

FRONTPAGE

Thing One and Thing Two

I've been thinking about work. And life. And how they seem like two huge entities trying to squeeze into the same compact airplane seat. It's not comfortable. It's possibly dangerous. And if it were even allowed on a flight, you'd still have to pay two full fares.

I'm not talking about work-life balance exactly, but more about work-life harmony. Dr. Seuss's Thing One and Thing Two also come to mind. They run around in a frenzy and aren't always compatible. Work-life isn't the theme of this issue of *T+D*, but it surely is a theme for the times. And it was definitely a theme running through the ASTD Conference in San Diego in May. People seemed to be looking for answers, meaningfulness, a "higher purpose in what we call work," as one person said. They were looking for a connection between what they do for 8, 9, 10, or more hours a day and who they are as human beings when they go home at night.

One speaker in particular, Jim Loehr, moved the audience because his message gave them not only take-away approaches or techniques or actions or whatever you want to call them in business speak they could use to become more engaged in their work, but he made it personal. He asked, among other pointed questions, Is what *you* are investing your energy in reaping the results you would like? When I say "moved," some people were actually crying at the end; many uttered the word "amazing" as they filed out of the great hall.

I wish I had a powerful message here that would resonate with each of you, that would make a dramatic difference or even a small, small change in your lives that would bring harmony to your work, to your life, to your real self. For me, just taking time to think about it is the first step.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Haidee Allerton".

Haidee E. Allerton

Editor



Publication Redesign
ASBPE
2001

Editorial Excellence
ASBPE
1998

Gold Circle Awards
ASAE
(American Society of
Association Executives)
1994

Best Design
OZZIE Bronze Award of
Excellence 1992

Magazine Column
"Working Life"
Clarion Award
Women in
Communications
1992