Wyoming educators and district leaders, parent organizations, researchers, and policymakers," said Watts. "All share a common goal of supporting the future success of Wyoming's elementary and secondary students."

The Illinois native is an experienced higher education administrator, most recently serving as associate vice chancellor of P-16 initiatives with the Ohio Department of Higher Education, where she focused on college access, college readiness, and educator preparation. She spearheaded Ohio's



successful GEAR UP proposal and served as the state's director. She also directed Ohio's federal Improving Teacher Quality grant and serves as the state lead on the Complete College America Mathematics Pathways Initiative.

Watts has already spent considerable time in Wyoming, meeting with university and college leadership and representatives of the initiative's backer, the Denver-based Daniels Foundation. Prior to the start of UW's fall classes, Watts met and talked with the College of Education leadership council and participated in an all-college retreat. She is slated to meet with the Wyoming School-University Partnership's governing board at its November 3 meeting in Casper.

Said Watts, "This work is timely and without question will be challenging. In rising to that challenge we will build shared trust among all stakeholders with a common focus on continuous improvement."

Watts was selected after an extensive, nationwide search conducted by Storbeck/Pimentel Executive Search Consultants and two separate interview visits to Laramie.

The initiative was established two years ago and is aimed at elevating the UW College of Education to national pre-eminence in preparing K12 teachers, counselors, and administrators. The Daniels Foundation is funding the five-year, \$5 million effort. To learn more about the Trustees' Education Initiative, check out the feature in September 2016 UW's magazine, *UWyo*, at <http://www.uwyo.edu/uwyo/>.

To learn more about Rebecca Watts, read UW's press release at <http://www.uwyo.edu/uw/news/2016/08/uw-trustees-education-initiative-director-selected.html>

Diversity, Equity, Social Justice Committee

Preparation for conference

The Diversity, Equity and Social Justice (EDSJ) Committee are excited about the upcoming NNER annual conference. The following are updates on the EDSJ plans in Arlington, TX, October 27th-29th.

As you'll see from the conference schedule, the EDSJ Committee is playing an increasingly influential role in the themes and topics represented at the annual event. Through the tireless efforts of Kathryn Pole and Diane Galloway, EDSJ committee members on the ground at University of Texas, Arlington, we have been able to organize numerous critical discussions on relevant social justice themes. A special thanks to all of you on the EDSJ Committee who submitted proposals and plan to present at the conference. Thanks, too, to all of you who served as reviewers for Strand 2, the social justice strand.

Below, and on the following page, is a list of presentations we have identified as presentations within

the Strand 2. Please take a moment to review this presentations we are highlighting and begin spreading the word about these EDSJ sessions with colleagues at your setting who plan to attend.

We are pleased to announce that the **EDSJ Committee's annual dinner** is being held on **Friday, October 28th, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Pappasito's Cantina**, about five minutes from the Sheraton Hotel. (Transportation details forthcoming). This no-host dinner is an important time for EDSJ to socialize, network and expand membership of the committee. Feel free to invite others to join us!

We are also planning to hold an **EDSJ Committee Meeting** on **Saturday, October 29th, 7:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.** (Room TBA). Please mark this meeting on your calendar; it is an important time for us to make decisions relevant to the Committee's ongoing work.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27th

Beyond Pink and Blue: Exploring LGBT Inclusion in the Elementary Classroom.

Presenters: April Bedford; Kevin Wood.
3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m. Room: World Series I & II

It's not just about the bathrooms - Issues of equity in public schools.

Presenter: Jacinto Ramos, School Board President, Ft Worth Independent Schools

Panelists: Robb Leigh Davis; April Bedford; Angela Jaime;
Moderators: Diane Galloway, Kathryn Pole
4:30 p.m.-5:45 p.m. Room: Hall of Fame

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28th

Roadblocks on Our Shared Journey Towards Democracy and Social Justice: A Facilitated and Engaged Dialogue on Work towards Equity and Justice in Schools, University, and Community Settings across NNER Partnership Settings.

Presenters: Kevin Roxas; Charlotte Ijei; Daniella A. Cook; Nadine Ball.
9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m. Room: Triple Crown

Can Gay and Lesbian Elementary Teachers Self-Disclose in Schools?

Presenter: Wayne Reed
Champions Ballroom, Table 4

Authentic Assignments Framed by Social Justice and Equity: Teaching Toward the Agenda- What does it look like? Sound Like? Feel Like?

Presenters: Elizabeth Urban; Karen Rowe; Valerie Middleton.
1:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Room: Hall of Fame

The International Earth Charter: An Ethical Framework for the Future.

Presenter: Nadine Butcher Ball
10:30 – 11:45, World Series 1 and 2

Diversity, Equity, Social Justice Committee

EDSJ Committee's Special Double-Session

***Walking together towards the intersection of social justice & democracy:
Creating partnerships of equity & inclusion in public education
and within the NNER***

Workshop Leaders: Kevin Roxas, Angela Jaime, Wayne Reed
Performing Artist/Playwright: Robb Leigh Davis
3:15 p.m.-5:50 p.m. Room: Super Bowl I & II

In this interactive session, we explore the challenges and possibilities of creating inclusive educational environments in these racially-charged and politically-polarizing times. The NYC-based actor/playwright, Robb Leigh Davis, performs his dramatic monologue, *Too Black, Too Strong: The View From Here*, as a platform from which we engage questions of intersectionality, identity, equity and social justice. Please join us for this critically important conversation.

