



General Session Speaker



Nancy E. Hill, Ph.D., Developmental Psychology and Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Suzanne Young Murray Professor of the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study, Harvard University

Parental Involvement during Adolescence: Strategies that Work in Middle School and High School

Families and schools share a desire for students to succeed but are often perplexed about how to collaborate and support achievement, especially during adolescence. Integrating knowledge from adolescent development and the field of education, Dr. Hill will outline why theories and frameworks for parental involvement in education and family-school relationships that are based on elementary school models are ineffective and harder to implement in middle and high school—even for the most willing parent or teacher. Further, she will describe a new framework for parental involvement during adolescence. Dr. Hill will provide evidence from a series of studies that systematically demonstrates what works for improving academic achievement and for developing adolescents' sense of self and engagement around academic achievement and setting and reaching goals. This new framework will help parents remain involved in their teens' education.



Attention Conference Attendees!

BE CERTAIN TO BRING YOUR COMPLETED, STAMPED CALENDAR TO THURSDAY'S LUNCHEON

This year, SPAC will raffle off two brand new laptop computers. In order to qualify for the drawing, you must attend at least six individual workshops. Your stamped calendar will become your raffle ticket. Note that there are seven different workshop times on this schedule. SPAC members will be collecting your calendars at the Convention Hall entrance, where you will enjoy your final meal of the conference.

After the conference is over, we will send your completed calendar to the Title I coordinator in your district. We hope that, between you and your Title I coordinator, you will develop a plan to share what you learned at the conference with other parents in your district.

Hotel Information

Check-In

Seven Springs Mountain Resort will not guarantee entrance to guest rooms until 5:00 p.m.

Check-Out

Be sure to check-out of your room by noon. SPAC will not pay for any late check-out fees. The staff at the front desk will be happy to store your luggage until you are ready to depart the hotel if you are waiting for a ride or you can't get your luggage to your car.

Hotel Accommodations

If you have any questions about your room, please ask the staff at the front desk.

Parking

Parking at Seven Springs is free, but you have to display your parking pass on your dashboard.

Conference Registration Materials

You should pick up your conference registration materials at the following locations:

Tuesday	3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Hotel Lobby
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Stag Pass
Thursday	7:00 a.m.-Noon	Stag Pass

Name Tags

Please be sure to wear your name tag at all workshops.

Meal Information

Meals

When you registered to attend the conference, you or your district pre-paid for your meal tickets. The tickets that you receive when you check in are ONLY valid for the conference meals indicated in this program. Seven Springs staff will collect each ticket in the dining room before you get your meal. You will not be able to eat without your ticket. No additional meal tickets are available for purchase, and we cannot issue refunds for any unused tickets. If you decide to eat at a different restaurant at the resort or somewhere off-site, you will be responsible for the cost of that meal.

Scholastic Half-Price Book Fair

Book fair hours are 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday and 7:00 a.m. until Noon on Thursday in Stag Pass. Please take a few minutes to stop by and see if there are any books that you may want to buy for your children.

Kids Adventure Camp

Remember:

- No backpacks at Kids Camp
- Tennis shoes are mandatory
- Swim suits under clothes on both days
- Kids Camp update during Tuesday night's barbeque
- Bring a beach towel (or some other towel)
- Take your child's lunch ticket for Wednesday to Kids Camp

Kids Camp Schedule

Wednesday, June 30

8:00 a.m. to Noon	Kids Camp fun
Noon to 1:00 p.m.	Lunch at childcare
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.	More fun (Plan to pick up your kids between 4:30 and 5:00)
6:30 p.m.	Banquet for parents and kids
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.	Childcare (evening activities)

Thursday, July 1

8:00 a.m.- Noon	Kids Camp Fun
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Daily Planner

The following outline will help you plan your schedule for the conference. You can complete the blanks with the name/meeting rooms of the breakout sessions you choose to attend.

