

KATE UPDATE

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Kansas Association of Teachers of English

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'Courage' theme seeks to reaffirm and inspire

by Matt Copeland

2006 Conference Chair

In *The Courage to Teach*, Parker J. Palmer writes, "In our rush to reform education, we have forgotten a simple

truth: reform will never be achieved by renewing appropriations, restructuring schools, rewriting curricula, and revising texts if we continue to demean and dishearten the human resource called the teacher on whom so much depends" (3).

With the challenges classroom teachers face growing and expanding by the day—No Child Left Behind, AYP, new state standards, disengaged students, and increasing apathy among students, parents, administrators, state legislators and our own colleagues—the difficulty of our jobs often blossoms right before our eyes. And in a world consumed with reform, accountability, and continuous improvement, we often forget what the research shows time and time again: the most important element of the classroom in regard to student success and achievement is the teacher.

A few years ago, a colleague shared with me the metaphor of the water pitcher. As teachers we spend our time dispensing liquid into the water glasses of our students, filling them up with the skills, knowledge and

experiences that will carry them into their futures. But what happens when, after long days of filling the glasses of others,

the reservoirs of our own water pitchers begin to run dry? Who is there to refill, recharge and inspire us?

All too often, the answers to these questions

"(Nothing) will transform education if we fail to cherish—and challenge—the human heart that is the source of good teaching."

-- Parker J. Palmer
The Courage to Teach

are *nothing* and *no one*. And as Parker states, nothing "will transform education if we fail to cherish—and challenge—the human heart that is the source of good teaching" (3). The 2006 KATE Conference will seek to do just this, to celebrate, cherish, and challenge those of us with the heart and courage to teach.

Knowing that good teaching flows from the identity and integrity of the teacher, this year's conference invites all teachers to reclaim their own wholeness and

Conference Agenda

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Registration and Publisher Exhibits

Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Opening General Session
Keynote Address: Dr. Leila Christenbury

10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions A

11:30 – 12:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions B

12:30 – 1:45 p.m.

Luncheon Speaker: Will Hobbs

2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions C

3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions D

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Celebration of Teaching, Teaching Practices Award Announcement, Idea/Book Exchange, Round Table Discussions, Light Refreshments, and Entertainment

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

KATE Executive Board Meeting, open to all KATE members

COURAGE From Pg. 1

vocational clarity and make connections between the renewal of their spirit and the revitalization of their profession.

It is my sincere hope that this conference helps teachers to focus on aligning personal and professional renewal by

- renewing heart, mind, and spirit through the exploration of the inner landscape of a teacher's life
- reconnecting to one's identity and integrity—identifying and honoring gifts and strengths, and acknowledging limits
- creating a context for careful listening and deep connection that also honors diversity in person and profession
- helping educators create safe spaces and trusting relationships in their schools, with their students and colleagues, and within their communities
- exploring the connection between attending to the inner life of educators and the renewal of public education.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Leila Christenbury, from

Virginia Commonwealth University, will be instrumental in establishing our focus for our two days together as she explores and shares with us the kinds of supports we need from ourselves, our families, our schools and our communities in order to be highly-effective, inspiring teachers.

Our Thursday luncheon speaker, young adult author Will Hobbs—himself a veteran of the English classroom—will also expand this focus as he shares with us insights on both his writing and classroom life and how each aspect bolsters and

reinforces the other, providing a model for all teachers striving to do what they love and love what they do.

Friday's luncheon speaker, Dr. Tom Foster, Deputy Commissioner of the Kansas State Department of Education and former high school English teacher, will develop the idea of education reform and how the realities of who teachers and students

are as human beings affects how we view ourselves and others and how we view our schools and the process of education.

Certainly our breakout sessions will continue to develop and extend these themes as well, addressing everything from helping students to meet the demands of new state standards in reading, writing, viewing, speaking, and listening to exploring professional opportunities to travel and expand our own knowledge and experiences as teachers to re-envisioning literacy and our own school curricula. Highly effective teachers are at the heart of

all of these teaching concerns, and it is the heart of teaching that we seek to reenergize, reaffirm and inspire.

