Ted Coleman TSSA Winter 2010

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TSSA One-Page REPORT

Name, Department, and Email address:

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Name and Date of conference attended:

Lilly West Conference; Pomona, CA; 12-13 March 2010

Teaching Skill(s) Studied:

Evidence-based Teaching and Learning; Technology Applications for the 21st Century.

Impact on Current Teaching (How was this info applied)?

The conference this year was very well done. It is a fairly low-key version of other regional or national conferences, where participants are encouraged to be comfortable so as to learn and absorb as much as they can, with emphasis on applying the information within a couple of days after the sessions conclude. Several sessions of the conference helped me to understand more about how teaching (the delivery itself) and decisions about presentation, i.e., writing objectives, designing effective dissemination of content information, and so forth, need to be founded on reliable evidence that learning is influenced in positive ways by reliable sources. My perceptions and awareness have been expanded as I now consider thinking “outside the box” for more effective teaching and learning in my classroom.

Varying degrees of education-related technology are available for little or no cost to the institution. Many schools are participating in technological innovations made affordable or available through grants up front; however, sometimes those same innovations tend become burdensome to an institution when maintenance or further development issues arise. It seems to me that technology is wonderful as long as it is used to support good teaching. Too often it becomes “the tail wagging the dog,” i.e., the driving force behind curriculum and other resource decisions. Good teaching, in my mind, remains a human-to-human interaction. That stated, the broad variety of presentations and ensuing discussions and applications made me feel refreshed and more excited about teaching.
Date Submitted:
16 March 2010