Time	Activity	Location
Tuesday, June 29, 2010		
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	Hotel Lobby
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Dinner - Barbeque*	Convention Hall
Wednesday, June 30, 2010		
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	Stag Pass
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet (w/children)*	Dining Room
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Kids Camp*	Childcare Location
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	General Session <i>Dr. Nancy Hill, Professor from the Harvard Graduate School of Education "Parent Involvement During Adolescence"</i>	Convention Hall
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Coffee Break	Seasons Lobby Area
10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	_____	_____
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	_____	_____
12:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Lunch*	Convention Hall
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	_____	_____
3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	_____	_____
4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Pick up child(ren) from Kids Camp	Childcare Location
6:15 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Banquet Dinner (w/children)* Childcare (movies)	Convention Hall Childcare Location
Thursday, July 1, 2010		
7:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conference Registration	Stag Pass
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet (w/children)*	Dining Room
8:00 a.m. - Noon	Kids Camp*	Childcare Location
8:40 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	_____	_____
9:40 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	_____	_____
10:40 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	_____	_____
11:45 a.m. - Noon	Hotel Checkout	
Noon - 12:15 p.m.	Pick up child(ren) from Kids Camp	
12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch, Computer Giveaway, & Farewell (w/children)*	Exhibition Hall

* Meal tickets received at registration will be needed



Workshop Descriptions

For this 15th year of the annual State Parent Advisory Council's Statewide (SPAC) Title I Parent Involvement Conference, the individual workshop topics naturally fell into three categories: the essential role that parents have in student achievement; the specific strategies that parents can use at home to help their children succeed; and the ways that Title I regulations and the law requires parents and schools work towards a common goal of improved learning for all children.

Naturally, there is some overlap among the three categories of parent involvement, student achievement, and the Title I law, so as you complete your daily planner on the previous page, review all of the workshop descriptions to select the best ones for you.

Parent Involvement

Research shows that parent involvement increases student achievement.

Parents "R" Equal Partners (Prep): Parents and Schools working together

Wednesday, 10:15 in the Snowflake Room

Thursday, 10:40 in the Snowflake Room

Quibila Divine, Director Title I, The School District of Philadelphia

Imagine parents and schools working together to benefit the academic achievement of our students. District staff and parents will explain how the PREP Program has prepared parents to effectively partner with schools.

How Good is Good Enough?

Wednesday, 10:15 in the Sunburst Room

Wednesday, 3:15 in the Sunburst Room

Susie Macik, Elementary Principal/Federal Program Coordinator

How good is good enough? This is a question we continually ask ourselves as parents and we ask our child's teacher or principal. Am I, or are they doing all they can for my child? How do we as parents and educators continue to give children the "extra" time and push they may need to be successful? This presentation will look at all the challenges both parents and teachers go through each day to "do enough" for our kids. Is 99.9% really good enough? What about the .1%? What if that .1% were your child? This is the question we will try to answer in this inspirational hour.

101 Ways to Create Real Family Engagement

Wednesday, 10:15 in Seasons 4 & 5

Bonita Allen, Parent Involvement in Education Consultant

If you are interested in attending this workshop, bring along your copy of Steven Constantino's book, *101 Ways to Create Real Family Engagement*, which you received in your conference bag on Tuesday. The premise of the book is that lasting and effective family engagement in schools starts with one simple word: RELATIONSHIPS. Bonita will show you how to navigate through each section and point out the best ways to make great things happen when you embrace and create real family engagement for every child, every family, every teacher, every day.

Breaking the Silence-Working with Children of Incarcerated Parents

Wednesday, 10:15 in the Wintergreen Room

Marsha R. Banks, Founder, Amiracl4sure, Inc.

Robert Banks, Founder, Amiracl4sure, Inc.

The number of children with incarcerated parents is growing enormously. This open forum provides an opportunity for parents to start the dialogue on a topic that is affecting our school districts. Amiracl4sure, Inc., offers a strength-based approach that helps open the lines of communication with hope of building stronger parent/teacher relationships. Topics include addressing the social and emotional needs of the family, cultural sensitivity, and the development of community resources.

