Developmental Education: A Key Factor in Educational Reformation

Marcella Davis, NADE President

A call for the reformation of American education has come from the highest office in our nation. In efforts to meet this challenge, national organizations are gathering representatives from research, policy, and philanthropic entities to partner with educators and business leaders. In the post-secondary arena, Developmental Education has become a primary focus. NADE leaders joined many of these representatives at the National Center for Postsecondary Research (NCPR) Developmental Education Conference for a review of recent related research and a discussion about potential measures for reaching the goals for greater student achievement.

In her keynote address, Dr. Martha Kanter, Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, spoke of 93 million Americans who have no college experience and the comprehensive DOE “cradle to college/career” agenda with the ultimate goal of 50% more graduates with Bachelor’s Degrees by 2020.

Based on limited documented success, there was a general belief among presenters/researchers that Developmental Education as it presently functions is failing to effectively boost underprepared students to higher levels of achievement and completion of meaningful credentials. They proposed drastic innovations such as contextualized, integrated, high impact, transferable, systematically replicable, accelerated, and sustainable practices which go beyond revision of the current structures of curriculum, advising, assessment, support, and institutional policies.

As Developmental Educators, we have devoted our minds and hearts to the cause of students’ achievement of their academic, career, and life goals. We know there are thousands of stories demonstrating the value of our work, and we also realize the need for innovative practices which promote greater student success. We have the responsibility of gathering long term data which document these successful results, and we have the opportunity to partner with a national cohort of dedicated professionals to establish a renewed system which incorporates the best of all validated educational practices and makes strides toward accomplishing the challenge we have been given.

Looking for a job? Looking for a new colleague to join your program?

Visit the NADE Professional Job Opportunities web page for current job announcements or for listing anticipated openings in your developmental program. The web address is: http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/nadeplacement/

Plan now for the NADE Job Fair in DC. Please let us know if you are interested in talking to institutional representatives about openings or if your institution is interested in interviewing conference participants.

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Former NADE President Passes

NADE is saddened to announce that an automobile accident took the life of former NADE President Vashti Muse. Mrs. Muse died July 9, 2010, in a one-car accident as she and her husband were traveling to a meeting of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges. Her husband sustained minor injuries.

Mrs. Muse began her 50-year career in education as an elementary school teacher. She later taught reading at Hinds Community College, where her husband, Dr. Clyde Muse, is President. Clyde and Vashti were an inseparable personal and professional couple who made significant contributions to higher education in Mississippi.

Mrs. Muse received both a Bachelors and a Masters degrees in elementary education from Mississippi State University and a certificate as a Developmental Education Specialist from Appalachian State University. She worked tirelessly for her state chapter in Mississippi (MADE), chaired the NADE 2000 conference in Biloxi, and served as NADE president in 1991-199. Mrs. Muse also wrote the oath of office NADE uses even today. In 1999 NADE presented her the Award for Outstanding Service in Developmental Education. Among Mrs. Muse’s many other awards were the 2009 Strong Woman Award from Baptist Health Systems, Inc. and, in 2010, a joint resolution of the Mississippi legislature recognizing her tremendous impact on education in the State of Mississippi.

Services were held Monday, July 12, 2010, on the Raymond Campus of Hinds Community College. Memorials may be made to the Vashti Underwood Muse Scholarship through the Hinds Community College Foundation, P.O. Box 1100, Raymond MS 39154. An extensive obituary may be found at http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/clarionledger/obituary.asp?n=Vashti-u-muse&pid=14399054.

We extend our condolences to her family, her colleagues in MADE and at Hinds, and to her many students.
Treasurer's Report
Jeanine Lewis, NADE Treasurer
October 8, 2010

S&T NADE Checking   $ 3,140.21
S&T Certificate of Deposit (1.043%) $ 2,000.00
2011 Reserves (5.05%) $ 100,000.00
2012 Reserves (4.94%) $ 100,000.00
Chase NADE Checking  $ 53,184.61
Chase NADE Savings   $ 70,681.95
Chase Certificate of Deposit (1.49%) $ 19,708.81
2011 Conference Checking $ 7,129.22
2012 Conference Checking $ 5,708.07
2013 Conference Checking $ 5,401.42
Total Assets $ 366,954.29

The NADE Newsletter is published electronically three times each year with this mission:
• Publish timely information about NADE activities, e.g., the annual conference, professional development workshops, Executive Board meetings, and Committee, SPIN, and Certification Council activities.
• Publish information about Developmental Education activities across the country.
• Publish short articles and book reviews (500-1000 words) which provide information about the “state-of-the-art” in the field of Developmental Education.
• Publish general information about news of interest to NADE members.

