

AATC Supplemental Newsletter, Summer, 2009



Capitol, Washington, DC

AATC

American Association of Teaching and Curriculum

Warm greetings to our new and current members and to those of you are just becoming acquainted with our organization.

As you may have seen in our February, 2009 newsletter, AATC is planning to hold our Annual Conference from October 1-3. We extend an enthusiastic invitation to join us in Washington D.C. (Crystal City)!

We continue to encourage all members and all interested in joining our organization, to visit the AATC website at **www.aatchome.org**

The AATC Website continues to have **updated information and registration forms for the conference.**

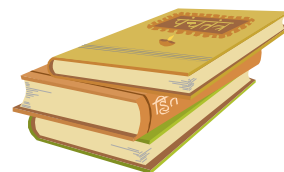
This *summer issue* of the newsletter serves to supplement the news of the organization and as always, we welcome any submissions from AATC members.

Please forward them to the newsletter editor: pamelabt@hawaii.edu

Our AATC webmaster is Mark Geary, Dakota State University. He can be reached by e-mail: mark.geary@dsu.edu

Summer Reading Suggestion

For many of us in the professoriate, reading numerous materials throughout the day is an occupational expectation; however, some of you may have that growing stack of books that remain in the 'to be read pile'. I would like to suggest one of the titles that I selected from my pile to read this summer. The book is *The Thirteen American Arguments: Enduring Debates That Define and Inspire Our Country*. Written by political journalist, Howard Fineman, the chapters are organized around fundamental issues including what it means to be an American; the exercise of free speech, and local vs. national authority in government, to name a few. Although the content of the book would fit easily into a course in political science, I began to think how the basic premise of the book could be applied to the task of identifying 13 major questions that might *define the field of education* at this contemporary moment? I want to invite AATC Newsletter readers to consider these potential questions and feel free to send them to the newsletter editor. Your questions will be published in the next newsletter.



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AATC IS ON FACEBOOK.COM

If you go to facebook.com and type in American Association of Teaching and Curriculum in the search box, it will take you to our place in Cyberspace. Look for the new feature online discussion: "Where curriculum meets teaching"

A Word from the AATC President

As university budgets get cut back, these are difficult times for academic organizations. Many of us can not count on the same level of support for travel to conferences. Whether as presenters or attendees, we always have had to make choices about which conferences to choose, but now those choices are likely to require more deliberation. It's a good time to ask ourselves why we travel to a conference and what we hope to get out of it. The obvious answers—the change in routine, the renewal of friendships and the line on the resume—don't necessarily point to one conference rather than another. There are other variables—the quality of thought, openness of discussion, variety of views—that are probably more important when it comes to choosing to participate in the AATC conference.



So, as you weigh your options, remember that the 2009 Annual AATC Conference—October 1-3—will be a special event. We'll be celebrating *Marcy Kysilka's* tenure as AATC secretary. We have *Bill Ayers* and *Bill Schubert* returning as guest speakers. For the first time we will have a writer's workshop (supervised by *Cheryl Craig* and *Bruce Uhrmacher*) and we'll be talking about our Facebook site and a new look for our website—ways we can foster and extend the dynamic interaction that AATC has always been about. Mostly, of course, it will be a special event because we will continue the tradition of bringing together all sorts of people who genuinely want to talk about the what, the how, and the why of teaching and curriculum. See you in October.

Dr. Robert Boostrom is our current AATC President, University of Southern Indiana. He can be reached by e-mail at rboostro@usi.edu

Issues and Ideas from the Newsletter Editor

During a recent meeting with a group of my graduate advisees, I was impressed by three statements that were shared during our discussion. One student is just completing a qualitative study on the topic of Native Hawaiian cultural identity; another is finishing her thesis—project exploring the creative expression of adolescents and another one is examining ways art educators can design cur-

riculum based upon the techniques of studio artists. In that order, here are their quotes:

"I found that by really listening to my students; I could hear their voice."

"One thing that I have learned through this study is that we need to observe our students more; talk less, observe more."

"I want to share my findings with every teacher out there!" I offer these observations because they struck me as important in

the process of teaching: To *listen, observe* and *share*; we are all students. I attended my first AATC Conference as a graduate student and I want to join my AATC colleagues in welcoming and encouraging graduate students to attend and participate. We have much to learn from each other.

Dr. Pamela B. Thompson is our current newsletter editor, University of Hawaii at Hilo. E-mail: pamelabt@hawaii.edu

Announcing the 2009 AATC Dissertation Award Winners

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2009 DISSERTATION AWARD WINNERS! We celebrate your work and accomplishments!

Dr. Avi Mintz, Assistant Professor, University of Tulsa, Outstanding Curriculum Dissertation titled: *The Labor of Learning: A Study of the Role of Pain in Education*, advised by Dr. David Hansen, Teachers College Columbia University

Dr. Candace Schlein, Postdoctoral Fellow, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto, Outstanding Teaching Dissertation titled: *(Un) Learning to teach: A narrative inquiry into the experiences of Canadian teacher-returnees from Northeast Asia*, advised by Dr. Michael Connelly, Ontario Institute, University of Toronto (OISE/UT)

A special THANK YOU to our dissertation nominating committee: Chara Bohan, Christine Moroye, and J. Wesley Null.

