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**PDK Readathon
Challenge 2017**

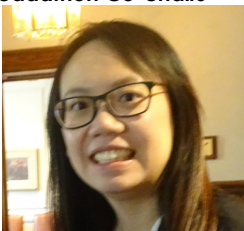
Thank you for everyone who participated in this year's PDK Readathon Challenge. We raised a total of \$1,250 for our chapter. The Readathon was an opportunity to encourage individuals to pick up a book and celebrate literacy!

All money raised will support our PDK Chapter 85 scholarship and educational initiatives.

We hope you will join us in the next year's fundraising event.

**Reading is to the
Mind is like Exercise
is to the Body**

Pauline Quan
Zenobia Omarali
Readathon Co-chairs



Pauline at AGM



John Myers

President's Message

The Toronto chapter of Phi Delta Kappa is now in its 7th decade and is the longest serving international chapter of an organization that has been around for more than a century. Beginning as a collaboration of three fraternities in Indiana interested in promoting public education in 1906 it has gone international and co-educational.

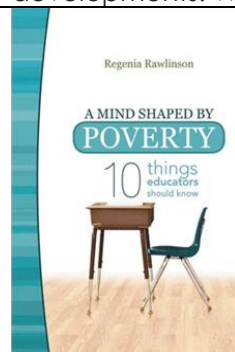
Beginning as a collaboration of three fraternities in Indiana interested in promoting public education in 1906 it has gone international and co-educational. Its many activities related to research, leadership, and service in the cause of public education can be seen both in the Toronto chapter's website and publications, as well as those of the international and the hundreds of chapter affiliates.

Yet the organization continues to evolve as do the challenges. Demographic shifts, teacher priorities, the need for work life balance, the promise and perils of communication technology, and just finding time to travel to events in large cities stresses all voluntary organizations, not just PDK. Furthermore, media reach can mean that international organizations may be dominated by ideas, issues, and potential solutions appropriate to American schools but not necessarily to Canadian schools or situations elsewhere.

The initiatives we are taking or considering taking to meet these challenges include the following:

- replacing the Chalkwalk with a Readathon: there will be reviews of some of the interesting books we have read and they may give readers insights into an issue or initiative they might then tackle in their own school communities
- making connections with the other Canadian chapters in British Columbia and Alberta to imagine strategies for renewal and made in Canada solutions (there used to be an international column in *The Kappan*. Is there is place for its return or for a Canadian column?)
- Ensuring direct connections to schools by having co-presidents this coming year: John Myers from OISE and Tim Rudan (past president) from TDSB.
- The international has talked about bringing back its *Tips for Teachers*. Should it or should we create one?

In mid June the chapter executive is having a session to strategize on future developments. We invite you to email us, through the presidents, to offer ideas.



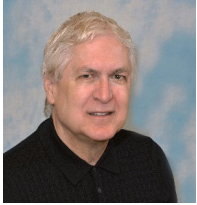
**A Readathon
Recommendation!**
iUniverse, Inc., 2011
in paper or on Kindle.
*clearly written
*33-page booklet
John Myers

Tim Rudan and I facilitate at a conference in New York State every summer. www.learnercentered.org. **'One of the themes in the last few years has been helping schools work with students and communities of poverty.'**

Regenia Rawlinson's *A Mind Shaped By Poverty: 10 Things Educators Should Know* is a useful guide. While there are distinct differences with the Canadian situation there are enough similarities. Some of the examples struck a personal chord with me based on my own background and the backgrounds of some of my students. The first of the "10 things" shaping a mind of a person in poverty deals with "fairness". Using her own story as an example, Regenia grew up believing that "life was not fair"; she described what it meant to her as someone living in poverty encountering teachers who were inconsistent in their treatment of students.

Her suggestions are jumping off points for beginning steps to work more positively with students from poverty.

John Myers



Paul's Hot Topic Research Findings

Paul Favaro, Ph.D.
York University Faculty of Education,
Department of Administrative Studies

To paraphrase Willy Nelson, "Mommas don't let your babies grow up to be in routine occupations."

