

Two Fielding Keynotes July 23, 2002

I had the joy of working with two Schools of the Fielding Graduate Institute during the past two weeks: Education and Leadership for Change, and Human and Organizational Development. Explore <http://www.fielding.edu>. I offered the keynote to the national conference of each school. What a privilege!

The energy in the room at the evening reception that began the week-long conference was palpable. It had nothing to do with the good wine and hors d'oeuvres being offered! It was the energy of adult learners sharing their excitement, concerns, plans and designs with one another. It was the energy of dialogue.

In both cases, I spoke in the keynotes of the power of dialogue education and of Fielding as a dialogue education university. I offered the keynotes as dialogue education (of course!), inviting participants in the session to work together to test, critique and apply each concept as it was offered. Again the energy in the room was palpable.

What is the difference between the dialogue of the reception and what I call dialogue education? The latter is a finely structured event, with a set time and a careful design informed by the Seven Steps of Design: Who, Why, When, Where, What, What For, How.

I was deeply touched by the kind reception the folks at Fielding gave me, both in their invitation to do the keynotes, and in their whole hearted participation in the learning tasks of those sessions. I am working on a paper entitled (with apologies to John Henry, Cardinal, Newman): *The Idea of a Dialogue Education University*. Stay tuned!