A highlight of this year's conference will occur Thursday afternoon with our Celebration of Teaching, an opportunity to recognize, respect, and reward the hard work and energy that all of us devote to our students, our schools, and our profession. Within this celebration we will recognize our 2006 Outstanding Teaching Practices Award Winner, hear original poetry shared to commemorate our teaching lives, have the opportunity to share lessons, ideas, and influential books through the annual idea/book exchange, and engage one another in roundtable discussions set against the backdrop of one of Kansas' rising singer/songwriter stars, Dusty Feighner.

From our idea-packed breakout sessions, our engaging keynote and luncheon speakers, and the formal and informal opportunities to network and share ideas with colleagues, the 2006 KATE Conference is shaping up to be an opportunity for the kind of professional and personal renewal we all want and need.

"Teaching, like any truly human activity, emerges from one's inwardness [...] whatever self-knowledge we attain as teachers will serve our students and our scholarship well. Good teaching requires self-knowledge: it is a secret hidden in plain sight" (Palmer 2-3). On behalf of the 2006 conference planning committee and the KATE executive board, I invite everyone to come, explore, celebrate, and reaffirm our *Courage to Teach*.

“Courage is the foundation of integrity.”
-- Keshavan Nair

AGENDA From Pg. 1**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20****7:30 – 8:30 a.m.**

Registration and Publisher Exhibits

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

All Conference Continental Breakfast

Installation of KATE Officers

9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions E

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions F

10:45 – 11:30 a.m.

Hotel Checkout and

Publisher Exhibits

11:30 – 12:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions G

12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Luncheon Speaker: Dr. Tom Foster

UPDATE Staff: Elaine Klincik, Editor.

KATE UPDATE is published four times a year as a benefit of membership. Its purpose is to inform the membership of activities of KATE and NCTE, announcements of clearly indicated policy and to provide a means for discussion of ideas and issues concerning the content and teaching of English and language arts. Published points of view do not imply endorsement by the officers or membership at large.

For information or communication concerning the KATE UPDATE, write to **Elaine Klincik, 814 Franklin, Wichita, KS 67203;**

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KATE UPDATE is a member of the NCTE Information Exchange Agreement. Articles, ideas, and comments from KATE members are welcomed.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS TO AFFIRM TEACHERS AND PROFESSION

Matt Copeland

2006 Conference Chair

Each year our KATE Conference speakers amaze and astound us with their wisdom, humor and insight. This year will prove to be no exception when we gather in October to explore our

conference theme: Courage to Teach: Facing Today's Challenges.

Opening Keynote Address

Thursday's opening session will feature Dr. Leila Christenbury, a former high school English teacher who is currently Professor of English Education at Virginia Commonwealth University, where she teaches young adult literature, the teaching of writing, teaching methods for both secondary and middle school,



Dr. Leila Christenbury



Will Hobbs



Dr. Tom Foster

and instructional theory and design.

Throughout her career, Dr. Christenbury has developed a strong reputation for not only providing practical advice on what to do in the classroom and how to act, but also for offering a realistic but optimistic sense of what it means to embrace the practice of good teaching. Her keynote address, "Affirming Teachers: What We

Know/What We Need," will inspire and reaffirm our expertise as professionals and outline the kinds of support we require from both the school and community in order to be successful in the classroom. Within her speech, she will also relate many of her own classroom teaching stories, highlighted by her interactions with a student named Ray, which will resonate with teachers across grade levels and content areas.

Dr. Christenbury won the 1997 national Rewey Belle Inglis Award for Outstanding Woman in English Teaching. She is a past president of NCTE, and former editor of the *English Journal*. She is also the author of eight books, including *Making the Journey* and *Writing on Demand: Best Practices and Strategies for Success*. She has been featured on CNN, various public radio stations, and, among others, in the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Virginian Pilot*, and *US News & World Report*.

Thursday's Luncheon Speaker

Young adult author Will Hobbs will join us on Thursday to share insights on his writing life and his many award-winning books, including his newest, *Crossing the Wire*.

Crossing the Wire puts a human face on the controversial issue of illegal immigration. No longer able to grow corn profitably in his Mexican village, 15-year-old Victor, who has supported his family since his father's death, resolves to go north to the United States. Lacking the money to secure a guide, he ventures to a border town to wait his chance to cross the border. Praised for raising important questions concerning our opinions and policies in regards to immigration and its high

adventure and survival elements, *Crossing the Wire* is impressing both teachers and students alike.