“Hey...I Didn’t Know About That”: Resources for your Child

Wednesday, 11:30 in the Snowflake Room

Donna Randolph, M.Ed.

Brandy Jackson, senior student at Millersville University-former Title I student

This workshop is a resource smorgasbord of academic and social opportunities for your child. There are many resources out there, but do you know what they are? Do you know where to look? Can you find what your child needs? If you would like to build up your resource library, attend this session.

Positive Parenting/The Parent School Connection

Wednesday, 11:30 in the Hemlock Room

Thursday, 9:40 in the Hemlock Room

Lisa Strause, PAC Leader, Former Teacher

In this session, the presenter will share a way to praise positive student behavior utilizing administrators, teachers, and parent volunteers. One specific strategy will be highlighted and the opportunity to brainstorm other activities will be provided and shared with the group. The objective for this session is for participants to go back to their schools and implement meaningful positive reinforcement techniques to improve student behavior and achievement.

Don’t Give Up!

Wednesday, 11:30 in Seasons 1 & 2

Wednesday, 2:00 in Sunburst Room

Jennifer Blasko, Title I Reading Specialist, PAC Member

Mike Blasko, PTA President

Not feeling welcome in your school? Can’t get anyone on board? Join us as we share two different perspectives (parent & teacher) with a common goal. We will share some ground-building techniques to overcome barriers, resistance, and attitudes. We will offer parent and school staff ideas to help create and sustain a positive and welcoming community environment.

Taking it Back to Your School with *Beyond the Bake Sale*

Welcoming all Families to the School Community

Wednesday, 11:30 in Seasons 4 & 5

Paul Jones, SPAC

The presenter for this workshop will guide participants through Anne Henderson’s book *Beyond the Bake Sale* and highlight all of the ideas to help families become active participants in the life of the school. You will learn strategies to make parents feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.

Building Bridges for Parent Involvement

Wednesday, 2:00 in Seasons 1 & 2

Thursday, 10:40 in Seasons 1 & 2

Mary Hammer, Title I School Counselor

Elsie Diduch, Union City Family Support Center

This workshop will discuss the belief that it is never too early to connect with families! The presenters will examine the Corry Area School District where parent involvement starts before preschool and continues throughout elementary, middle, and high school. Our newly formed Family Involvement Council offers programming designed by parents for parents. Our sessions will help parents identify pathways to greater involvement in their own community and school district.

**Taking it Back to Your School with *Beyond the Bake Sale*
Communicating Effectively**

Wednesday, 2:00 in Seasons 4 & 5

Bethany Kauffman-Raub, SPAC

The presenter for this workshop will guide participants through Anne Henderson's book *Beyond the Bake Sale* and highlight all of the ideas for school stakeholders to communicate effectively. The outcome will be that families and school staff will engage in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication about student learning.

"From Title I to College Freshman": Tips for getting your child there with fewer tears!

Wednesday, 3:15 in the Snowflake Room

Donna Randolph, M. Ed.

Brandy Jackson, senior student at Millersville University-former Title I student

This session will be an informative workshop in identifying strategies, tips, and resources to mapping out an educational journey for your child. Everyone wants their child to attend some type of school after high school. Let's work together without the fears, tears, and jeers.

**Taking it Back to Your School with *Beyond the Bake Sale*
Sharing Power**

Wednesday, 3:15 in Seasons 4 & 5

Karen Henrichs, SPAC

The presenter for this workshop will guide participants through Anne Henderson's book *Beyond the Bake Sale* and highlight ideas to help families and school staff work as equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

Wake-up Call for Dads; Dealing with and Eliminating Putdowns

Wednesday, 3:15 in the Wintergreen Room

Denny Barger, HELP for You Counseling

During this presentation, the "fathers" will engage in shared discussions about the roles of dads in the home. Hopefully, we will learn from each other and positively influence the home environment. Being a father is a full-time effort requiring dad to be there in a variety of caring and nurturing ways.

"Parent Involvement...Time to Stop Playing Hooky!"

