

Citation by Diane Elton (University of California, Riverside)
Forum on Education Abroad
2007 Peter A. Wollitzer Advocacy Award

Colleagues, Good Morning.

Before we begin the citation, I would like for the Selection Committee to stand Cori Filson, Liam O'Dochartaigh, Kathy Sideli. Not in attendance is: Susan Luks.

It is my distinct honor to represent the Forum's Selection Committee for the Peter A. Wollitzer Advocacy Award.

Many of us have treasured memories of Peter. I am no exception. He and I were nudged and nurtured in our international education careers from personally defining study and employment experiences with the University of California's Education Abroad Program.

Turning to our Awardee. I am going to mention tender-hearted qualities and enumerate the empirical nature of the Forum's First Wollitzer Advocacy Award recipient:

The Committee was presented with one of the most detailed, clear CV ever prepared. It is, in fact, a listing – nonboastful – in the tone of holiday letters “ so folks this is what I've been doing for the last 30 years.”

Our recipient is a former Peace Corps Volunteer and was awarded a Fulbright.

Life and employment have taken our awardee for extended periods of time to: Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Kenya, the Philippines, Thailand and Turkey.

It is quite fitting that the lengthiest and most impressive CV sections were scholarship and research, service and outreach, hallmarks of what Peter Wollitzer stood for.

Publications and Presentations

Our recipient has authored, co-authored, edited 58 publications, 43 of them refereed. The genre range is amazing as well: Books, Book chapters, Journal Articles, Proceedings, Booklength monographs, Book reviews, Bulletins and Newsletters, Technical and Consulting Reports, Training Manuals -- 10 in one year! I don't think any of us saw this person in 1999!

There have been 45 juried and invited presentations in Canada, China, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Portugal; all serious, serious presentations to be sure, but amidst the contributions was my personal favorite and most similar to Peter's work showing a respect for all who engage cultures: “New Perspectives on Diversity for Educators,” a presentation for...Hillcrest Elementary School.

Awards and Academic Contributions

Our colleague has earned separate distinguished awards as a faculty researcher and for teaching.....an elusive combination.

We can understand why returning to the CV. There is significant instruction responsibility at every phase of the career. There is significant curriculum development which started in the first year as a postdoc –besides courses, includes Masters, Ph.D. and minor design. There is significant advising for a range of dissertation: deaf education in Australia; newly arrived foreign students at a US university – their adjustment difficulties and coping strategies.

Service

To the service section

To the profession:

- 43 workshops of original, pragmatic worth
- 45 consultations and again the range is inclusive: Domestic and Foreign, Historically Black Colleges, Rotary, U.S. Information Agency
- Leadership and membership in many, many organizations, e.g., SIETAR
- Elected national chair for NAFSA's Council to Foreign Student Advisors.

Probably, Closest to Peter's heart and the Advocacy Committee was the section on service to the home campus. Our recipient's precociously began as a graduate student in 1978 and now numbers 65 committees or task groups with multiple year obligations.

Our recipient associates with the likes of: Brislin, Landis, Gudykunst, LaBrack, Bennett, Hoopes, Pusch, Ramsay, Mestenhauser.

I went back to my library collection. In the 1983 edition of the Handbook for Intercultural Learning...5 years after his Ph.D., our recipient was in all 3 volumes!

In his 1983 writings, - he declared, "more sophisticated research is needed," "More professional associations should establish standards and guidelines and encourage publication of relevant...findings." "If we wish our field to become an authentic profession, then we ourselves must be exemplary in our pursuit of professional excellence."

Brislin and Landis asked of him and others in 1983, "we have asked our contributors to take chances with their ideas. We want these chapters to stand as good contributions 20 and 30 years from now."

Well, we KNOW our recipient has lived up to that charge.

Moving to quotations from the nomination letters:

- "a highly respected teacher and mentor"
- "an astonishingly productive researcher and prolific writer...literally changed the way the future authors will approach the writing of books designed to prepare students for study abroad."
- "a true Renaissance advocate for education abroad in that he is passionate and persuasive in multiple realms."

Conclusion

Back to the tender-hearted...in conclusion

While fully educated at California coastal universities, he chose a place for his home and career where one shovels snow on a regular basis.

His life is vibrant and he is **not** silent about things **that matter**.

So Trumpet Away:

R. Michael Paige.

Please celebrate the 2007 Peter A. Wollitzer Advocacy Award Recipient.