Will Hobbs is the author of sixteen novels for upper elementary, middle school and young adult readers, as well as two picture book stories. Seven of his novels, *Bearstone*, *Downriver*, *The Big Wander*, *Beardance*, *Far North*, *The Maze*, and *Jason's Gold*, were named Best Books for Young Adults by the American Library Association. ALA also named *Far North* and *Downriver* to their list of the 100 Best Young Adult Books of the Twentieth Century. *Ghost Canoe* received the Edgar Allan Poe Award in 1998 for Best Young Adult Mystery.

In outdoor stories that appeal to both boys and girls, Hobbs has readers discovering wild places, sharing adventures with people from varied backgrounds, and exploring how to make important choices in their own lives. A graduate of Stanford University and former reading and language arts teacher, Will has been a full-time writer since 1990. He lives with his wife, Jean, in Durango, Colorado.

Will's books have won many other awards, including the California Young Reader Medal, the Western Writers of America Spur Award, the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Award, the Colorado Book Award, and nominations to state award lists in over thirty states.

For more information, you can explore his website <www.willhobbsauthor.com>.

Friday's Luncheon Speaker

Joining us for lunch on Friday will be Dr. Tom Foster, deputy commissioner of the Kansas State Department of Education. A former high school English teacher and instructional facilitator, Dr. Foster will speak on the topic of "Re-

Annual conference unveils 'Celebration of Teaching' event

by **Matt Copeland,**

KATE Conference Chair 2006

In conjunction with its theme, this year's annual conference will include a new event. Following our Thursday breakout sessions, all conference participants are invited to attend our "Celebration of Teaching," beginning first in the Grand Ballroom and also including programs in Salon 2.

The "Celebration of Teaching" will include components new to the conference and a reconfiguration of several KATE Conference events: the Outstanding Teaching Practices Award Announcement, the Idea/Book Exchange, the KATE open mic, and the conference reception and hors d'oeuvres. Unifying the various events will allow us all to explore more fully the value of the teaching profession and, hopefully, assist us in inspiring ourselves and one another, rekindling the attitudes and passions that originally drew us to teaching in the first place.

This will be one conference event you will want to be sure not to miss! Although plans for the Celebration of Teaching have not been finalized at this time, the event will be sure to include such elements as:

Poem to Celebrate the Teaching Profession

Jerrod E. Bohn, graduate student at Kansas State University, will read a poem celebrating teaching. Drawing from his personal experience as a teacher as well as his observations of outstanding educators, both colleagues and those who have taught him, Bohn's poem will emphasize teaching as an essential profession to inspire young people and prepare young people for greatness.

Outstanding Teaching Practices Award Announcement

The KATE Outstanding Teaching Practices Award recognizes, promotes, and rewards outstanding teaching practices across all grade levels in the state of Kansas. Awards are \$200, a plaque recognizing the recipient awarded at the annual state conference, and public recognition. More information about the award is available on the KATE website <<http://web.jccc.net/kate/>>.

Idea and/or Book Exchange

A KATE tradition! Each participant should bring 75 copies of a successful lesson or favorite teaching idea to share with other teachers. You will have a chance to discuss what you have brought and to answer questions from other participants. Lessons and

ideas are sometimes printed in *KATE Update* after the conference, so be sure to include your name, school, and address on each entry.

Participants may also bring professional or personal-pleasure books to exchange as well. Each book can be traded for a coupon that can be used to "buy" another's book from the exchange. Please bring books that are in good shape and relatively free from markings and annotations.

Round Table Discussions

An opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas with others, to make suggestions for the KATE organization and its conference, or just talk about an issue that concerns you. Members of the executive board will be sprinkled throughout the room to hear from you. This is an opportunity to relax and talk with fellow professionals in an informal setting. Come enjoy the camaraderie with the conference speakers and presenters, catch up with old friends, and meet some new ones.

Light Refreshments and Entertainment: Dusty Feighner

Bringing a natural charisma to the stage, Dusty Feighner is one of the brightest upcoming musicians in the Kansas City area, playing a style of music that will

penetrate your senses and warm your heart. Originally from Louisburg, Kansas, Dusty cut his teeth on the small town life and reaped the benefit of learning to be honest, caring, and hard-working. His first musical influences were fed by Country and Rock radio and his favorite uncle was the first person to put a guitar in his hands. This was the first spark that influenced Dusty to pursue a life filled with music. If you are looking for fresh and original, you will definitely find it in this uniquely talented singer-songwriter.

