

Seeking Resolutions to Workplace Disputes

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Newsletter Volume VIII, Issue 1

Fall 2007



The FDR logo is a Triskelion design from the late Bronze Age. A lively symbol, it gives a distinct impression of movement, always ongoing, fully connected, expressing continuity and balance.

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I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship.

— Louisa May Alcott



Have you ever felt that you were in a different universe when talking with someone? Or that, try as you may, a work relationship was not going well? Or that conflicting points of view may seem to rise out of the blue and your time, spirit, and productivity take the toll? The Faculty Dispute Resolution program (FDR) provides consultation and mediation services designed to improve the workplace environment. Difficulties may include such things as disagreements about department management, different expectations about work assignments or who is in charge, and communication breakdowns.

FDR has a roster of professionally trained faculty mediators who can assist individuals in discussing their disagreements. All conversations and meetings are private and confidential. There are no paper trails or files. Frequent outcomes of a mediated conversation include the benefits of additional information and new understanding, and the opportunity to be heard and to consider options for a better work setting.

Should you encounter a conflict, or expect that one is brewing, give the FDR Director, Jean Civikly-Powell, a call at 277-3212. Jean has been on the UNM Communication faculty since 1973, retired 7 years ago, and continues her campus involvement as Director of FDR's services. She understands the faculty experience and can visit with you about your concerns and about how FDR might be useful to you.



DR SEBS-

Check out the FDR website!

http://www.unm.edu/~facdr

You will find interesting summaries of articles and chapters about resolving work conflicts; the mediation process, and upcoming trainings. See page 3 for more information on the FDR website.

Mediation Training – February 2008

Jean Civikly-Powell (Professor Emerita, Communication; Director, Faculty Dispute Resolution) will be offering mediation training for UNM faculty in February 2008.

The goal of the training is to increase the presence of mindfulness and practice of constructive conflict resolution on the UNM campus. Jean is an experienced mediation trainer and coach. The training will prepare faculty in the content, theory and practice of conflict resolution and mediation.

For the February training, Jean will also include dimensions of strengths-based principles and appreciative inquiry. This is a 4-day/all day training. The dates and times for the mediation training are:

> Friday and Saturday, February 15th and 16th, 8:30 – 4:30 Friday and Saturday, February 22nd and 23rd, 8:30 - 4:30

To register, please contact Jean at 277-3212 or jcivikly@unm.edu. We look forward to an exciting and transforming experience for all!

- FDR Faculty Mediators -

These are the UNM faculty who have completed the FDR 36-hour mediation training. The FDR program may call upon them to assist with faculty-faculty, faculty-administrator, faculty-staff, or faculty-student disputes (with the approval of all parties involved). Faculty mediators may also assist informally with difficulties that might arise in campus interaction settings, e.g., teaching and research interactions, and faculty and committee meetings. Some mediators pursue additional mediation training and may also volunteer their mediation services in their communities, at Metro Court, and in other arenas.

Their service to the University and community is of great value. They contribute to a climate of constructive communication.

Andrea Allan Rosa Auletta Marsha Baum Gloria Birkholz Steven Block Lisa Broidy Stephen Burd William Buss Jean Civikly-Powell Dorothy Clough Gene Coffield* John Cornish Cara Lea Council-Garcia Patricia Covarrubias Ianet Cramer Terry Crowe Gary Cuttrell Zina Daniels Susan Deese-Roberts Gloria Dyc Mark Emmons Santa Falcone Corey Ford **Barry Gaines** Patricia Gillikin Tim Goldsmith Maria Dolores Gonzales Cathy Gutierrez-Gomez Shuhong Guo Miriam Gustafson Mary Harris Gary Harrison Karl Hinterbichler Scott Hughes* Dubra Karnes-Padilla Kate Krause Vonda Long Wanda Martin Estella Martinez Prasad Mathew Virginia McDermott Sarah Morley Leslie Morrison Helen Muller

