

President's Message

Fellow ABSElers – It's back! Our newsletter is being reinstated with this issue. The purpose of this correspondence is to keep you informed of ABSEL news and to offer a place to share research on topics related to simulations and experiential learning. In this issue we have some information linked with how high school students are becoming more familiar with simulations which has implications for university teaching and learning. If your interest is in classroom exercises, read about how Jane Elliott leads her students to understand how racism can exist in any group. We also pay homage to one of ABSEL's earlier members, Ron [Click here to continue...](#)

Article from popular press focuses on classroom learning with simulations

More undergraduate business majors today arrive at college with experience using business simulations. A recent article in the New York Times highlights this trend. The High School of Economics and Finance in New York City uses the business simulation Virtual Enterprises (www.veinternational.org) to teach students about managing a business. Students cover topics such as stock ownership, corporate earnings reports, and firm valuation while managing a virtual firm. [Click here to continue...](#)

Breaking Down Discrimination In The Classroom

In 1968, in reaction to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, Jane Elliot set out to show her elementary students how powerful words can be. In her famous study, 'Brown Eyes, Blue Eyes' Elliot breaks down what discrimination and racism is like within a school classroom. What her students learned was so powerful that Elliot continues to use this exercise today and even has brought it into business environments in an attempt to prevent discrimination in the workplace. [Click Here to Continue...](#)



ABSEL 2011

ABSEL conference attendees show their support for fellow Japanese members at the March 2011 meeting. Ten Japanese members registered but only two were able to join us. Our thoughts and good wishes continue to go out to our friends and colleagues as they rebuild.

Upcoming Deadlines

- [Call for Papers Submissions due by November 14th.](#)

Upcoming Events:

- [March 7-9 2012 Conference- San Diego](#)

INTERESTED IN JOINING ABSEL IN 2011?

REGISTER ONLINE AND RECEIVE OVER 35 YEARS OF ABSEL PROCEEDINGS (\$60)

ADD ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION TO SIMULATION & GAMING (\$100) [<CLICK HERE>](#)

Frazer who passed away recently.

I would like to remind you all that our October 31st deadline for paper submissions is rapidly approaching. Please use the following link for instructions and the link to our conference review system (CRS)

<http://absel2011.wordpress.com/about-absel2012/conference-review-system/>.

We are looking forward to hearing more about your research interests in simulations and experiential exercises.

On a sadder note, one of the earlier contributors to ABSEL, Ron Frazer, passed away recently. Many within ABSEL remember Ron for his development and use of "mini-simulations" as noted by Steve Gold. According to Bernie Keys, "Ron Frazer was one of the most gentle and courteous men who ever graced our organization." He also made an impact on Dick Teach who said, "Ron's writings had a very strong effect on much of my game creation activities. His concept of short, simple games has been a guiding light for me." So many in our community benefitted from Ron's research. Joe Wolfe and Hugh Cannon remember Ron as a bright and enthusiast member of the ABSEL community. We offer condolences to Ron's family at this difficult time.

Regards,

Alex Smith
President, ABSEL

Article from popular press focuses on classroom learning with simulations

Business leaders are finding this exercise noteworthy and a few have visited the NYC school. Robert E. Diamond, CEO of Barclays, made the following comment after a visit, "What really impressed me was how knowledgeable kids with no background had become in this subject area". His firm pledged to reserve several Barclays internships to students during their college career. The challenge for developers and users of business simulations is to increase both the complexity of the software and expectations in the classroom. To read the original article click on the following hyperlink. <http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2011/04/07/success-on-these-m-a-deals-appears-on-a-report-card/>

BREAKING DOWN DISCRIMINATION IN THE CLASSROOM...Continued

Jane Elliot uses the same simple idea within the workplace that causes turmoil to get the point how easy discrimination can manifest itself into any environment. For example, she only gives half of the workplace pens to finish a test and tells them not to give the pens to anyone else (WGBH, 2011). The other half has no pens and no one gives the pen to them so they are told they fail the exam. Something as simple as that can cause dramatic outcomes within her workshops. She creates turmoil within the group and then works on ways to prevent this in the future. There are many videos of her original study and her Iowa Corrections faculty workshop and they can be viewed at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/divided/etc/view.html>. For further information or to learn how Jane Elliot can come to your workplace please go to <http://www.janeelliott.com/>.

References

Elliot, J. (2006). *Jane Elliot's blue eyes brown eyes exercise*. Retrieved from <http://www.janeelliott.com/index.htm>

WGBH, Initials. (2011). *A class divided*. Retrieved from <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/divided/>

Related Videos

This is a place to post your own videos that may be helpful to other ABSEL members for use in various settings.

```
<div class="js-kit-comments" backwards="yes" paginate="10"></div>  
<script src="http://js-kit.com/comments.js"></script>
```

Related Studies

Here is a place to post any older studies that might be helpful to other ABSEL members.

```
<div class="js-kit-comments" backwards="yes" paginate="10"></div>
```

```
<script src="http://js-kit.com/comments.js"></script>
```

Classroom Activities

Here is a place to share your own activities with other ABSEL members.

```
<div class="js-kit-comments" backwards="yes" paginate="10"></div>  
<script src="http://js-kit.com/comments.js"></script>
```