Equity, Diversity & Social Justice Committee's Annual Dinner

Friday, October 28, 2016

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Pappasito's Cantina

321 W. Road to Six Flags (five minute drive from Sheraton)

All conference attendees are invited to join the EDSJ Committee for this annual no-host celebration and community building event. To RSVP contact: Wayne Reed (wreed@brooklyn.cuny.edu) or Diane Galloway (dianeg@uta.edu).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29th

***Photovoice: Creating Spaces for English Language Learners to
Share their Cultural Strengths and Experiences.***

Presenter: Kevin Roxas.
9:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Room: Super Bowl II

***Courage, Conviction, and Know-How: The challenge of creating future
teachers with the courage, conviction and know how to advocate for
inclusive schools in politically polarized times.***

Presenters: Diane Galloway; Kathryn Pole; Wayne Reed.
11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Room: Hall of Fame

Marketing plan first steps

The NNER Governing Council and Tripartite Council have been engaged over the past several years in rethinking ways to increase our connection to member settings and to revitalize our outreach efforts. A primary element of this work has been the focus on strategies that will maintain and increase value to NNER membership for current settings as well as capitalize on NNER strengths by publicizing them in a manner that increases our reach within the greater educational community. A major push in the right direction was the decision by the Executive Council and Governing Council to hold a summer institute for developing consensus on issues related to growth, mission, and vision, and to begin to develop a strategic plan to guide the process. The first step of strategic plan development has occurred with 44 member settings sending representatives to Albuquerque, New Mexico this past July to begin discussions for establishing the working plan.

The strategic planning meeting was extremely fruitful and yielded seven priorities for the Governing Council and Tripartite Council to consider, moving forward. (See below for all seven priorities.) One of the most important of these priorities was the recommendations made in the 2015 marketing plan prepared for NNER by the University of Nebraska – Kearney. The meetings of the Governing Council and Tripartite Council during the October NNER conference will focus on the first stage of marketing plan implementation, which is to finalize our selection of an essence statement and tag line.

Essence statements and tag lines are short statements used by organizations as a means to succinctly identify their focus and mission and to telegraph to others less familiar with the work what the organization identifies as its role. The essence statement and tagline we decide upon will identify the role we seek to play in sustaining and revitalizing education and will serve as communication touchstones for the work we do as NNER settings.

The NNER mission is often extremely difficult to distill so simplistically. While we recognize this reality, we also recognize that the environment, pace, and competing demands imposed by the modern world have placed increasing pressure on the NNER to both craft and use these “shorthand” messages as critical tools to purposefully and quickly define what we are about for those new to the work and for others interested in education revitalization. Including these elements into our organizational message will help to clarify for members and prospective settings what we are about in terms that can be easily and quickly absorbed and shared.

Ongoing discussion and work over the past several years with the Governing Council and Tripartite Council in this effort has generated a fruitful dialog resulting in several versions of essence statements and tag lines that are now ready to be presented for a final selection and vote for approval. Next month members of both the Tripartite Council and Governing Council will be presented the final versions of essence statements and tag lines. Members of the Tripartite Council will be tasked with selecting one essence statement and narrowing the tag line for final vote by the Governing Council at the Thursday, Oct. 27th meeting.

This step is a critical one in the path towards the NNER renewal efforts, but not the end of the journey. In the coming months a timeline for taking action on strategic planning recommendations will be shared. Your comments and suggestions are encouraged as we engage in this process.

NNER Strategic Plan Priorities

- Clear and compelling vision for the next 5 years.
- Clear, consistent marketing (with timeline), coupled with opportunities to meet and share (using some technology)
- Connection to a broader audience of politicians and policymakers and aim to drive the national conversation about education.
- Creation of a more purposeful place for PreK-12 partners.
- Collaborative and engaged research
- Notions of how ideas of last 2 days become operationalized and acted upon in a planned, purposeful and expedient manner
- Focus and articulation of messaging

National Network for Educational Renewal

SETTING

STATE/PROVINCE

California State University, Chico	California
Colorado State University and the Poudre School District Partnership	Colorado
University of Connecticut	Connecticut
University of Idaho	Idaho
Illinois State University	Illinois
The Brandon School-University Partnership (The Brandon School Division and Brandon University)	Manitoba
Metropolitan St. Louis Consortium for Educational Renewal*	Missouri
MU Partnership for Educational Renewal	Missouri
Nebraska Network for Educational Renewal*	Nebraska
Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal	New Jersey
University of New Mexico	New Mexico
CUNY and the New York City Department of Education	New York
Miami University Partnership	Ohio
Ohio University	Ohio
University of Cincinnati	Ohio
Wright State University Network for Educational Renewal	Ohio
South Carolina Network for Educational Renewal*	South Carolina
Winthrop University-School Partnership	South Carolina
Arlington University-School Network for Educational Renewal (AUSNER)	Texas
University of Texas at El Paso	Texas
University of Washington	Washington
Western Washington University	Washington
University of Wyoming and Wyoming School-University Partnership	Wyoming

*denotes multiple IHE site settings

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*Please submit suggestions for
 articles, information about
 people, and events in NNER
 settings to Ann Foster at:
annfoster@nnerpartnerships.org*