HSC Neurosciences Dev. Sts, Learning Comm., UNM-V Law Nursing, Emerita Music Sociology ASM Neurosciences, Emeritus Faculty Dispute Resolution Nursing, Emerita Indiv., Family & Community Educ. Extended University, English Biology Communication & Journalism Communication & Journalism Occupational Therapy **Dental Services** Orthopedics, Physical Therapy University Libraries, Emerita Arts & Letters, UNM Gallup University Libraries Public Administration Neurology/Office of Research English English, UNM Valencia Psychology Spanish & Portuguese Indiv., Family & Community Educ. Pharmacy Basic Sciences English, UNM Valencia Education, Emerita English Music Law UNM Valencia Economics Counselor Education, Emerita English Ind., Fam., & Comty. Educ., Emerita Pediatric Hem/Onc, HSC Communication & Journalism Health Sciences Center Library Neurology/Academic Affairs, SOM

ASM, Emerita

Bruce Neville Bruce Noll Eric Nuttall Leslie Oakes John Oetzel Lee Orosco Daniel Ortega Patricia Payne Susan Pearson Mary Power Ric Richardson* Deborah Rifenbary* John Rinaldi* Sherry Rogers Susan Romano Randv Rosett Barri Sanders Laurie Schatzberg David Scott Virginia Seiser Virginia Shipman Anne Simpson Brian Solan Patricia Stall Pamela Stovall Ellie Trotter John Trotter Tim Wadsworth Howard Waitzkin **Jackie Weeks** Olaf Werder Sherman Wilcox Ebtisam Wilkins Fran Wilkinson Amy Wohlert

Carolina Yahne Steven Yourstone

*Trained Mediator, with program other than FDR



University Libraries

Civil Engineering

Theatre & Dance

Architecture & Planning

Cell Biology & Physiology

Education, Emeritus

Sports Administration

Education, Emerita

UNM Gallup

Biology

Sociology

Linguistics

University Libraries

Graduate Studies

CASAA, Emerita

ASM

University Libraries, Emerita

Internal Medicine, Geriatrics

Family and Comm. Medicine

School of Medicine, Emeritus

Sociology, Fam. & Comm. Med.

Health Careers, UNM Gallup

Communication & Journalism

Interim Dean: ASM & Dean,

Chemical & Nuclear Eng., Emerita

Indiv., Family, & Community Educ.

Anesthesiology

UNM Taos

ASM

Law Nursing

English

English

ASM

Educ. Ldshp. & Org. Learning

Communication & Journalism

Chemical & Nuclear Eng., Emeritus

Indiv., Family, & Community Educ.

FDR WEBSITE FOR EVERYONE INTERESTED IN RESOLVING CONFLICTS

http://www.unm.edu/~facdr

The FDR website offers information on resolving workplace conflicts and moving forward to productive interactions. The website provides extensive information about the following topics:

- What is Faculty Dispute Resolution?
- What is Mediation?
- Information about Confidentiality
- Mediation Agreement Forms
- Information about Mediation Training •
- Workshops •
- Newsletters
- Article and Chapter Summaries
- Roster of Faculty Mediators
- FDR Advisory Board
- **Dispute Resolution Links**
- and more...

The summaries of articles and book chapters include a range of topics helpful to understanding and resolving working difficulties. They can be helpful and interesting to trained mediators, mediators in training, or for anyone who is having a difficult time and might consider the option of mediation in the future.

The following abstracts are from the collection found in the Article and Chapter Summaries link on the FDR website:

The Four-Fold Way

Book Author: Angeles Arrien

In her work on life principles, Angeles Arrien offers four guides that can be useful in different settings: one-to-one conversations, small groups and meetings, and class participation.

- 1. Show up and stay present.
- 2. Listen for what has heart and meaning.
- 3. Speak the truth without blame or judgment.
- 4. Be open to outcome, not attached to outcome.

