

Professional Development Grant: Final Report

Mining with Diamonds: Sustaining Collegiality and Collaboration across Southern District

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The National Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) Conference

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## **Restatement of problem**

A Professional Development Grant was submitted to attend and present a session at the NASPE Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) Conference, October 3-6, 2012, in Las Vegas, NV. In addition to presenting at the conference, the following were goals of attending the conference:

- Attend sessions presenting innovative and exemplary methodologies and practices in the preparation and continuing education of quality physical education professionals relevant to the PETE program at Arkansas Tech University
- Present peer-reviewed session “Lessons Learned: Maintaining Collegiality and Collaboration across States”
- Share and collaborate on new ideas
- Network with physical education teacher educators from across the country

## **Brief review of the presentation and enhancement opportunity**

The session “Lessons Learned: Maintaining Collegiality and Collaboration across States” was presented on Saturday, October 6. The presentation documented the process of collaboration between faculties at two distinctly different universities on a research project. Challenges emerging from the initiation of the project through its completion were presented. Individuals from Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Germany expressed interest in participating in the project as well as providing feedback and recommendations for continuation of the project.

The NASPE Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) Conference only occurs every three years and is the premier professional development and networking event for university PETE faculty. The focus is always on current and future issues, initiatives, and research that impacts physical education teacher education programs. Key note speakers and presenters are leaders in physical education curriculum and pedagogy.

At the conference, I attended sessions addressing the following topics: identifying and using technology in pedagogically meaningful ways, improving the quality of secondary physical education, assessing quality and quantity of physical education programs, facilitation of content knowledge in PETE students, developing collaborative partnerships, recognizing and addressing the needs of K-12 students and schools, the New SPARK HS PE program, and motor skill and performance competency. Each session attended provided new information and ideas regarding the preparation of effective physical education teachers.

## **Summary of outcome and experiences**

Attending and presenting at the NASPE National PETE Conference is a motivational experience. As usual, the conference was stimulating, thought-provoking, and informative. Not only are the presenters and key note speakers the leaders in PETE, they are eager to share the successes and/or failures of their programs in order to improve all programs. Presentations were focused on Best Practices, Trends & Issues, and Research. Each session presented new ideas/strategies for developing highly qualified, effective, and passionate teachers of physical education.

## **Conclusions**

The National PETE Conference is the professional development conference for PETE faculty. Not only does it provide networking and collaboration opportunities, it also allows opportunity to gain new perspectives in physical education and teacher preparation. I acquired new information and gained many new ideas that I am sharing with both my colleagues and my students regarding teaching and delivery of quality physical education.