“ One isn't necessarily born with courage, but one is born with potential. Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can't be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest.”

-- Maya Angelou

Breakout sessions reveal diversity, innovations

by **Matt Copeland**,

KATE Conference Chair 2006

One of the clear strengths of the annual KATE Conference has always been our outstanding breakout sessions, a chance for us to network and share ideas, lessons, activities, and philosophies with other teachers from across the state. This year's conference will certainly continue this strong tradition.

A number of impromptu themes and strands have emerged for our breakout sessions. From technology, to poetry, to literacy activities, to professional travel, to state reading and writing standards, to helping students transition from high school writing to college writing. Sessions in these areas—among others—will allow conference participants to specify and specialize their experience, choosing those sessions that most

address their needs and desires.

Below is a partial list of session topics for this year's conference revealing the diversity and range of innovations to be shared. Additional sessions will also be available and added as they become available.

- Questions and Answers with Dr. Leila Christenbury
- A Conversation with Will Hobbs
- Technology
- Japanese Culture
- Using Johnny Cash to Teach Writing
- Interviewing
- Planning for Secondary Literacy
- Grammar
- Teaching the Holocaust

- Video Productions
- Shakespeare
- Teaching English in Azerbaijan
- The ACT Writing Test
- NCTE Pathways
- Fluency Based Classroom Activities
- Preparing Students for College Writing
- Traveling with Students
- Protocols for PLC's
- Student Focused Response to Reading and Writing

- College Application Essays
- Poetry
- National Board Certification

***For complete schedule and breakout descriptions, see the KATE website.
<web.jccc.net/kate>.***

- Early Career Teaching
- Journalism
- Teacher Leadership
- Visual and Media Literacy
- Challenges to Composition
- Reflective Portfolios
- Classroom Environment
- Redesigning the English/Language Arts Curriculum

Idea exchange, book swap offer unlimited inspiration, lessons

by **Jane Wagner**

KATE Board Member

Teachers, remember that lesson plan or teaching idea your students responded to so well. Oh, and don't forget that novel or professional knowledge book you've read and want to share. The KATE Fall Conference is just the place to bring these items to participate in the Idea/Book Exchange.

Bring 75 copies of a detailed lesson plan or

teaching idea. At the Idea/Book Exchange, you will then collect a plethora of new ideas from other great Kansas teachers. You will also have time to ask or answer questions about those plans. Some of the best teaching ideas are borrowed from fellow instructors and tweaked to fit individual classroom needs. Because these ideas are sometimes used in KATE

UPDATE, please include your name, school, and address on each entry.

Bring that book to the exchange and choose another book some other teacher has finished. For each book you bring, you will receive a coupon to exchange for another book. Please bring books that are in good condition and not too marked up.

The Idea/Book Exchange

is a great way to add to your school year, and this year, you won't need to miss a breakout session to participate. Don't miss this opportunity. Get that lesson plan or book out right now, pay your membership for 2006-2007, and then get the voucher to your principal so you can experience the KATE Fall Conference first hand. Everyone needs "Courage to teach."

SPEAKERS From Pg. 3

Thinking Schools," focusing on the issues surrounding the initiatives to develop new models for classroom instruction and the impact 'new' students will have on our profession.

Certainly, the question now is not whether schools should change but how. From the national level down, a new emphasis on accountability, the expansion of world trade pressures, an explosion of technology, and the emergence of a new generational perspective has created an imperative to "re-think" the traditional school model. Dr. Foster's presentation will offer information, innovation and inspiration.

KATE Executive Board Meeting
Visser Hall, Emporia State University
10 June 2006

Call to Order:

President Annie Heidersbach called the meeting to order at 9:00.

Announcements:

Annie passed attendance sheets and announced that lunch would be on our own. Matt Copeland distributed proposal forms and asked that we solicit presentations for the fall conference.

KATE members introduced themselves.

