



**2014-2016  
Executive Board**

- President  
Shawna Ebbeson, M.S.
- Treasurer  
Dr. Andre Elliott, Founding President
- Advisor  
Dr. Marilyn Simon
- Editor/Chief of JEPSC  
Dr. Jarek Janio

**Open Positions**

Visit the [website](#) to see all open positions

- Secretary
- Advisor—(tenured chapter member)
- Newsletter Editor
- Website Design
- Social media manager

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To contribute content for print in the newsletter, send content by the 20th to be included in that month's letter to [info@pdkwucc.org](mailto:info@pdkwucc.org)

**An Interview  
with Founding President, Dr. Andre Elliott**

**A**t the end of March, I had the pleasure of sitting down in conversation with our current treasurer and Founding President, Dr Andre Elliott. Dr. Elliott is a charter member of PDKWUCC with over 22 years of tenure in the chapter. Continue reading about how his education and experience has prepared him for his role in our chapter, his perceptions, inspirations and aspirations for PDKWUCC.

**How has your education and life experiences prepared you for launching the chapter and the position as founding president?**

Without the education and life experiences, approximately 10 years prior to conceptualizing the possibility of PDK in cyberspace, it would not have been possible. I became a member in Phi Delta Kappa in 1987. Through the years, membership afforded the opportunity to serve as program chair, secretary, treasurer, historian, vice president, foundation representative, president and regional liaison leader. Primarily, I gained most of my experiences as a member and officer of Tokyo Phi Delta Kappa.



**What inspired you to start the PDK cyberspace club and move it into the chapter it is today?**

The summer of 1997, the year my first born began life, was also the year I commenced the doctoral studies program in Walden University. Within a few days of arriving at Walden's summer session, I met a gentleman who wanted to be a member in Phi Delta Kappa. I suggested we consider establishing a PDK chapter "here and now" knowing that Walden urged students to be engaged in society, using knowledge to serve and solve problems. The summer session was vibrant on the campus of Indiana University, Bloomington, and PDK International was just a stone's throw from our classrooms. Indeed, the seeds began to grow from those first words spoken in 1997. We were in the right place and the scholars were present.

**What was the most memorable moment during your term as first president of the chapter?**

The most memorable moment occurred in an official conversation that included Dr. Marilyn K. Simon, Marion Carpenter, the executive director of Phi Delta Kappa, and myself on February 21, 2000. The words: "Congratulations to all on orchestrating the establishment of Phi Delta Kappa's first cyberspace chapter. The board of directors, at its winter meeting, took special note of your history making achievement."

Continued on page 2...

**President's Message**

**Bridging the gap starts here**

A legacy is only as strong as the relationships that maintain it. It is in this spirit that we are zeroing our focus to the relationships that make PDKWUCC great, starting with you. It is our goal to recognize and honor our members and provide you with the quality of benefits worthy of your status and affiliation. It is my personal mission as president to reconnect PDKWUCC with you, the leadership team at Walden University and PDK, and bridge the gap to a new and brighter future.~

**April Recognitions**

Welcome back!

**Dr. Jarek Janio**

Thank you for your tenure, continued support, and also for your renewed membership. I look forward to embarking on this new journey together.

# An Interview with Founding President, Dr. Andre Elliott



Coming in Next month's Newsletter

The Founder's Bookshelf  
Dr. Andre Elliott presents and provides synopses of select titles.

## Define a current trend in education that has persisted through the years since the chapter's inception.

Teacher Quality remains a universal topic in private and public institutions of learning. Teacher preparation programs and teacher evaluation models reveal the robust complexity inherent in training, hiring, and maintaining a high performing teaching workforce.

## Define a new trend that deeply impacts education that educators need to be aware of.

I believe the article, "Why Half the US's New Teachers Can't Leave the Profession Fast Enough" available at [www.tieonline.com](http://www.tieonline.com) portends a crisis, and therefore educators and society at large must take action.

The author, Kathleen Jasper, says, "A mass exodus is happening in K - 12 education, with 50 % of new teachers leaving the job before year five. The primary reason for this mass exodus is the lack of support by leadership. Teacher turnover cost is estimated to be \$2.2 billion annually."

