

# Principles to Consider

## Using Research for Simultaneous Renewal



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Conference Theme

***Growing and Sustaining Our Own:***

*The Power of PDSs in Preparing  
Professionals*

# Principles to Consider

## Using Research for Simultaneous Renewal



## AGENDA

### Background

### 4 Research Agendas:

Specific Study - Study Strategies - Study Outcomes

### Principles for Renewal Using Research

## Growth and Renewal

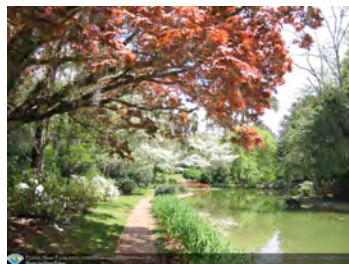
- Simultaneous renewal requires “powerfully productive symbioses” (Goodlad, 1994)
- Research on simultaneous renewal relies on a similar engagement



FloridaStateParks.org

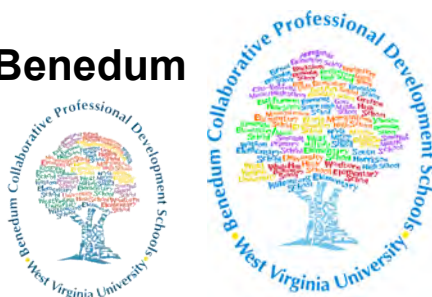
## Renewal needs Differences

- Embrace distinctive differences
- How can each side contribute to the other
- Engagement depends on
  - a fully shared commitment
  - recognition of contextual influences



## Context of Benedum Collaborative

- **Simultaneous renewal**
  - 28 PDSs, West Virginia University, and the teacher education program delivered collaboratively since 1995
  - 31 PDS 2008
- **Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation**



## History in 1 Slide

- **First five years** – PDS development (the Benedum Project)
- **Transition period** – Benedum Collaborative
- **Past ten years** – Benedum Collaborative Five-Year Teacher Education Program



## Documentation Efforts

- **Agenda 1: Impact of PDS** on the renewal of schools, teachers, and PK-12 students' learning
- **Agenda 2: Culture of inquiry** through action research
- **Agenda 3: Impact of PDS** on new teachers and their students
- **Agenda 4: Targeted NCATE PDS** standards statewide

## Agenda 1: Impact of PDS

- **Benedum Project**
  - PDS Belief Statements
  - 13 PDSs
  - Interviews and surveys with PDS faculty, teacher candidates, PK-12 students
- **Partners** concerned with capacity building
  - Informing development of PDSs
  - Growing researchers and critical consumers
- **Stakeholders** concerned with "bottom line"



## PDS Impact: Study Strategies

- Focus on site-based reforms to yield accountability data
- Used stakeholder advisory group
- Used collaborative research team



## PDS Impact: Study Outcomes

- **Participants:**
  - Reminder of – or – introduction to core beliefs
  - Informed operationalization
  - Contextualization
  - Increased support and participation
- **Stakeholders**
  - Increased impact of results



## Agenda 2: Development of a Culture of Inquiry

- **AR** projects in Five-Year Program
- **AR** Faculty
- **AR** Contacts
- **AR** on **AR**
- **AR** Fellows: individual agendas
- **AR** Fellows Teams: school agendas



## Inquiry Culture: Study Strategies

- **Professional development at all levels**
- **Layered implementation**
  - In EDUC classes
  - In PDS schools
  - University and PDS faculty
- **Opportunities for dissemination**



## Inquiry Culture: Study Outcomes

- **More substantive projects: learning and school priorities**
- **"Cross-cultural" support**
  - Different University and PDS culture
  - Culture differences of content areas
- **Elevation of teacher inquiry**
- **Transparency of AR**



## Agenda 3: Impact on Graduates

- **Relational database**
- **Graduate interviews**
- **Site visits**
  - Classroom observations
  - Interviews with graduates, their mentor teachers, principal





## Graduates: Study Strategies

- **Address concerns of constituents**
  - Informing various stakeholders
  - Improving Program
  - Getting people to the table to conduct research
  - Framing program features to meet faculty needs and interests



## Graduates: Study Outcomes

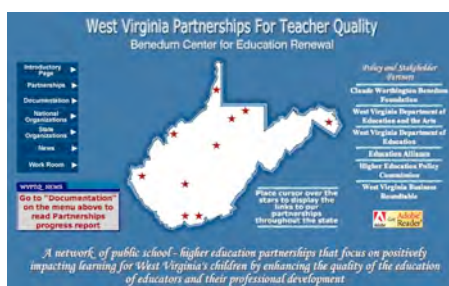
- **Program benefits**
  - Reduce redundancy
  - Special Education courses
- **Policy benefits**
  - WVDOE dissemination = 1st year experience
- **Scholarly activity benefits**
  - EDUC faculty research dissemination
  - AR dissemination by new, experienced teachers





## Agenda 4: Implementation of Statewide Standards

- **WV Partnerships for Teacher Quality**
- **NCATE PDS Standards Project**
- **Statewide study**
  - Case studies of 4 school/university partnerships
  - Online survey

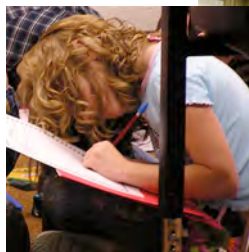


## Statewide: Study Strategies

- Cross-institutional planning
- Cross-institutional research team
- Alignment of funding proposals, reporting, targeted standards
- Self-analysis
- Initiative level analysis
- Developmental perspective

## Statewide: Study Outcomes

- **Broad support**
- **Coherency**
  - National standards
  - Shared expectations
  - Common discourse



## Our Suggested Principles for Simultaneous Renewal Using Research

- **Develop** goals for capacity-building
- **Respect** perspectives of all partners
- **Ground** research on partnerships in the contexts of their work
- **Reflect** the guiding beliefs of the partnership
- **Enhance** opportunities for collaboration and represent all constituencies
- **Make** documentation a naturally occurring activity



**Your questions?**

**What principles would you suggest?**



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