Reports:

Treasurer's report: Clark Coker reported a total income of \$22,502.36, total expenses of \$21,486.57, with a profit of \$1,015.79. The total balance is \$23,417.17. Clark asked that Share-a-thon expenses be submitted. Tara Azwell reported that she expected the Share-a-thon expenses to balance with the income. Clark moved he be authorized to pay 4H \$500 and the publication editors' honorarium of \$100 each. The motion was seconded and passed.

Marketing: Diana Costello and Jane Wagner, marketing chairs, sent a report that they had contacted all private colleges in the state to market KATE to English education students.

Dave Smit had sent a mailing to all colleges before his resignation. They asked that the board brainstorm marketing ideas. Linda Jones suggested we may want to market to northern Oklahoma.

Membership: Karen Ford reported that she is beginning to receive memberships. Karen noted that the membership year begins with the October conference. Any memberships that come in after the school year will be credited to the membership year beginning the following October. She said that the date on the KATE website membership form will be updated. In his report letter, Andy Anderson moved that KATE membership forms be posted on the KATE website and recruiting begin for the upcoming year on May 1. Membership will begin with the October conference and continue through the following conference year. The motion was seconded and passed. Matt Copeland suggested that this date correspond with the conference mailing. Andy now has current e-mail addresses for all but a few members in the data base. The number of KATE members, including 68 that lapsed in 2005 and 80 that lapsed in 2004, is 348. Andy suggested KATE not drop the lapsed members from the list until we ascertain that the failure to renew is not merely an oversight. He had e-mailed lapsed members to ascertain their status. Elaine Gruenbacher Klincik had sent *KATE UpDate* to the total list, and she had received about 25 returns.

Andy reported that he had added to the membership list those conference registrants who registered as non-members, since the non-member charge would cover the cost of membership. Elaine moved that Andy's action be approved retroactively. The motion was seconded and passed. The board discussed continuing the practice of adding those who register as non-members to the membership list. Chris Goering noted that school districts who paid conference fees were not intending to pay for membership and this could cause a problem. It was decided that we should not continue this practice. Dana Waters suggested adding them to the mailing list rather than the membership list. Linda Jones suggested including a postcard in their conference packet explaining KATE is sending complimentary publications for one year to encourage them to become members. The postcard could then be handed

to the treasurer at the end of the conference to join. Clark Coker said that he would like to include in each conference packet an accounting of paid and unpaid fees. Matt Copeland pointed out that we are complicating a membership process we have worked to streamline. He read the section of the KATE constitution specifying the KATE publications as a privilege of membership in the organization. Elaine suggested that we add *UpDate* to their conference packet along with the card. Gerritt Bleeker cautioned that decisions the board makes need to be specified as policy so that what the board decides doesn't fall by the wayside as our leadership changes.

KATE Update: Elaine Gruenbacher Klincik reported that August 5 is the next deadline for *UpDate* submissions. The new issue of *UpDate* can then be in teachers' hands by the beginning of school. Annie suggested Elaine publish first-day lesson plans in addition to conference information. Linda suggested including tips to welcome new teachers to the district. Elaine asked for picture submissions to be in larger files so the resolution is better for publishing.

Kansas English: Publication expenses for *Kansas English* were increased by \$1 per copy because of the decision to perfect bind the journal and to print 250 copies. Costs for publishing and mailing were \$996.66, approximately \$3.75 per issue. Linda Jones moved that we continue to use perfect binding for *Kansas English*. The motion was seconded and passed. Michele Eodice has accepted a position in Oklahoma but will continue to co-edit *Kansas English* with Kami Day. The next issue will be mailed by mid-August. Andy's report listed titles from the upcoming publication.

Young/Younger Kansas Writers: Linda Jones distributed the *Young and Younger Kansas Writers* CDs she had received from Carlene Stueve and reported that it is much improved. Carlene reported that the CD burner worked well. Linda thinks the format of the new CD will be more satisfactory. Linda pointed out that the issue numbers are incorrect and should be issue 91.3 for *Young Kansas Writers* and 91.4 for *Younger Kansas Writers*. The editors were concerned that there were no page numbers and hope to include them in the next issue. Carlene asked if KATE wanted to include the CDs in the conference packets. Linda reported that elementary

submissions were down; Carlene reported that *Young Kansas Writers* submissions were significantly down. Linda suggested we have a screen at the conference showing the new CD issues. Carlene and Linda will contribute part of their editors' stipends to Carlene's student who helped with the CD production.