## What issues do you think the chapter has surmounted since inception?

We have been most fortunate to have, overall, a sustaining cadre of leaders, who contributed to

our longevity by simply not giving up, which would have been the easier choice, despite great challenges. Leadership in the interest of serving others has been our greatest challenge. When a goal or mission is greater than the individuals

who wish to achieve it, the dream will endure.

## What issues do you think the chapter faces moving forward?

When our chapter began, we were recognized as the largest group likely to ever begin a PDK chapter. From 1997 to 2015, we have decreased in membership. [My] aspiration is to welcome new members and for those members to know that PDK is a win-win opportunity.

## As a charter member and founding president, what are your aspirations for the chapter's future?

I believe this chapter can be the most important chapter in the history of Phi Delta Kappa. My aspiration is for this chapter to prosper and enable leaders in education to collaborate in the interest of service to humanity. Collectively, and individually, members in our chapter can make a profound impact on our world.

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Continued from page 1

## Professional Development Webinars



Thank you all who joined me for our first professional development webinar. Those who missed it, visit the [website](#) and watch the recording. Discount code: **Free4memberS**

We had a very successful and engaging webinar on March 21st and is now available as an archived recording. We talked about the importance of professional communication and applied this to CVs and other business communications.

These webinars are free to members and provide us with another tool to raise funds from non-members to continue our mission and vision.

It is my goal as president to provide you with professional development webinars on a monthly basis. These webinars are in no way mandatory; however, attendance is highly encouraged.

Those that attend a webinar will receive a certificate of attendance.

## Webinar Q&A

- Q Do I have to be a presenter in order to suggest a topic?  
a No. We want to know what topics resonate with you.
- Q Do presenters have to be members?  
a No. While membership is highly encouraged, our communities of practice are broad.
- Q Do I have to be a Walden graduate/student in order to present?  
a No. We welcome the expertise of professionals from other institutions as well.
- Q Is there an additional charge to participate?  
a Live webinars are free for members of PDKWUCC. Visit the [website](#) for pricing information for students and non-members..

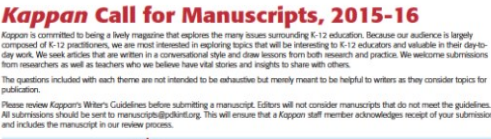
# Kappan Call for Manuscripts for 2015-2016 Edition

## What could you write for Kappan?

### Topics:

- ◆ Common Core
- ◆ Global education
- ◆ Immigration
- ◆ College access and opportunity
- ◆ Teacher tenure
- ◆ Building a better teacher
- ◆ The role of sports in school

Visit [pdkintl.org](http://pdkintl.org) for more information on submissions.



**Kappan Call for Manuscripts, 2015-16**

Kappan is committed to being a lively magazine that explores the many issues surrounding K-12 education. Because our audience is largely composed of K-12 practitioners, we are most interested in exploring topics that will be interesting to K-12 educators and valuable in their day-to-day work. We seek articles that are written in a conversational style and draw lessons from both research and practice. We welcome submissions from researchers as well as teachers who we believe have vital stories and insights to share with others.

The questions included with each theme are not intended to be exhaustive but merely meant to be helpful to writers as they consider topics for publication.

Please review Kappan's Writer's Guidelines before submitting a manuscript. Editors will not consider manuscripts that do not meet the guidelines. All submissions should be sent to [manuscripts@pdkintl.org](mailto:manuscripts@pdkintl.org). This will ensure that a Kappan staff member acknowledges receipt of your submission and includes the manuscript in our review process.

**Common Core Writing Project**

Kappan has an ongoing interest in manuscripts related to implementation of the Common Core. As part of the Get It Right project sponsored by the Learning First Alliance, Kappan is developing a separate web site that will make all of our Common Core articles available to all educators. In addition, because space in Kappan is limited, Kappan editors will also be reviewing and editing some Common Core articles for online-only publication.

We have a special interest in how individual teachers or teams of teachers have adapted their instruction in light of Common Core standards, and we will be reviewing a portion of the web site to present those articles. We also are especially interested in manuscripts that address how districts and states have overcome challenges related to implementation and what lessons these experiences can provide to other educators.

