

Instructional Professional Development (IPD) Subcommittee  
Meeting Highlights – February 15, 2006  
SAO Foundation Office Conference Room  
Portland, Oregon

Committee Members in attendance:

Carla Faini, Larry Flick, Kent Foster, Winnie Miller, Kathryn Schwartz, Doug Stuvenga

Each committee member introduced themselves, described events and projects they were currently involved with, and related these to the IPD mission and recommendations. The detailed information on this great discussion will be posted on our website.

- **Winnie Miller**, Retired Math Teacher, President, Oregon Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Winnie Miller currently works part time as a mathematics consultant for Clackamas ESD assisting K-12 teachers in their professional development. She taught middle school mathematics for 17 years and high school mathematics for 13 years. Other experiences include being a presenter at local, state, regional and national math conferences, scoring director for the State Math Problem Solving, and teacher advisor to the Oregon State Board of Education.
- **Carla M. Faini, Ph.D.**, Executive Director Oregon MESA. Oregon MESA is a pre-college academic program that engages 6th-12th grade students in hands-on, inquiry-based math, engineering, science and technology projects during weekly chapter meetings at school sites. A large number of these students will participate in the Intel Northwest Science at PSU on March 17, and an even larger group will gather at PSU on May 13 when students come from 17 MESA chapters. More than 43% of MESA participants are African American, Hispanic or Native American; more than 50% of MESA participants are female. Schools that participate include Portland, Gresham, Beaverton and Hillsboro. Carla also distributed a great model for professional development designed for MESA advisors and GEAR UP teachers.
- **Kent Foster** works in Microsoft's US Developer Group (based in Redmond, WA) on professional development programs for higher education faculty. Kent joined Microsoft in September 2005 from Apple Computer where he served in two roles – emerging markets manager for K-12 at the PowerSchool division (<http://www.apple.com/education/powerschool/>) and as a regional manager for a K-12 field team in Michigan. Previous to Apple, Kent worked as VP of Marketing & Business Development at HaloSource, a Redmond life sciences firm (<http://www.halosource.com/>). Between 1995-1999, he was a senior staff member of the William Davidson Institute at the University of Michigan Business School (<http://www.wdi.umich.edu/>) where Kent managed faculty/student projects in Asia as Sr. Operations Manager (<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~kfoster/WDIProj.doc>). Between 1993-1995, while completing a two-year MPP graduate program at Michigan's Ford School of

Public Policy (<http://www.fordschool.umich.edu/>), Kent worked in Alumni Relations for the Dean of the School of Information (<http://www.si.umich.edu/>) and as a Beijing based project manager for a faculty research collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Sciences examining the Sino-US Joint Venture experience. Kent held various marketing and business development roles between 1984-1993 at NeXT Computer and Digital Equipment Corporation. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan in Asian Studies (China) and History. Kent is married with five children (ages 2 years to 26 years).

- **Doug Stuivenga** is a classroom teacher at McNary High School, teaching Computer-aided Drafting & Design and Manufacturing classes (metal shop). He has also taught English, wood-shop, and theater set design and construction. Doug brings to the group a genuine interest in finding ways to help teachers be better prepared to introduce concepts of engineering and related careers, and also ways to attract students toward engineering-related careers.
- **Lawrence B. Flick**, Professor & Chair, Department of Science and Mathematics Education, College of Science, Oregon State University, Editor School Science and Mathematics
  - [http://www.oregonstate.edu/dept/sci\\_mth\\_education/people/Larry.htm](http://www.oregonstate.edu/dept/sci_mth_education/people/Larry.htm)
- **Kathryn Schwartz** is responsible for advancing the mission of the Software Association of Oregon Foundation to develop and support programs that enhance the abilities and interest of K-12 teachers and students in the areas of information technology, computer science and engineering. The goals of the SAO Foundation are to provide professional development and support to Oregon technology educators and to awaken an interest in technology among Oregon students. The programs of the SAO Foundation aim at increasing not just the technical ability but also the teamwork, critical thinking, creativity, and problem solving skills of educators and students. The primary program of the SAO Foundation is SuperQuest, intensive professional development workshops of 3 to 5 days held in the summer.

We also suggested other members that should be added to our group. These include Van Eden, Microsoft; Megan Helzerman, Clackamas ESD; Sue Bottoms, SMILE; Jerry Young, Clackamas High School math teacher; Andy Clark, Portland Public Schools. Check with Jo Oshiro for some other suggestions.

The next meeting will be a virtual meeting for this same group will be on March 13. The focus of discussion will center on goals and expectations. For example,

- *Help make current programs and projects that support engineering education more visible and better funded.*
- *Develop fact sheet(s) to distribute to legislators and other community leaders on the state of education for engineering in the state.*

- *Design a middle school initiative that seeks to improve the science and mathematics background of teachers through projects and activities that teach science and math through engineering concepts.*

The next face to face meeting will be on April 21, 9:30-12:30, at PSU. At that time, we would like to include the additional members mentioned above.