SLATE: Matt Copeland distributed his draft of KATE's position statement on censorship. KATE will publish the position in *KATE UpDate* to disseminate the information to teachers facing censorship issues. The board will look at the draft for official adoption at the October meeting.

NCTE Liaison: Andy Anderson will attend the NCTE Affiliate Leadership meeting in June. Lori Goodson is unable to attend. Annie Heidersbach moved that Andy Anderson be reimbursed up to \$275 for NCTE Affiliate Leadership meeting expenses. The motion was seconded and passed. Clark asked for Andy to submit receipts for expenses.

Andy Anderson submitted the nomination of Bryan Anderson to NCTE for Secondary Teacher of Excellence Award and for the Prentice Hall Leadership Development Award. Andy reported that Prentice Hall will decide in June if they will continue their award of \$500 for the nominee's expenses for attending the NCTE Annual Convention. Matt Copeland suggested KATE have a plan to cover travel expenses for our nominee if Prentice Hall decides not to continue the award. KATE paid \$400 of our nominee's expenses last year. Elaine Gruenbacher Klincik moved that KATE again supplement the nominee's expenses up to \$400, and if Prentice Hall withdraws their support, KATE also pick up their \$500. Clark Coker reviewed some of the expenses of last year. Publication expenses are down because of CD publication, and *Kansas English* expenses are stable. This has allowed some breathing space in the budget. He said KATE is able to pay the \$500, but we need some budget parameters. The motion was seconded and passed. Clark will draft a budget proposal to be distributed before the October meeting for discussion at the conference meeting.

NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing: Gary Bleeker reported that he had received 35 submissions from 16 schools. Eight winners will be selected by June 1.

Promising Young Writers: Barbara Bleeker reported that the 8th grade award had totaled only 656 entries

nationally. Kansas had 5 submissions from 2 schools. Barbara had contacted gifted programs for submissions. Kansas declared 3 winners. The students and schools have been notified. NCTE withholds winner notifications until mid-May, and since Kansas schools' awards ceremonies are over by then, this may contribute to Kansas' lack of submissions. January 26, 2007, is next year's submission deadline. The form will be available on-line in October. Matt Copeland has ordered a display from NCTE for the conference, but he didn't know if that included writing awards.

NCTE Literary Magazine Awards: Karen Stous sent word that she has received two submissions. The submission deadline is June 30. To submit magazines, teachers should contact Karen Stous at <kstous@holtonks.net>.

KATE Conference 2006: Matt Copeland sent a conference mailing to all middle and secondary teachers at a cost of about \$1100. Matt said that the cost could be cut by using bulk mailing rather than first class. He downloaded mailing labels from the State Department of Education and had his student aids eliminate duplicate names. The mailing went to 2200 teachers, which did not include college faculty.

The Friday luncheon speaker will be the Kansas Deputy Commissioner of Education. Matt has been able to keep the cost for speakers low.

Following the board meeting today, Matt will meet briefly with those volunteering to help with the conference. He is thinking of combining the idea exchange and the book exchange, and needs someone to take charge of that. Diana Costello was in charge last year. Conference reviewers complained that a few books were in poor condition, so outlining qualifications will be necessary. Annie suggested using a separate flyer in *UpDate*. Matt asked for suggestions for entertainment for Thursday evening. Matt also requested a volunteer in the Wichita area to handle local details such as picking up speakers and acting as host/hostess at luncheons. Karen Ford and Dana Waters will do photography. Matt is looking at what to do with the Friday breakfast since the open mic was unsuccessful. He will contact Clark Killion about name tags, perhaps color coding different designations. Conference fees and tuition for the academic credit option through Friends University will remain the same. Clark Coker asked for

guidance in comping hotel rooms. The Marriott comps the conference chair's room. KATE will comp the president's and the speakers' rooms. Dana Waters suggested setting this as a policy for future conferences.

