

# **CENTER CONNECTIONS**

*An E-Letter from ACI's Center for Success in High-Need Schools*

*Volume 2 No 3  
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## **News and Announcements**

### **ACI-CPS Student-Teaching Summit – April 1, 2006**

Chicago Public Schools and the Associated Colleges of Illinois are proud to co-sponsor the Spring Student-Teaching Summit on Saturday, April 1, 2006, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at Saint Xavier University-Butler Reception Room. This exciting professional development event is free to all student teachers assigned to CPS in Spring 2006 and offers an informative and innovative full-day conference, with 70-minute professional development sessions, a keynote speaker, a Recruitment Panel/Q&A, exciting raffles/giveaways, and complimentary continental breakfast and lunch.

Registration information is available at the CPS student teaching website at [www.teachchicago.com/sti](http://www.teachchicago.com/sti). For additional information, contact Dameka D. Redic, Coordinator, Student Teaching Program at 773-553-1191 or [ddwilson2@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:ddwilson2@cps.k12.il.us).

The CPS Student-Teaching Summit provides student teachers in CPS with strategies that lead to high-quality instruction, informs them of the resources available to teachers employed by CPS and provides them with full-time employment/job search strategies. Each student teacher attends three 70-minute workshops geared toward one of four tracks: K-3rd, 4th-8th, high school general or high school math/science. In the classroom management workshops, experienced classroom

teachers from the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) present interactive sessions that touch upon the elements of classroom management. The workshops address the survey results from student teachers and teachers that identified classroom management as the number one concern for pre-service teachers.

Another exciting component of the Summit is the new Recruitment Panel component, composed of CPS Administrators/Principals, central office employees, and current 2nd year teachers who completed their student teaching in CPS schools. The Recruitment Panel will showcase unique CPS programs and initiatives designed to recruit and retain new teachers, such as Golden Teachers, Teacher Housing and Teacher Recruitment. In addition, the panel will allow current principals, teachers and central office administrators an opportunity to share invaluable advice and tips in areas such as grant writing skills, interviewing techniques, and resume writing. Student teachers also will have a rare opportunity to hear actual testimonials of former student teachers who are now successfully teaching full-time in CPS.

The Fall 2005 Student Teaching Summit held at North Park University in collaboration with the Center was very successful, receiving an overall rating of 4.60 on a scale from 1-5 and the event proved to be an exciting and unique professional development opportunity for all Fall 2005 CPS student teachers. [Back to headlines](#)

## ***Center's Annual Symposium moved to larger quarters Register now for this in-demand event***

**If you were denied access to or wait-listed for the *Center's April 27 Symposium* – or if you haven't tried registering yet—contact us immediately to reserve your space.** Within days of distribution of the first email alert, the Symposium was “sold out,” leaving many *Center* partners without access to the event. Now, we have secured a larger room so that we can accommodate the extraordinary demand.

**Developed around the theme *Future Vision: Prerequisites for Progress in High-Need Schools*, The *Center's* first Annual Symposium features keynote speaker Dan Fallon, along with panelists Kati Haycock, Penny Bender Sebring and Arne Duncan, Thursday, April 27, 2006, 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Chicago's Union League Club, 65 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago.**

Fallon is education chair at Carnegie Corporation of New York; Haycock is president of the Education Trust; Bender Sebring, Director of Chicago Public Education Fund and President, Lewis-Sebring Foundation; and Duncan is CEO of the Chicago Public Schools. Panelists will discuss the changes necessary to assist our neediest schools as public funding declines and the student population becomes increasingly diverse. ACI's 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and reception immediately follow the symposium, beginning at 4:30 p.m. *Center* partners are urged to RSVP now, before invitations are mailed. Call now to RSVP to Samarah Greeves, 312-263-2391, ext. 27, or contact her by email at [samarah.greeves@acifund.org](mailto:samarah.greeves@acifund.org). Please indicate how many people

will attend, their names and email addresses, and whether you plan to stay for ACT's Annual Meeting and reception. [Back to headlines](#)

## **Call for Manuscripts, *Success in High-Need Schools***

**Submissions are invited for the next two issues of *Success in High-Need Schools*, the Center's new online journal ([www.successinhighneedschools.org](http://www.successinhighneedschools.org)). Note themes and deadlines for upcoming issues:**

*Recruitment and Retention of Teachers for High-Need Schools*

(Spring – May 2006)