AATC recognizes two doctoral dissertations through annual dissertation awards—one in teaching and one in curriculum. Inquiries about nominations for these awards and participation in the nominating committee should be forwarded to David Callejo-Perez, He can be reached by e-mail: dmcallej@svsu.edu

2009 AATC Election Results

Congratulations to Our Newly Elected AATC Officers!

AATC would like to welcome our newly elected President and Board Members for 2009. We thank our members and candidates for their participation in this year's election. We had a robust slate of candidates and a great level of interest in our election for Association President and Executive Board. We look forward to your participation in Washington, DC this October 1-3.

The election results were as follows:

President:

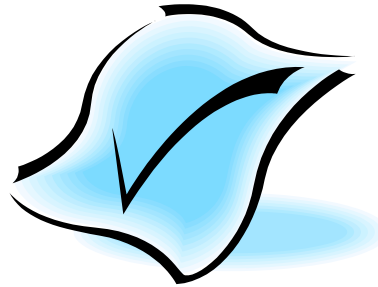
J. Wesley Null, Baylor University

Executive Board:

Laurie Bennet, University of Denver

Chara Bohan, Georgia State University

Kevin Cloninger, Anthropedia



Important Conference Details

- If your proposal has been selected for the 2009 AATC Conference, you must pre-register for the conference. If your registration is not received by September 4, 2009, your name may be removed from the program. Registration forms are available on the AATC website.
- Presenters should bring 15 copies of any materials/handouts for sharing at the conference.
- In order to keep conference costs to a minimal amount, no AV equipment will be available; however, presenters are welcome to bring their own.
- Please see our website for further details: www.aatchome.org
- The 2009 conference will include a special “writers workshop” facilitated by Cheryl Craig and Bruce Uhrmacher; participants are encouraged to **sign up in advance** and **bring a paper** to be worked on during the workshop.

Opportunity for Publication: *Curriculum and Teaching Dialogue*

Curriculum and Teaching Dialogue is the journal for AATC and an excellent opportunity to publish.

All manuscripts are peer reviewed and accepted work is published annually.

- **Selected Conference Papers** have been presented at the annual conference. Not to exceed 20 pages, 5000 words, including references; postmarked by October 31 of the conference year.
- **Open submission papers** must be on topics related to teaching and/or curriculum; not to exceed 20 pages, 5000 words and may be submitted at any time.
- **Book reviews** related to teaching or curriculum fields are welcome; not to exceed 4 pages or 1000 words and may be submitted any time.
- **Letters to the Editor** and anyone who wishes to respond to previously published CTD manuscripts in a **Dialogue Column** are also welcome; selected at the discretion of the editor.

For manuscript submission guidelines, go to www.aatchome.org and click on journal information. You can also contact Dr. Barbara Stern, James Madison University, Editor,

E-mail: ctdjournal@jmu.edu



**AATC OFFICERS
2008-2009**

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Vicki Ross, Northern Arizona University

Michelle Sharpswain, Wingra School, Madison, Wisconsin

Pamela B. Thompson, University of Hawaii-Hilo

(Photos Courtesy of www.photoshare.com and msn clipart)

The American Association for Teaching and Curriculum (AATC) was founded on October 1, 1993. The members of the AATC believed that the time was long overdue to recognize teaching and curriculum as a basic field of scholarly study, to constitute a national learned society for scholarly field of teaching and curriculum through its conferences, journal, and the interaction of its members. The purpose of the organization as originally defined in the AATC Constitution (Article 1, Section 2): To promote the scholarly study of teaching and curriculum, all analytical and interpretive approaches that are appropriate for the scholarly study of teaching and curriculum shall be encouraged.

AATC Member Highlight

STACEY ELSASSER

Stacey is our hard working and dedicated AATC Program Chair and she is our featured member highlight for this AATC Newsletter issue

Favorite quotation: “In wisdom gathered over time I have found that every experience is a form of exploration.”

-Ansel Adams

Currently supervises: Foreign Exchange Students

Currently teaches: “I teach my cat to be lazy and want for nothing!”

Continuing Project: “I continue to enjoy and work on the issue of mentoring with new teachers and still have aspirations to turn my dissertation into a book (she says 7 years after graduation...)”

Interests outside of academia: “I am involved in church work as a choir director and piano player. I am involved in some community productions as a member of a band.

I also take in foreign exchange students regularly. I’ve hosted one from Germany, Denmark, and Norway. I am working my way around Europe!”

Stacey is also moving to Houston, TX this summer. Another experience and more exploration!

Thanks Stacey for all you do in the planning, process and participation of the AATC Conference program!

This is a regular feature in the AATC Newsletter. Be looking for other AATC member highlights in future newsletters. It may be you!

