



<http://www.foundationcoalition.org>

From Jeff Froyd, Project Director

Two Foundation Coalition (FC) activities might interest you. First, the Share the Future IV Conference will offer twenty-six interactive, two-hour workshops that are scheduled for the three-day conference, 16–18 March 2003 in Tempe AZ. Tim Whitely, representing the Engineering Professors' Council, will present a progress report on the Engineering Graduate Output Standard, http://www.engprofc.ac.uk/epc.html?body=epc_activities.html. Also, two all-day workshops are scheduled for invited participants. I anticipate very stimulating, memorable conversations. More information about the conference is available at <http://www.foundationcoalition.org/stf4>, and important dates are listed below.

Also, those working on the project to collect information on how programs are addressing EC 2000 student outcomes will begin collecting information in February 2003. The project will examine assessment processes and instructions, as well as course materials that schools are using to address these skills. Specifically, the project is examining the following skills: ethics, global and societal impact, experimental, problem-solving, teams, lifelong learning, design, professional tools, communication, and contemporary issues. Once the information is collected, summaries will be available for engineering educators. So, if you receive a request to provide information about particular skills, please respond positively.

Upcoming Events

Jan 20–May 10 On-line professional development for faculty: Ways of Knowing, Ways of Practice The University of Wisconsin, with the FC, will offer facilitated dialogue (weekly conversations) on learning for faculty members at many universities. See the next page of this newsletter or http://fc1.tamu.edu/events/news/learning_online.html for information.

Mar 16–18 Share the Future IV, the cross-coalition conference, will be held in the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel and Conference Center, near Arizona State University.

Hotel reservations in the room block must be made by Feb 21:

http://www.foundationcoalition.org/events/conferences/share_the_future/hotel.html.

For on-line conference registration, go to

http://www.foundationcoalition.org/events/conferences/share_the_future/registration.html.

May 13–14 Freshman-year Innovations Miniconference, Purdue University.

Jun 22–25 American Society for Engineering Education Conference, Nashville TN

Nov 5–8 Frontiers in Education Conference, Boulder CO

On-line Professional Development

Sandy Courter



Dr. Sandra Courter is director of the Engineering Learning Center and adjunct professor of technical communication in the Engineering Professional Development Department in the College of Engineering at the University of Wisconsin Madison. An original member of the management team that has organized the Teaching Improvement Program and the New Educators' Orientation professional development programs, she continues to serve on the local management team for the Foundation Coalition.

Sandy Courter will facilitate some of a series of on-line conversations: Ways of Knowing, Ways of Practice

Ways of Knowing and Ways of Practice is a professional development opportunity with a new angle. That is, the opportunity is an on-line, distance learning experience for faculty and instructional staff during the spring semester of 2003. This project is designed to help faculty

- engage in reflection and continuous improvement of learning, both their own and that of their students,
- facilitate conversations about teaching and learning in the process of building a learning community,
- create a collaborative learning environment with faculty and peers,
- build confidence in curriculum development, including designing, guiding, and assessing learning,
- learn with and about technology in the process of improving curriculum, and
- connect teaching and research and bridge the gap between theory and practice.

The twenty participants represent ten universities; a team of two from each university includes one faculty person from engineering and one from another science, math, or computer science discipline. Specifically, the professional development opportunity explores ways of knowing that include theories of learning, learning styles, disciplinary and cultural perspectives, and how these inform ways of practice, including both teaching practice and engineering practice. Starting with an orientation in Madison, Wisconsin, the experience involves weekly on-line discussions based on readings, a personalized curriculum project, and approximately two to three hours per week commitment on the part of each participant. The Foundation Coalition is funding this dissemination project. The proposed work-in-progress will highlight the assessment results of this pilot project and the next steps, based on their analysis.

There are Web pages for

- [General information](#)
- [Goals, technologies, outcomes, and evaluation](#)
- [Schedule](#)
- [List of participants](#)