<https://www.stlouisfed.org/on-the-economy/2016/january/jobs-involving-routine-tasks-arent-growing>

Can Music Instruction Help Language Development?

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/06/01/530723046/using-music-and-rhythm-to-help-kids-with-grammar-and-language>

Why are Graduation Rates Improving? Dunno!

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/what-we-dont-know-about-high-schools-can-hurt-us/>

PISA Financial Literacy Results

<https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pisa/>

Ranking Countries by the Performance of Their Worst Students

<http://hechingerreport.org/26045-2/>

Professional Learning In Canada

<http://hechingerreport.org/26045-2/>

Early Childhood Programs Benefit Boys More than Girls

http://www.nber.org/papers/w23412?utm_campaign=ntw&utm_medium=email&utm_source=ntw

Bullying is Down!

<http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2017/05/11/527416662/school-bullying-is-down-why-dont-students-believe-it?platform=hootsuite>

You Still Need Your Brain and Does Your Brain have a Delete Button?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/19/opinion/sunday/you-still-need-your-brain.html>

<https://www.fastcompany.com/3059634/your-brain-has-a-delete-button-heres-how-to-use-it>

Interesting Factoids: Where TV Shows are Popular (Why are the Kardashians so popular in Native American Communities?) and Aristotle was Right About Happiness!

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/12/26/upshot/duck-dynasty-vs-modern-family-television-maps.html?r=0#saturday_night_live

http://www.newyorker.com/tech/elements/a-better-kind-of-happiness?mbid=social_twitter

Follow Paul on Twitter @PaulFavaro

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or visit www.pdkint.org



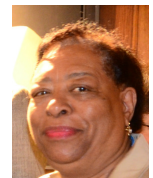
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John Myers



Membership Co-Chairs
Jelena Rakovac
Tim Rudan



Newsletter Editor
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Treasurer
Moveeta Nanton



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Linda Massey



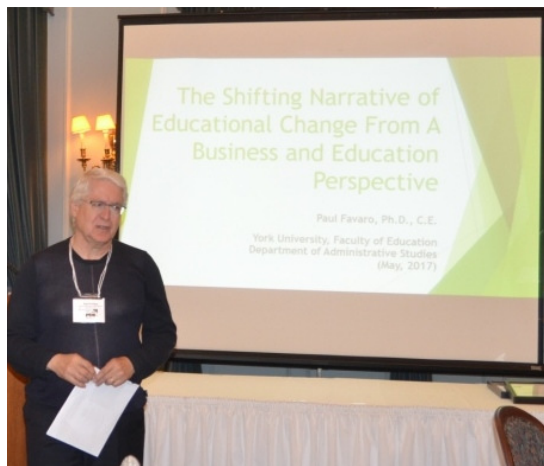
Readathon Co-Chair
Zenobia Omerali



Advisor
Ron Benson

Chapter executive
2016-17

CHAPTER NEWS



Honouring Paul Favaro as Outstanding Educator (Incoming Vice-President Nehal Patel, with Treasurer Moveta Nanton, thanking Paul.)

Where is Education Moving Towards?

A beautiful intimate evening was hosted at the Faculty Club, where Paul Favaro presented his research and dedicated service to education. His main focus was how Technology and Education are co-related and will continue to change.



Paul said "Education consumes us and we internalize it" Learning happens literally anytime and anywhere. As a result, our future of our children and learning has also changed. Especially, if you want to keep up in this ever so fast and growing economy. Paul noted, learning will be student driven and personalized. As education changes, so will the process of obtaining degrees. As a matter of fact, you can get half degrees now which are all online and set up under a globalized network, known as virtual schools. For example, the University of Guelph has a program called Beyond Technology, which goes further than clickers and the type of technology we now use. As a result, this new shift in technology means we need to invest in our education to enable our school system to be up to speed with our innovative globalized world. As a matter of fact, knowledge these days is only good for 1-3 years before one must re-learn something as it advances. Therefore, the most important adaptive skill one could have is innovation.

