

Dear ASTD-Cascadia Members,

2009 was a fantastic year for the ASTD Cascadia chapter. The energy and enthusiasm from membership around networking, learning, giving back and building business opportunities were palpable.

We could not have served our members without a fantastic board:

2009 Past President Liza Greene mentored the Diversity and Inclusion team to redesign a succession planning process that is more inclusive and open

2009 CLO and 2010 President Melinda Laubscher led a team to redesign the onboarding process for new board members so they are ready to hit the ground running in November to meet members' needs

2009 VP of Conferences Grant Axtell and Kathy Golden led and coached a conference team to design an outstanding conference in spite of a downturn in the economy. The conference was successful from a content and subject matter perspective based on the positive feedback in the evaluations. In spite of being in Salem, more than 90% of attendees were from out of the Salem area (amazingly enough) which proves that folks still wanted a quality experience and trusted the Chapter to deliver one. I am happy that Grant and Kathy will stay in the Conference Directors roles next year.

Vikki Rennick, 2009 VP of GIGs and 2010 VP of SIGs started with only one month to work with volunteers and she has already hit I5 to work with the Eugene GIG. I look forward to what she has in store for the 2010 board year.

Lori Silverman, VP of SIGS started the process where SIGS will be a revenue generator for the Chapter. This is real change in mindset for the Chapter and Lori has worked with all of the SIG leaders with a keen sense of the individual SIG members' needs.

Susan Van De Water, VP of Series hired great Directors who are invigorating Series. Sharon Padgett is doing great work for FOT. Susan recruited in Alice Wilmarth to begin Managing the Training Function again and they are putting together a team to design that Series. Susan is investigating a Social Learning Series and also exploring other series – like instructional design and needs assessment. If that was not enough, Susan is partnering with PSU in order to add a value add CPLP compliment to he PSU program. I am thrilled that Susan is serving in the Director of Series role next year.

Karen Adams, VP of Programs has continued to amaze me by designing programs with chapter needs in mind. Like the conference, this economy has been a tough one to design and deliver programs that meet members' educational and financial requirements and Karen does it every time. Karen has programs in development in and is set up 6 months in advance.

Karen Mathieson, 2009 and 2010 VP of Communications provided valuable marketing resources for all areas of the chapter. She played a significant role in the marketing and communications piece of the conference. Karen also recruited strong teams of volunteers to lead the social learning arm and networking arm of the Chapter.

Sean Harry, 2009 VP of Finance thought strategically in a tough economy, helped the board make smart financial decisions with the limited resources and kept our focus on the need versus want for members.

Mandy Blake, VP of HR, helped me keep my eye focused on members and volunteers. She provided the board valuable training such as elevator speeches as well as coached me in the background.

Pam Moore, 2009 and 2010 Secretary kept me in check at meetings. Pam expanded the Secretary role to be a strategic one and is working closely to make the board efficient and sustainable in all of our practice.

Angela Watson, 2009 VP of Membership, worked with Communications to help the Chapter use new technologies for communication and collaboration like LinkedIn and Huddle. I am thrilled that Angela is going to remain in a Director role next year.

Special thanks go out to all of the hundreds of volunteers who made it all happen. Whether as a volunteer at one event, or throughout the year as a committee member - you make this Chapter shine!

Kelly Orehovec
2009 President
ASTD-Cascadia Chapter