And Never the Twain Shall Meet: **Administrator-Faculty Conflict**

Book: Mending the Cracks in the Ivory Tower: **Strategies for Conflict Management** in Higher Education (S..A. Holton, Ed.)

Chapter Author: Judith Sturnick

Judith Sturnick recommends facing conflict as soon as it happens, but emphasizes that this often does not happen in higher education. Rather, conflict is either avoided or judged too quickly by involved parties. She further states that one characteristic of an effective leader is the ability to ascertain the **importance** of the conflict and to know exactly when to intervene. There are several questions to ask when faced with conflict. Is the conflict deeply embedded in institutional culture and procedures? Is it systemic? What effect does, or could, the conflict have on the vision, goals or priorities of the institution? Are people already taking sides?

Judith Sturnick lays out 15 principles of effective conflict management

This article continues on the FDR website

Search Beneath the Surface for Hidden Meaning

Book: Resolving Conflicts at Work Authors: Kenneth Cloke & Joan Goldsmith

As conflicts emerge, they often dominate communication and may have less connection to the real issues below the surface. Cloke and Goldsmith remind us that in conflict "what is at stake is our capacity for mutual respect, integrity, inner truth, and honest relationships with others." Cloke and Goldsmith created an "Iceberg of Conflict" to describe what is beneath the surface in a conflict.

This article continues on the FDR website.



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Graduate and Professional Student Dispute Resolution Organization (GPS-DRO)

<u>Announcement</u>

Mediation for graduate and professional students has been available at UNM for almost 10 years. This year, we have evolved into a student organization: the Graduate & Professional Student Dispute Resolution Organization (GPS-DRO).

To keep our mediation skills current, we are planning two workshops this year, one during Fall 2007 and one in Spring 2008. Additionally, we will be offering mediation training during Spring 2008.

If you know of any graduate students who may be interested in learning about conflict resolution and mediation, please have



them contact Cheryl Bryan at cbryan@unm.edu.

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.



-Sir Winston Churchill

Graduate Student Mediators

Jennifer Bowe Varda Brahms Christopher Brown Cheryl Bryan Susan Clair

Matthew Dahlsten Melissa Heap Holly Kawakami Sharon Pearson Vicente Quevedo Andrea Salazar Kerstin Schuhfleck Counselor Education, FDR COE, LLSS/ETSS Communication & Journalism Psychology Public Administration, Comty. & Regional Planning Individ., Family & Comty. Educ. Psychology Communication & Journalism Counselor Education, FDR Comty. & Regional Planning COE, OLIT Individ., Family & Comty. Educ.

FDR Fall Workshops

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Workplace Bullying

Professor Lutgen-Sandvik's research in workplace bullying has been published in the Management Communication Quarterly, Communication Monographs and the Journal of Management Studies. In this workshop, she will discuss the causes, consequences and interventions for workplace bullying.

| Presenter: | Pamela Lutgen-Sandvik |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Assistant Professor |
| | Communication & Journalism; |
| Date: | Wednesday, October 17, 2007 |
| Time: | 12:00—1:30 pm |
| Place: | Student Union Building |
| | Upper Level, Lobo Room |
| Seating is lim | nited Please check with Jean Civikly |

Seating is limited. Please check with Jean Civikly-Powell at jcivikly@unm.edu or 277-3212.

Mindfulness & Mediation

All across the country, mediators are learning how Mindfulness Meditation can enhance their mediation practice. Through mindfulness, a deliberate moment-to-moment attention on whatis, mediators expand their ability to bring focused attention, freedom from judgment, and mediator presence to mediation sessions.

| Presenter: | Marsha Lichtenstein, Office of |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| | Institutional Research |
| Date: | Wednesday, November 7, 2007 |
| Time: | 12:00 — 1:30 pm |
| Place: | On campus, to be announced |

Please RSVP by **Friday**, **November 2nd** to Jean Civikly-Powell at jcivikly@unm.edu or 277-3212.