INNOVATION is the key to survival in this ever so fast and changing world. It is designed to always be creative and problem solve. Innovation is crucial for survival and success.

Education is the driver, but it has to be specialized. This is where innovation comes into play! The stress on innovation is shared by school districts as more and more they seek different forms of leadership, from school curriculum leaders to top administrators to innovate and do something different.

Yet Paul also noted the dark side of innovation: cyber bullying and fake news. In this light he added the following educational goal- character. Technology and innovation are not value neutral.

The original 1931 novel *Brave New World* by Aldus Huxley portrayed a dystopian world. What can we do to produce the world of 2031? The audience judging from their comments truly enjoyed the evening. Nothing dystopian about the event!

Buzz Around The Bee – We Need You



Spelling Bee of Canada

Contact: Kappan Carolyn
Moras and SBOC Coordinator,
cjmoras@rogers.com

Spelling Bee Championship Final

Several Kappans' roles contributed to the success of the day. Winners from regional bees across Canada participated.

Right: Spellers entering
completion hall.



Bee Nation –the opening film of the Hot Docs Film Festival is the spelling bee story of aboriginal children in Saskatchewan gaining hope through the knowledge that they can successfully compete beyond their own community against other winners across Canada. The movie reflects the children's voices and shows them studying in their homes, then coming to Toronto for the Championship Final and, placing third in the primary division! The CBC will be showing this wonderful story this fall. **By Moveta Nanton.**

JOIN THE PDK CHAPTER EXECUTIVE

Consider joining our PDK Executive team.

John Myers, Chapter President, has creative and exciting ideas for the year's Focus and Research.

New executive members, new ideas and a new PDK international focus are all included.

Come and be part of the changes. Contact : Nehal Patel nehal_patel_88@hotmail.com or John Myers at jjcm1946@sympatico.ca

For a full Listing of our Chapter's Executive Team, visit our website. www.pdk-ut.ca

PROGRAMME DATES FOR 2016 -17 VISIT WWW.PDK-UT.CA FOR MORE DETAILS.

Word on the Street	Sun., Sept. 24	In partnership with Spelling Bee of Canada, Our PDK Chapter will be at the SBOC booth to promote literacy and to spread awareness of the Readathon.	Harbourfront Toronto in Literacy Lane
Research Series	TBA	Location- TBA	7:00 pm – 9:15 pm
ANGELS...EVERY WHERE!	Thurs., Nov 2	AT CHRIST CHURCH, NIAGARA FALLS, ONT., CAN.. An innovative concert created and produced each year by Kappan Elizabeth Manker.	7-9 pm

Tribute to Past President Robert Hookey



Robert Hookey
President 2000-2002

On January 13, 2017, PDK-Toronto was saddened to learn of the passing of Past President Robert Hookey.

Robert was instrumental in re-energizing our organization, both as chapter president and as an advisor at "Forward Thinking" meetings. Following his term as President, Robert's vision continued with the Chapter. Taking the advisory role seriously, he led the executive through a creative problem-solving experience designed to turn data into goals. This helped to formulate a strategic framework for moving ahead and into the future.

Ron Benson wrote, "To pay tribute to Robert is not only an honour for me but also a distinct privilege. For those who did not know him, please know this: he was one of those people who was s well worth knowing. Robert's contributions to PDK-Toronto were numerous, his influence far-reaching, and his style most worthy of notice and recognition. "

PDK-Toronto is grateful to have had Robert's years of participation, commitment, dedication, and



Ron Benson, Mary Hookey

Although saddened by Robert's passing, we were very pleased that his wife Mary attended the AGM. On behalf of all of us, Mary was presented a token of our esteem, a framed Phi Delta Kappa poster, in celebration of his association with PDK Toronto. It is hoped that this will remind Mary and the family of the dedicated service that Robert gave and our thanks and appreciation to him for his invaluable and lasting contributions to our PDK-Toronto Chapter.

Thanks to Ron Benson for giving the tribute to Robert at the AGM 2017 and working on the "In Memoriam" in the AGM programme

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