Thursday, 8:40 in the Sunburst Room

Kenneth and Cynthia Saulsbery, Title I Parents...Jamestown Area School District

How strong is parent involvement in your school? The presenters for this session came to last year's conference and worked hard to share what they learned with other Title I parents in their school. This information-sharing and interactive workshop will feature ideas and strategies learned during last year's workshops, challenges the presenters faced in implementing the parent involvement ideas, and the success they had in increasing parent involvement at the Jamestown Elementary School.

"Houston, We Have a Problem!": Solve them by thinking, acting, and creating

Thursday, 8:40 in the Chestnut Room

Teresa Duncan, Director of Education and Parent Programs

Kyle, Audio/visual IT Tech-CLDA

Whether you have served on an advisory board/council, PTA, or another volunteer organization...there seems to be "one type of problem," that always presents as a barrier to progress. As a parent leader, advocate, or caregiver, this workshop will provide useful techniques; build your confidence; and show several strategies as effective tools in the process of leadership development. Come prepared to THINK...PARTICIPATE...and CREATE solutions to solve any problem.

Dealing With and Eliminating Put Downs

Thursday, 8:40 in the Wintergreen Room

Denny Barger, HELP For You Counseling

The National School Safety Center calls bullying “the most enduring and underrated problem in American schools.” Bullying is not limited to the sensational episodes that make the headlines and involve guns, knives, and bombs. More often, bullying is less dramatic, but it is nonetheless a source of isolation, depression, and fear of many children. This workshop will share some ideas that parents can use with children who are the victims of bullying or who bully others. Participants will learn how to help their children use positive ways of interacting with others.

Mothers and Daughter Surviving Together

Thursday, 9:40 in the Chestnut Room

Linda Franke, Director, Keystone Montessori School

Mothers can learn simple ways to help their daughters to survive the many trials of adolescence and continue to remain close and connected. Based on the book *The Mother-Daughter Project*, mothers and daughters can band together, beat the odds, and thrive through adolescence. One book will be raffled off.

Be Your Child’s and Your School Community’s Best Advocate

Thursday, 9:40 in Seasons 4 & 5

Caroline Allen, Education Partnership Coordinator

Are there issues concerning your child or in your school community that you would like to address? Learn how to become an effective advocate. Be prepared to learn about what advocacy is, how to assess your needs, create a plan, and take action. We will discuss how to find out how to identify and engage other stakeholders, organize, and communicate your issue to those in power to affect change.

Author Study of Jan Brett

Thursday, 10:40 in the Chestnut Room

Jackie Myers, Parent Liaison for Agora Cyber Charter School

Kelli Divito, Math and Reading Specialist Coordinator

This workshop will provide an in-depth look into the writing and illustrations of a famous author, Jan Brett. This author study will give attendees the opportunity to explore how great writers find ways to gather information to write stories and inspiring ways to put their thoughts in the illustrations. The focus will be to enlighten parents on ways to study various authors and illustrators to see the similarities in their work in order for their children to use this literature as a mentor text in their own writing. Attendees will have a chance to win a free Jan Brett book!

*If you want additional handouts from any of the workshops,
go to www.spac.k12.pa.us, click on Parent Conference,
and then click on the workshop title.*

Student Achievement

Increased student achievement translates to success in school and in life.

S.O.S. Reading: Spotlight on Skills Workshop

Wednesday, 10:15 in the Chestnut Room

Patrick Smith, Reading Specialist, Pleasant Valley Elementary School

This workshop is designed for parents of children in need of extra help. The workshop contains take home materials parents can easily use in the comfort of their own home to strengthen the deficits their child may be experiencing in reading and math. Data is collected and a unique program is designed specifically for the student in need.

How Parents Can Improve Their Children's Writing Skills at Home

Wednesday, 10:15 in the Hemlock Room

Thursday, 10:40 in the Hemlock Room

Barbara E. Seni, Ph.D.

Writing is an essential means of communication that impacts every aspect of our lives. Writing is a skill that is used in all academic course work as well as throughout a person's professional and personal life. It is a necessary skill we need from first-grade throughout adulthood. This workshop will discuss and present ideas regarding how to accomplish this goal.

