

**2011 NDPN Conference  
Schaumburg, Illinois  
October 9-12, 2011**

**Pre-Conference Workshops**

***Understanding i-KIDS (\$55 includes book)***

Mrs. Doris Settles

Designed as an interactive powerpoint presentation workshop, participants learn about the core constructs of Digital Citizenship, the changes in our society and world wrought with the advent of Web 2.0 (user-created content), and how each core construct provides a new context for education. Data from national and international studies on youth involvement in digital commerce, communication, content creation and sharing, global communities, and more will be discussed to guide policy and pedagogy.

***Using Service Learning to Expand Research & Evaluation on Experiential Learning Programs (\$45)***

Robert Shumer

In an era of declining resources and limited opportunities it is important to find new ways to increase the capacity of service learning and other experiential learning programs to conduct research and evaluation. One approach that is growing is the use of service-learning programs, themselves, as a method of conducting research and evaluation. Using courses, from elementary school through graduate school, as a source of student engagement in the evaluation process is a useful way to improve both the learning that accrues through evaluation and provides a new kind of service to communities and programs: evaluation itself. The purpose of this half-day workshop is to introduce participants to models of research and evaluation capacity building and then to help them develop a specific program/model in their own setting.

***Helping Students Graduate: Tools and Strategies to Help At-Risk Learners(\$45)***

Mr. Franklin Schargel

Today, almost one-third of our K-12 students never graduate. Using the 15 effective strategies developed by the National Dropout Prevention Center and tools developed as “best practices” by some of America’s outstanding schools workshop participants will not only learn *what to do* but *how to* aid at-risk youth to graduate.

***Motivational Interviewing and Adventure Ed: Innovative Retention & Restorative Practices (\$45)***

Dr. Richard C. Rutschman, Chicago Teachers’ Center, Northeastern Illinois University

What can committed, thoughtful and engaged educators do to draw out the motivation of students to help them stay in school, achieve and graduate? One of the most innovative efforts is the use of an evidence-based behavior change approach called Motivational Interviewing, which draws from students’ own minds “why” they may want to get real about their education and how they would do it. For over 6 years this approach coupled with Adventure Education has helped to reduce the dropout rate among at risk students placed in in-school suspension in one Chicago High School. These evidence-based practices can help change the culture of schools and the minds of students. Workshop participants will leave with an understanding of how these inspirational approaches can help nurture success. Come prepared to be engaged, laugh, think, augment your skills, discover new approaches, reflect, share and begin to take action.