



## Armstrong Teacher Newsletter

August 2007

What an exciting time we had at the 2007 Summer Retreat! Over 30 Armstrong Educators, IU faculty, staff and students were welcomed Friday morning, June 22, by Armstrong Chair Diana Lambdin and Dean Gerardo Gonzales. This year's retreat spanned two full days, and included a ten year anniversary celebration for the first cohort of Armstrong Teacher Educators.



Cindy Newton (05-06) showed us her blog that was the June feature of the PBS Media Fusion website <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/mediainfusion/math/>. Next, 2007 – 2008 Armstrong teacher Pam Fischer explained how she uses film study to teach Hamlet in her presentation “All the World's a Stage”.

After a catered lunch, Susan Mattocks 's (07-08) presentation “It's Raining Cats and Dog's” had everyone in the room roaring as they shared their group's invented tale using idioms.

Five IU students from the Dean's Advisory Council led a



panel discussion focusing on questions that prospective teachers want to ask practicing teachers.

Andy Craig (06-07) talked with the group about the use of heart monitors in his physical education classes.

Andy then gave all attending the retreat an opportunity to use one of the monitors when folk dancing, as music teacher Andrew Himelick (06-07) taught us new dance steps.



Sue Keene completed the afternoon with her presentation on “EdVenturous Racing” which described her work at the Panther Education Center.

Friday evening we gathered downtown at Grazi's Italian Eatery where good food was enjoyed amid rousing conversations.



Jan Blackburn and Nancy Stubblefield from the anniversary cohort (1997 - 1998) both attended the retreat. Several others from the first group of awardees sent in update information that was shared at the evening dinner.



Diana Lambdin, Nancy Stubblefield, Jan Blackburn and Margrethe O'Connor gather for a picture.

Saturday morning began with breakfast at the ever popular Grant Street Inn. A choice of Bloomington activities found several participants braving rain showers to attend the Farmer's Market. Others spent some time in the Lily Library viewing exhibits that included works of Kurt Vonnegut and Audubon, as well as the world's largest puzzle collection.



Lori Sampson (07 -08) started the morning presentations with "Sampson's Views on Hoosier Hysteria."

Suzanne Eckes, Assistant Professor in Education Leadership and Policy Studies led our group in a lively discussion of contemporary legal issues in education.



A picnic style lunch was served on the second floor balcony where invigorating discussions continued.



Armstrong teachers from the 2007 – 2008 cohort Greg Lineweaver, Steve Wilson and Angie Kelich kept our attention with their afternoon presentations. --- Greg spoke of "Sculpture, Sirens, Music and Emus: Rethinking and Reflecting Upon the Teaching of Grammar." Steve gave us "A Comprehensive Look at Immigration Issues through Role-Playing" and Angie showed us how "Miss K's AlgGeo Pi Students Become Millionaires."

Our day ended with reflections about the retreat and suggestions for upcoming Armstrong events. We do hope you are able to join us next summer to experience for yourself a retreat that Armstrong teachers have labeled "intense", "outstanding", and "thought provoking". Please mark your calendars for the weekend of **June 22, 2008**. We hope to see you then!

*"The retreat is empowering and reminds me why I love being a teacher."  
attendee response*

Check out the Armstrong Website for additional information, pictures and news: [www.indiana.edu/~atea/news.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~atea/news.html)

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*Diana Lambdin with 2007 – 2008 Armstrong Teacher Educators*

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The new Armstrong teachers will be participating in two panel discussions on the Bloomington campus this fall.

October 12 – Touchy Issues/ How will you deal with them?  
November 9 – Looking at Teacher Portfolios