Building a Love of Reading

Wednesday, 10:15 in Seasons 1 & 2

Kim Fritzges, Parent

Capture your child's imagination and build a love of reading through poetry and Reader's Theatre.

STARS (Strategies to Achieve Reading Success)

Wednesday, 11:30 in the Chestnut Room

Mona Fleege, Title I Reading Teacher, Armstrong District

STARS is designed for K-12 parents and educators seeking to encourage and involve students to achieve success in reading. Participants will discover practical, research-based approaches to reading intended to engage students while addressing ways to improve fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension proficiency. In the workshop, you will learn reading games, motivational ideas, and ways to implement parent/student/teacher book clubs.

Superbrain Yoga: A Tool to Fuel the Brain

Wednesday, 11:30 in the Wintergreen Room

Kim Siar, Institute for Inner Studies

Superbrain Yoga is a simple yet highly effective exercise that activates, synchronizes, and harmonizes the disparate areas of the brain. As a result, the brain increase adaptability and can function with greater performance. Since 2003, Superbrain Yoga has been used by physicians, occupational therapists, teachers, and parents to support and enrich the healthy development of a child's well-being and innate potentialities.

Making Summer Learning Fun

Wednesday, 2:00 in the Snowflake Room

Robin Quick, Assistant Professor, Gannon University

The positive effects of continuing to read and maintaining literacy skills over the summer have been well documented. Unfortunately, this can often become a battle between parents and their children. The presenter will discuss how parents can help their child go beyond just reading a book to encouraging activities that make summer reading fun and effective.

Art is the Heart of Learning

Wednesday, 2:00 in the Chestnut Room

Jordan Crosby, Manager of Public Policy Advocacy

This session deals with “how do the arts promote student success and create better schools? Do students who participate in art classes achieve more, statistically? What must we do to ensure our children receive a high quality education in the arts? Join Jordan for an informative discussion that answers these questions and more. Jordan was formerly the head of school programming at the Carnegie Museum of Art and will facilitate helpful strategies for art education advocacy in your schools.

From Learning Letters to Reading Aloud: Strategies for Reading Fun!

Wednesday, 2:00 in the Hemlock Room

Chad H. Waldron, Title I Reading Specialist, Fort LeBoeuf School District

Dana A. Keck, Doctoral Student, IUP

This session is specially designed for parents and guardians of children in preschool through fifth grade. Are you looking for new ways to help your child grow as a reader? From activities with magnetic letters to using websites for literacy fun, you will learn a variety of meaningful hands-on activities to promote reading and writing in your home.

Hand in Hand: Connecting School to Home Using Technology Resources

Wednesday, 2:00 in the Wintergreen Room

Thursday, 9:40 in the Wintergreen Room

Jean McCleary, Elementary Principal and Federal Programs Coordinator

Alicia Hetrick, Union School District

This presentation will focus on how to connect school-related technology activities and resources for at home use. Participants will receive a list of resources available for at-home use. The technology sources are safe, free, and educational. The presenters will navigate the participants through several websites that include Study Island, Dibles/Reading Intervention, First in Math, Thinkfinity, Mathslive, Freerice, and many more. Join us as we connect our schools and homes with Hand in Hand.

Making Summer Count

Wednesday, 3:15 in the Chestnut Room

Gwendolyn Cooley, Parent Involvement Specialist, Erie City School District

In this session, we will look at ways to involve education in learning and playing. We will give insight into ways to keep children from getting bored and how we as parents need help in these areas.

Surviving Homework

Wednesday, 3:15 in the Hemlock Room

Thursday, 8:40 in the Hemlock Room

Amy Bauschard, 1st Grade Teacher, Our Lady's Christian School

This presentation includes ideas and strategies to assist parents and students in making homework just as fun as classroom learning. “I hate doing homework,” or “I don't have any homework.” are common statements from students.

