



POD Network News

Fall 2018

Reaching Out, Finding Allies, Sharing Capacities

Fall is not only the season for the POD Network's annual conference, it is a time for attending other higher education gatherings and reinvesting in relationships and plans at our own institutions. As you approach this season, I invite you to consider the following and engage with the POD Network in new ways:

- *Who do you find in your current community of practice?*
Identifying those most closely aligned with your work--where you tend to go for advice and input--can serve as an important home base within the growing field of educational development. At the POD Network conference, you can find this community through conference topics, as well as [Special Interest Groups](#) (email SIG chairs to connect), roundtable discussions, and "Birds of a Feather" sessions.
- *How might you expand your community?*
What areas of higher education or topics within educational development are less familiar to you? For an expansive conference experience, and one that extends your worldview, sense of possibility, and knowledge of effective models of educational development, consider building sessions and discussions into your conference experience that intentionally step outside of your past experience. You can also connect with new colleagues through the [Conference Buddy program](#) and designated Networking events and meals.
- *What capacities can you share?*
If you have not previously considered contributing your perspectives, skills, and capacities with the POD Network, we need you! Our organization is at its best when members from all types of campuses, with all kinds of educational development roles, with a wide variety of experiences, are active in [committees](#) and SIGs. Now is a great time to reach out and discover what projects, subcommittees, and activities are coming up and find out how to get involved.
- *What new allies and audiences could benefit from your (and our collective) expertise?*
Are you engaged with other professional organizations or conferences that would benefit from an updated view of educational development, like [this one](#)? If you are active in a disciplinary organization or society, what avenues are available to advance the work of educational development there? Within your own institution, are there offices or individuals who might serve as new partners, or benefit from knowing more about what

you do? The POD Network's "[What is Educational Development](#)" resource can help inform your discussions and provide a framework for sharing expertise.

In the spirit of sharing capacities and reaching out to new allies, I would like to find out from you:

- What do you want colleagues beyond the POD Network to know about educational development?
- Who do you think would benefit from this information? (E.g., Presidents? Provosts? Other campus roles? Other organizations?)

If you have thoughts about these two questions, please share them with me via this [input form](#). Your ideas will help shape priorities for the POD Network and future communication strategies.

Thank you and I look forward to engaging with you this fall.

Sincerely,
Cassandra

Cassandra Volpe Horii is the founding director of the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Outreach at the California Institute of Technology. She served as POD Network Conference Co-chair (2012), as National Outreach/STEM Co-chair (2014-16), and on the Core Committee (2013-16).