

An Evaluation of a Conference Aimed at Training Teachers to Teach Standards-Based Physical Education

Authors: Laurie-ann M. Hellsten, MSc.¹; Claudio R. Nigg, Ph.D.¹; Dan K. Yahata, BA²; Jay E. Maddock, Ph.D.¹; Jessica P. B. Yamauchi¹, MA; and Leah J. Rubio, BA¹.

Affiliations: ¹ University of Hawai'i at Manoa
² Department of Education, Instructional Services Branch

Address: Address correspondence to:
Laurie-ann M. Hellsten
Department of Public Health Sciences
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa
1960 East-West Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Phone Number: (808) 956-6263
Fax Number: (808) 956-6041

E-mail Addresses: lauriean@hawaii.edu; cnigg@hawaii.edu;
dan_yahata@notes.k12.hi.us; jmaddock@hawaii.edu;
jpy@hawaii.edu; and lrubio@hawaii.edu

Abstract:

The Healthy Hawaii Initiative is a statewide multibehavioral health promotion campaign. In the Spring of 2002, the Department of Education organized a statewide physical education conference aimed at training teachers to teach standards-based physical education as one component of this campaign. This report focuses on the evaluation of the "2002 Working Together to Move Ahead Physical Education" conference. The conference included three keynote speakers and four scheduled breakout sessions on a variety of selected topics. The conference was evaluated through participant feedback in the form of a self-reported survey. Participants were asked to rate the quality of the conference overall as well as each of the break-out sessions in terms of quality of presentation, relevancy to standards-based education, and distributing standards-based materials. A total of 148 conference participants completed the evaluation forms and 45% of these participants were elementary school teachers.

Overall, the conference received a positive evaluation. Participation in the breakout sessions ranged from 3 to 70 participants (Mean = 20.22; SD = 15.61). More than 88% of the participants rated the breakout session topics, quality of breakout sessions, conference organization, and conference materials as "good" or "excellent". In addition, more than 90% of participants believed that the conference was effective in providing the information and skill development needed to implement standards-based education. Recommendations included ensuring that all sessions address and provide written materials to participants on how to implement standards-based physical education, holding this type of professional development conference annually, and encouraging participants to share the information learned with colleagues who were unable to attend.