Motivating the Middle: Reaching Struggling Middle School Readers

Wednesday, 3:15 in Seasons 1 & 2

Heather Mochulski, Title I Reading Specialist

Beth McKee, Title I Reading Specialist

This interactive session will focus on ways to motivate and prepare secondary students for twenty-first century skills. We will share ways to incorporate technology-based instruction, audio supported engaging text and real-life experience to foster a love of reading. Attendees will be entered to win audio-supported materials.

Helping You Help Your Child with Math

Thursday, 8:40 in the Snowflake Room

Thursday, 10:40 in the Wintergreen Room

Ellen Mulligan, Mathematically Speaking, Inc.

Tracey Knerr, Mathematically Speaking, Inc.

This workshop will empower parents/guardians of children to become resources for their children. By helping parents understand the relationship between a math concept and its application to real life, we can promote success in math. The topics we will cover are included in the National Math Standards. Participants will leave the workshop knowing that MATH IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT.

Youth Leadership

Thursday, 8:40 in Seasons 1 & 2

Darcel Madkins, Co-Founder of the African American Leadership Association

This presentation will supply you with a plan to engage parents in their child's education through leadership. You will gain an understanding on how youth develop and emerge as leaders in their families, schools, organizations, and communities. We will discuss leadership development, community involvement, mentorship, academic success, and cultural awareness.

Growing Great Readers

Thursday, 8:40 in Seasons 4 & 5

Thursday, 10:40 in Seasons 4 & 5

Heidi Patterson, Reading Specialist

Nichole Lombardi, Farrell Area School District

Farrell teachers present strategies for parents to grow great readers! Come and play homophone BINGO, learn about figurative language, build your child's vocabulary, and hear other ways to increase student reading. We will offer interactive strategies that you can incorporate at home to build your child's reading skills. Come and have fun with the Farrell team!

Doing Math in the Middle School

Thursday, 9:40 in the Snowflake Room

Karen Henrichs, Staff Development Specialist for Data Analysis, Riverview IU #6

In this session, you will explore the value of doing math: from struggling to thinking, from thinking to understanding, from understanding to success. Test your own understanding of the big conceptual ideas in math, from basic operations to algebra. Join Karen for an engaging session that will help you and your student experience middle school math with success!

Phonological Awareness: A Primary Piece of the Reading Puzzle

Thursday, 9:40 in Seasons 1 & 2

Michele Borcky, Title I Reading Teacher

Crystal Ryan

Phonological awareness is an individual's awareness of the sound structure of spoken words and directly relates to a child's ability to read and spell words. This workshop will explain what phonological awareness is and why it is so important. The presenters will provide ideas for hands-on activities that you can do with your child the moment you leave.

Federal Policy, Title I, and the Law

It is important the Title I programs comply with federal mandates.

Developing Your Voice: Building Political and Social Capital

Wednesday, 11:30 in the Sunburst Room

Ronald Cowell, The Educational Policy and Leadership Center

This workshop will help attendees understand federal policy regarding education and how it influences what we do at the local level. The presenter will also explain the work of The Educational Policy and Leadership Center and its initiatives.

Parent Involvement and No Child Left Behind

Thursday, 9:40 in the Sunburst Room

Cindy Rhoads, Title I Parent Involvement Coordinator, PA Department of Education

This workshop will provide an explanation of what districts and schools must do to ensure that parents are actively involved in the education of their children under NCLB. Participants will receive a copy of a tool that can help them evaluate how effective their schools are in meeting all of the requirements (from a parent's perspective). We will also share ideas on how districts and schools can implement some of the requirements.

School Compacts

Thursday, 10:40 in the Sunburst Room

Cindy Rhoads, Title I Parent Involvement Coordinator, PA Department of Education

School/Parent Compacts are required for every school that receives Title I funds. When the process for developing compacts involves teachers and parents in an open forum, your school's compact can be used as a plan to achieve all sorts of goals for your school. This workshop will review a process for developing compacts and implementing the ideas and goals agreed upon in the compact.



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Acknowledgments/Information

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 - Keep in touch with your school's Title I Coordinator for next year's conference dates!
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