

Western Business Education Association
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE 2009 GRADUATES
WNE Report

The tenth Professional Development Institute (PDI) co-sponsored by WBEA and local STPs graduated nine professionals at the 2009 WBEA Conference held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, on February 13, 2009. Mary Ann Lammers, WBEA PDI Director and NBEA Past President, conducted the six-hour workshop. Participants had one-half of their registration fee paid by WBEA and one-half could be paid by their own state or territory's professional association.

Since its inception at the Vancouver, British Columbia, Conference in 2000, 77 teachers and administrators have participated in the PDI workshop. Dr. Colleen Vawdrey chaired the event for several years, and then co-chaired with Mary Ann Lammers for three years. Oregon has had the most participants (19), and some states have had very few. Next year's goal is to have two participants from each state attend the training in 2010 in Reno, Nevada, when WBEA hosts the WBEA Conference. Please contact your STP president for further details or check the Web site at www.wbea.info.

This year's graduates were introduced at the WBEA Executive Board meeting on Friday afternoon and again honored with their certificates at the Saturday luncheon session. The participants for 2009 were the following:

Barbara Renner has six years at the postsecondary level and 8.5 years at the secondary level. She is currently teaching at Metro Tech High School in Phoenix, Arizona. Her expectations for attending were to enhance leadership skills for the benefit of her local, regional, and national professional associations as well as to strengthen teaching skills in the area of leadership.

Martin Runge has 16 years of experience in grades 8-12 and is currently teaching at Quesnel Secondary in Quesnel, British Columbia. He simply wanted to gain more knowledge by attending the PDI.

Dee Ann M. Jones has ten years teaching grades 9-12 and is currently at Vallivue High School in Caldwell, Idaho. She hoped to develop stronger leadership skills and build self-confidence in her leadership abilities, so she can take on other leadership roles.

Chere' Anderson has three years of teaching at the secondary level in business and marketing. She is in her second year at Glacier High School in Kalispell, Montana. Her goals were to learn "everything and everything."

Julie Hanson has a variety of experiences including being a librarian, School to Work Coordinator, part-time County Superintendent of Schools and teaching five years at White Sulphur Springs High School in Montana. She hoped to learn more of what the organization has to offer, especially in the professional development areas.

Melinda "Sue" Cheff has 10 years' experience in secondary education and is currently at Flathead High School in Kalispell, Montana. She hoped to collect some resources for her classes, network with other business and computer teachers, as well as WBEA members, and obtain credit to apply towards a lane change.

Ann Gerig has 35 years of experience in K-16 with most of those years in the secondary level. She is currently at McNary High School in Keizer, Oregon. Her expectations were to gain more skills to be able to impart to colleagues and students the importance of belonging to professional organizations.

Kim Gregory has more than three years of experience teaching at Compass High School in Washington. She hopes that continued involvement in professional organizations will improve her classroom performance and her profession.