

EDITORIAL

National Focus on Education

Daniel E. Shaw, Ph.D., M.Ed. Editor

For those of you who follow the national news, you can't help but recognize the significant attention given to the state of education in America. The national TV broadcast network NBC has initiated a series titled "Education Nation". Their state goal is to, "...help Americans make decisions about how best to improve our education system."

On their dedicated website (<http://www.educationnation.com>) they state, "Education is key to the success of our country, and yet we have allowed our students to fall behind. It's time to put education back at the top of the national agenda. It's time to reinvent America as an Education Nation."

As I've watched their various news segments on the topic, I've noticed that despite the bottom line concern of measured academic excellence, they usually conclude that the teacher is the key to success in the classroom. Moreover, they frequently highlight an individual teacher, typically focusing on the positive attitude of that teacher extolling the affirmative impact their style of interaction has on students.

We as members of the IAIE have always been committed to the importance of education to the future of our country. Furthermore the Alliance has put forth a theory of practice that when consistently applied, increases the probability for success

in the classroom, regardless of the educational level in which it occurs.

I believe our efforts should be placed on communicating and educating others as to the efficacy of Invitational Theory (IT). It's not enough to simply be inviting with self and others. We need to explain what it is that we do and why we do it. Share your understanding of Invitational Theory with other teachers, administrators, parents, and the community at large. Send a letter or email to the editor of your local newspaper about the successes you've achieved through the application of IT. Send a letter or email to your state legislators and commissioners of education explaining what IT is and how it can help them achieve their goals. Don't forget to include the web address for the Alliance (www.InvitationalEducation.net). Our web pages abound with information about IT. Be a spokesperson for IT. Be proud of what you believe in and share that pride with others.

This Issue

Volume 16 of the JITP is the largest in the history of the journal. Your editorial board has worked hard to accept and work with authors to improve the quality of the manuscripts that appear in this issue.

The articles herein include thoughtful viewpoints, empirical research, case studies,

a book review, and creative perspectives on
Invitational Theory.

I hope you learn from and enjoy reading this
issue. I encourage you to submit a
manuscript or at least a “letter to the editor.”

Stay well,
Daniel Shaw

World Conference 2010, Columbus Ohio



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