



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I recently had the privilege of representing our affiliate at the ASCD Annual Conference and Exhibit Show in New Orleans. Indeed, there were about seventy Manito-

bans who attended the conference out of a total of just under 13 000 people registered. This number was about 2000 more than the number who attended last year's annual conference in San Francisco, but short of the record 15 000 who attended the 2001 conference in Boston.

The ASCD Annual Conference and Exhibit Show has continued to justify its reputation as one of the most comprehensive education conferences in the world. This year's theme was 'Faces of Education: Courageous Actions, Powerful Stories'. Each Annual Conference offers educators an exciting collection of sessions to attend and inspiring insights from visionary educators and internationally renowned speakers. This year's conference was no exception. Conference attendees collected abundant practical ideas to use upon their return, saw up-to-date uses of technologies, exchanged views with colleagues around the world, and explored an exhibit hall with a vast array of instructional materials. Perhaps the most rewarding experience of all was the opportunity to interact with other members of the ASCD community.

In addition to attending the general sessions and many outstanding regular and special sessions, President-Elect Sharon Pekrul and I were your affiliate representatives at the Leadership Council meetings. The Leadership Council is an integral part of the ASCD governance structure and provides leadership for the ASCD community as a united force for influencing educational policy and practice at all levels. Through critical dialogue on timely educational issues, the Leadership Council creates, adopts, and acts on ASCD positions. The council plays a

key role in galvanizing constituencies to advance adopted positions and assess impact in improving educational experiences for students across the world. Sharon is also a co-facilitator for one of the Leadership Council Working Groups and was recognized with a framed certificate for fulfilling this role at one of the Leadership Council functions.

Two position statements were adopted by the Leadership Council in New Orleans. First, a proposal dealing with High Stakes Testing that included ASCD's support of the use of multiple measures in assessment systems; and secondly, a proposal related to The Achievement Gap that spoke about closing the achievement gap in order for all students to excel academically and thrive as individuals.

Attending the Annual Conference would not be complete without having some fun! It's a great opportunity to take part in the social aspects associated with such a conference (such as the 'Books on the Bayou Bash'), interact with the ASCD community (especially Manitoban delegates), and take in some of the many sights and restaurants in New Orleans. Next year's conference is April 2-4 in Orlando. Proposal forms for people interested in presenting in Orlando are available on the ASCD web site (<http://www.ascd.org/annualconference>). The deadline for submitting a proposal is May 1, 2004.

In This Issue

Trust In Leadership	by Dr. Thomas Sergiovanni	2
<hr/>		
A Review of Dr. Anne Davies' workshop	by Val Barker	3
<hr/>		
A Balanced Assessment Policy	by Linda Thorlakson	4
<hr/>		
Children and Tests	by Dr. John Wiens	6

**Manitoba ASCD Annual General Meeting
May 17, 2004**
Details on page 4