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Committees’ Tidbits

The Professional Job Opportunities Committee would like to remind members to use our web page http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/nade-placement to submit job openings or to view current job announcements. Plan now for the NADE Job Fair in Washington D.C. Please let the Professional Job Opportunities Committee know if you are interested in talking to institutional representatives about openings or if your institution is interested in interviewing conference participants by contacting Janet O’Brien, 914-478-5371 (jjobrien@georgiasouthern.edu) or Curtis Ricker, 914-478-2527 (cricker@georgiasouthern.edu).

The Political Liaison Committee is gearing up for NADE 2011 in Washington D.C. Attend our pre-conference institute to learn how to advocate for Developmental Education in your state and while you are visiting D.C.

The 2011 NADE Conference will begin February 23, 2011, and during the conference the Awards Committee will present numerous awards! Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for one or more of the various NADE awards. To do so, visit the NADE website (www.nade.net) and click on “awards” to review the list of awards NADE offers along with detailed information about each award including their benefits and submissions requirements. The deadline for submitting nominations for all awards is November 15, 2010. If there are questions, please e-mail Donna Saye at dbsaye@georgiasouthern.edu.

The NADE International Access Committee will be considering a resolution at the national conference in Washington, DC in February 2011. The resolution will celebrate the global role of Developmental Education in ensuring a fair, accessible and successful educational experience for all. It will place on the record, NADE’s recognition of the international dimension to Developmental Education and will stress the importance of trans-national partnership work. It is envisaged the resolution be ratified by the International Committee and then recommended to the NADE Board after the conference.

The NADE Digest editors welcome submissions. Guidelines for submitting articles are on the NADE website. Articles should be sent to nadedigest.editors@gmail.com.

NADE Growth Drive Continues

NADE is one or the finest professional organizations going. But it is truly valuable only to people who are members. Membership gives developmental educators many opportunities for personal and professional development, as well as networking with other professionals, that make one’s experiences in developmental education far more rewarding. This is why a membership growth drive, which began on April 1, 2010, is in full swing and will be until January 1, 2011. To encourage participation, NADE is offering three major awards for colleagues who are involved in recruiting and retention:

1. The NADE chapter in good standing which experiences the greatest percentage increase in NADE members over the course of the Membership Growth Drive will receive a $500 stipend to be used toward attendance at the 2011 NADE conference.

2. One new individual NADE member who joins NADE for the first time during the drive will win a $500 stipend to apply toward attendance at the 2011 NADE conference.

3. One individual NADE member who renews membership during the growth drive will win a $500 stipend to offset part of the cost of attending the 2011 NADE conference.

So, the next time someone talks to you and says, “When you were at the NADE Conference, did you talk to the JDE Director about writing an article for the CRLA, NISOD, and FACE Newsletters? It will contain information about the Peer Assisted Programs SPIN that was obtained from CLADEA,” you will know exactly what they are talking about. You will be able to make sense of the Alphabet Soup!

Alphabet Soup

Let’s take a journey back to childhood. Do you remember eating Alphabet Soup on a cold winter day? If you did what I did, you tried to make as many words out the letters as you could.

Upon joining the NADE Executive Board, I felt as if I was back in that warm kitchen with my Alphabet Soup. When the more experienced Board members began to talk, they spoke in acronyms. It sounded like a foreign language. In reflection, it occurred to me that many other NADE members may want to know what all those acronyms represent. Here is a sample of many of NADE’s acronyms and what they mean.

- ATP – Association for the Tutoring Profession
- CAS – Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education
- CLADEA – Council for Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations
- CRLA – College Reading and Learning Association
- EA – Executive Assistant
- FACE – Forum for Access and Continuing Education
- JDE – Journal of Developmental Education
- NCLCA – National College Learning Center Association
- NCDE – National Center for Developmental Education
- NISOD – National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development
- SPIN – Special Professional Interest Networks
- TIDE – Technology in Developmental Education

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SCADE News

On October 29, 2010, the South Carolina Association for Developmental Education (SCADE) held its 28th Annual Conference at Midlands Technical College, Airport Campus, in Columbia, SC. The theme this year was “Students Win in 2010: Equipping Students for College Success.” The keynote speaker was John Gardner, Senior Fellow of the National Resource Center for First Year Experience and Students in Transition.

SCADE also sponsored a NADE Certification Institute this year. The institute began on Friday afternoon, immediately following the conference, and concluded on Saturday morning, October 30.