

# OK Training Tribute



*OK Training Tribute Committee.  
Hosted by the Office of Personnel Management Website*

## To Play or Not to Play - Games in the Training Environment *(by Lisa Hayes)*

This month I was given the joy of discovering what games are available for our trainers to help enhance training sessions so they may be more enjoyable, memorable and interactive. I don't know about you, but those are the classes that I come away with having gained the most memorable and relatable information from.

I came away with this task ready to jump right in and instantly become an expert in classroom games. Then reality hit me in the face when I did an internet search for corporate/government training games and got back over 30 million hits. Anyone can go and find ample resources! Lisa Fortier has stated she has recently bought software that helps trainers create their own game questions and also has buzzers that can be used for an enhanced game show atmosphere. She was able to obtain these from Amazon.com. These items can even be borrowed from OPM!

I'm sure many of you are familiar with the Lockheed Martin game

called "The Ethics Challenge" featuring the Dilbert character. This game has been used in the HRDS class on ethics. I contacted Lockheed Martin back in 2005 trying to find one for our agency only to find out they now had a new game called "The Ethics Effect" 2005. I wasn't able to get the Dilbert game but I was able to get the new game at a very reasonable price.

Software and board games are just two examples of interactive play in training environment. The point here is to include a few moments of play to apply the theory being taught, to build group cohesiveness and to make the training experience pleasant and memorable.

There are many games and ice breakers that you can find online and a lot of them are free. I even found some companies that will make board games specifically designed to your agency or training topics. There are a lot of resources out there if you have the

time to look or you just use your creativity. Here is an idea: take your topic and have each group make up a unique game.

Integrating fun and interactive games into your training portfolio can cost as much or as little as you would like or your budget will allow. The important thing is to make it relevant to your topic, make it enjoyable and have fun.



## Mental Health Impact Training

OK Commissioner of Health, Terry Cline, Ph.D. will be presenting the impact of mental health issues faced by many of U.S. Soldiers who were deployed to Iraq. Many agencies have staff

that have endured deployments and Dr. Cline will present information regarding future impact to HR needs.

This presentation will be held on August 11th, 2010 from noon to

1pm in the Chesapeake Room at the Oklahoma History Center.

OKDHS HR Management Division is sponsoring this event.

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*Our mission is to distribute the most current and pertinent training news and to collect information regarding unfulfilled needs for training. We hope to be a source of information for training managers and supervisors throughout Oklahoma.*

## OPM Affirmative Action Plan Meetings

### ADVANCED/FEEDBACK

Session 1 - August 6 - 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Session 2 - August 10 - 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Session 3 - August 12 - 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### BEGINNING

Session A - August 16 - 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Session B - August 18 - 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Session C - August 20 - 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Session D - August 24 - 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

All courses will be held at the Jim Thorpe building on the 5th floor. Please email Brenda Thornton at [brenda.thornton@opm.ok.gov](mailto:brenda.thornton@opm.ok.gov) to register

## EBC Benefit Coordinators Training

Annual training for Benefit Open Enrollment Period is coming up on the 23rd of September at the JD McCarty Center. More detail is forthcoming.

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## OSEEGIB Member Service Reps to Train Insurance Coordinators

Oklahoma State & Employees Group Insurance Board will provide guidance on the 2011 benefit changes and insurance processes throughout Oklahoma in the month of September. There will be 33 presentations in all. Please contact your Member Services Manager for more details.

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## HRDS Schedules to Be Released for Fall 2010

Be on the lookout for the release of the OPM Fall 2010 HRDS course schedule. The classes will be released on Thursday, August 12th. It may be a good idea to review your supervisors' records to determine who is missing the required hours for supervisory credit.

Please be sure to distribute the HRDS class enrollment grids to your employees in a timely manner. It is especially imperative to register early for courses this semester, as some of the subjects will only be offered once due to budget constraints.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Fortier at 405-521-6345 or by e-mail at [lisa.fortier@opm.ok.gov](mailto:lisa.fortier@opm.ok.gov)

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## Searching for More Committee Members

The Training Tribute Committee is looking for more members to join our team. We meet once a month to discuss ideas and outlines for this newsletter. We would like to have more participants to ensure a wider coverage of training opportunities.

Please Contact Crystal Nolen at 427-3859 ex 244 if you are interested in becoming part of the training tribute team!