Old Business:

Tara Azwell reported on the Share-a-thon. Conference participants discussed persuasive and technical writing, as well as comprehension and vocabulary strategies. The registration fee covered the cost of lunch, which was provided in the Student Union, so the conference netted a small profit. Attendance was low, numbering about the same as last year; however, Susan Micka reported that the attendees were different this year. She felt the discussion of theory and pedagogy were most valuable. The board discussed possible changes in the time and place. Annie stated that one of the strengths of the Share-a-thon is that the site moves. Tara Azwell said chairing the conference is easier if the chair is from the site and familiar with the facilities. Kathy Shumard said she felt the professors from the site were a great resource and their attendance should be emphasized in the flyer. Susan pointed out that KATE had flyers at the conference table last year, and Matt added that notice of the Share-a-thon was sent with the conference mailing in the spring. Peggy Jewell volunteered Wichita State University for the next site. Linda Jones suggested we have dual conferences, simultaneously one in Western and one in Eastern Kansas. She volunteered to chair another site at Colby. Annie will send e-mails to further discuss arrangements. Clark Coker pointed out that splitting the conference and separating it from the board meeting will result in added expense and perhaps cut down on attendance. However, since attendance is already low and the Share-a-thon pays for itself, members wished to pursue the dual arrangements. Matt suggested we have an officer permanently responsible for the Share-a-thon.

KATE Outstanding Teaching Practices Award:

Andy Anderson had received one nomination for KATE Outstanding Teaching Practices Award. Members reviewed the nomination, and Devra Parker of Burlington High School was selected. Matt will make arrangements for her recognition at the conference.

Andy Anderson modified the KATE letterhead. He will send the file to those who are likely to need it and make it available to other board members when needed.

New Business:

Andy Anderson reported that in posting the constitution on the web site, he had noted two revisions that need to be made. He noted the following revisions: Delete Section 1.2, since it is addressed in Section 2. Section 2.1: Add (3) *work with the membership chairperson and the marketing chairperson to recruit new members;* and (4) *choose from the Executive Board or from the general membership of the Association workers to assist with membership recruitment.* Section 2.13: Change *Each Executive Board member will.... to Each Executive Board member may....* Chris Goering moved that the board endorse the revisions. The motion was seconded and passed. Andy recommended we add a non-discrimination policy modeled on the Kansas Regents policy to the KATE Constitution. He will draft a policy for discussion at the conference meeting.

Annie asked for board members' personal profiles to be added to the KATE web site. Pictures will be taken at the October meeting.

Annie called to our attention members who have not attended two executive board meetings without notifying the president, and reminded us of our policy on attendance. She will contact these members before taking action. In the future, the policy will be listed on the expectation sheet for new board members.

Senior past president Clark Killion had not submitted nominations for board members and officers. According to the Constitution, the ballot should have been mailed in the spring issue of *UpDate* and the election should be complete by May 1. In the past, new board members have been invited to the June meeting. New members and officers are installed at the October conference meeting. Annie will contact Clark to submit the ballot to Elaine for the next issue of *KATE*

UpDate. She suggested anyone interested in becoming an Executive Board officer contact Clark Killion. Clark will notify nominees.

The board discussed marketing strategies. The dual Share-a-thons will help with recruitment. Mark Gordon stated that KATE's fall conference is the best marketing tool. Kathy Shumard pointed out that newly hired faculty will not receive conference information since the conference mailing has gone out. Steve Maack suggested that a pre-conference statement from KATE emphasizing the conference as a professional development opportunity would help teachers secure permission to attend. Then districts' PDCs could add the conference to their teachers' professional development plans. In the past, Wichita teachers have not been allowed to miss in-service to attend the conference. He suggested putting a professional development form on the KATE website so it could be submitted to professional development committees, at least by mid September. Conference registration forms could have a pre-signed tear-off section that serves as a receipt and can be included in the conference packet for reimbursement. Clark Coker will explore ways to include a receipt in the folders. Andy Anderson's letter suggested ways KATE could do a blog. He pointed out that we could e-mail the KATE website homepage to members to reinforce connections.

The next board meeting will be at the Marriott Hotel, Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 6:00.

Adjournment: Steve Maack moved the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 12:15.



KATE UPDATE NEWS HOUND

Deadline for next issue:
November 20

Please email your articles, creative writing, news, and photos to eklinik@usd264.org or through postal mail to Elaine (Gruenbacher) Klinik at 814 Franklin, Wichita, KS 67203.

KATE Executive Board

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