**What can the U.S. learn from schools around the world?** *Deadline for submissions: August 1, 2015*

Educators around the globe face many of the same challenges as American schools. Instead of looking only inside our borders for answers, we want to devote an issue of Kappan to looking beyond the U.S. to learn who has made significant progress on some of the same challenges facing American schools. Manuscripts should identify a single large problem, explore how a particular nation or nongovernmental organization tackled it, and present ideas about how the same solution could translate to American schools. Kappan will consider a variety of topics for this issue including teaching quality preparation, recruitment, and retention; immigration; changing demographics; assessment and evaluation practices; educating low-income students; professional development; early literacy; dropouts; ramping up the image of the profession; career-technical education; improving learning in core subject areas (mathematics, science, and language arts); and getting technology into the hands of impoverished/remote students.

**Immigration** *Deadline for submissions: September 1, 2015*

Immigration and the history of the United States are inextricably linked. Throughout the history of public education, American schools have been regarded as vital in shaping new arrivals for citizenship. But immigrants are playing an equally important role in shaping American schools. Kappan will consider manuscripts that examine this complex and changing dynamic. What role should American schools play in helping immigrants assimilate? How do schools help immigrant students adapt when they have been traumatized by the violence in their home countries? How have immigrants changed American schools? How has the immigrant role in American public education changed over the decades? What accommodations, if any, are schools making to serve immigrant students? How have other countries responded to rising numbers of immigrant students? How have American schools embraced—or not embraced—immigrant teachers?

**College access and opportunity** *Deadline for submissions: October 1, 2015*

Earning a college degree results in greater individual earnings and having a population where more adults have at least a postsecondary education is good for the American economy. But we need to send more under-represented students on to higher education—especially those who would be first-generation students or from low-income, African American, Hispanic, and Native American homes. What can K-12 schools do to increase the number of under-represented students who enroll in college ready to succeed? What obstacles prevent more under-represented students from enrolling in two- and four-year institutions? What strategies have been successful at boosting the number of under-represented students in enrolling in and being successful in college? Early college? Dual enrollment options? Mentorship programs? Community-wide scholarship programs? What can K-12 schools do to prepare these students to be savvy consumers as they select among many higher education opportunities? How can high schools help students be best prepared to take charge of the significant financial commitments of postsecondary education?

## PDKWUCC LOGOS



To better comply with PDK International By-Laws, we will be retiring the logo above immediately.

Introducing our new logos



The first and only cyberspace chapter

The Professional Association in Education



The first and only cyberspace chapter

Meeting you where YOU are!



## All-Member Meetings Scheduled

### All-member Meet and Greets

April 18, 2015

10am 1pm  
3pm 5pm  
7pm 9pm

Join us for a members social on April 18th with six opportunities to attend. Each session will have a brief (and potentially different) professional development opportunity, prizes, and drawings. Attendance is not required, but highly encouraged.

### Annual Meeting of the members

September 11, 2015

10am 1pm  
3pm 5pm  
7pm 9pm

Join us Sept 11th with six opportunities to attend. Each session will have a (potentially different) professional development opportunity as well as member awards and recognitions. Attendance is required.



Friday Evenings at 7:30pm CDT

PDKWUCC  
Quick Bites

LIVE



[www.pdkwucc.org](http://www.pdkwucc.org)

Every Friday evening at 7:30pm CDT



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Cedar Rapids, IA 52404  
[www.pdkwucc.org](http://www.pdkwucc.org)  
[info@pdkwucc.org](mailto:info@pdkwucc.org)

**Is your contact information up-to-date?**

We are asking all members to send an email with your current contact information to [info@pdkwucc.org](mailto:info@pdkwucc.org).

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To stop receiving copies of our newsletters in the mail, [click here](#) and just hit send.

## Upcoming Events

### Quick Bites **Live**

April 3rd	7:30pm (CDT)
April 10th	
April 17th	
April 24th	

### Webinar

April 14th	7:30pm (CDT)
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### All-Members Meet and Greet

April 18th  
Didn't receive your email? Visit the website to [register](#)

The Professional Association in Education