Articles due by April 14, 2006 (original March 15 deadline extended)

*Innovation: Collaborative Projects that Make Change in High-Need Schools*

(Summer – August 2006)

Articles due by June 15, 2006

**Authors should consult guidelines at [www.successinhighneedschools.org/journal/editorial](http://www.successinhighneedschools.org/journal/editorial). Unsolicited submissions and queries should be sent to [journalforsuccess@acifund.org](mailto:journalforsuccess@acifund.org).**

The premiere issue of *Success in High-Need Schools* remains posted at [www.successinhighneedschools.org/journal](http://www.successinhighneedschools.org/journal), where subscribers can register to visit the site and to receive an email link whenever a new issue is published. [Back to headlines](#)

## **[Center Connections now available at www.successinhighneedschools.org](http://www.successinhighneedschools.org)**

***Center Connections* is now available at [www.successinhighneedschools.org](http://www.successinhighneedschools.org), the Center's web site.**

The web site includes an archive of all past issues of *Center Connections*, and plans are underway to deliver future issues of *Center Connections* by providing a link to the web site. Watch for news of continuing innovations to the web site. [Back to headlines](#)

## **Professional Development Schools Discussed at Center Partnership Meeting, February 17, 2006**

A panel discussion on establishment of professional development schools highlighted the February 17 Center Partnership Meeting, attended by 32 Center partners and colleagues. Panelists Sherry Eagle (Aurora University), Catherine Bushbacher (Reinberg School - Chicago), Randy Steinheimer (District 129), and Ann Behrens and Tom Conley (Quincy University) proposed the following strategies for starting and maintaining professional development schools: 1) create meaningful relationships with K-12 districts where each partner values the other's knowledge, skills and ideas; 2) create classroom lab experiences that link to methods courses, so that teacher-candidates get extensive hands-on experience prior to student-teaching; 2) create immersion schools in several schools throughout a district; 3) pursue professional development opportunities both within and outside school settings; 4) provide new teachers with mentors within the school at which they teach; 5) find school-wide initiatives where teachers can

take the lead; and 6) hold workshops where college faculty sit down with K-12 teachers to discuss teaching practices.

### **Next Center Partnership Meeting: March 17, 2006**

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

One North Franklin Street, Third Floor Conference Room

Chicago, IL

**Topic: Diversity and Teacher Preparation: Culturally Appropriate and Placed Based Practices: Pedagogy for all Students and Teachers**

Donna Jurich—Knox College

Jim Vandergriff—Knox College

**Please RSVP by March 15, 2006**, if you plan to attend. Contact Akila Ruffin at 312-263-2391, ext. 37, or by email at [Akila.ruffin@acifund.org](mailto:Akila.ruffin@acifund.org). All ACI *Center for Success* partners are invited to attend *Center Partnership Meetings* to work together to improve teaching and learning in high-need schools. [Back to headlines](#)

## **Recruitment and Retention Programs**

### ***Diversity at the Blackboard (DATB) Public Education Campaign***

ACI is looking for inspiring teacher-candidates and alumni to interview for DATB's public education campaign. Please forward any contacts to Eulalia House at ACI, 312/263-2391, ext. 40, or via email at [eulalia.house@acifund.org](mailto:eulalia.house@acifund.org). [Back to headlines](#)

### ***Diversity at the Blackboard deadline extended to March 7, 2006***

ACI member colleges and universities may propose *Diversity at the Blackboard (DATB)* projects, with funding of up to \$20,000 from ACI's U.S. Department of Education Teacher Quality Enhancement-Recruitment grant. The deadline for projects proposals has been extended to **Tuesday, March 7, 2006**. Projects may begin as soon as they are approved. Up to ten ACI *DATB* proposals will be approved for funding of activities through September 30, 2006. Projects must request at least \$10,000 in scholarships to be matched 1:1 from institutional sources (\$20,000 total in scholarships) and up to \$10,000 to plan a campus *Diversity at the Blackboard* student support and pre-teach program. Scholarship funds will be made available only if teamed with a *DATB* support project. For more information, contact *Center* Program Officer Tony Bell ([tony.bell@acifund.org](mailto:tony.bell@acifund.org), or call 312-263-2391, ext. 21). **To submit a *DATB* application, complete the attached form and email or fax to Tony Bell (fax 312-263-3424) no later than March 7, 2006.** [Back to headlines](#)

## **Inaugural Principals' Forum at ACI's *Teacher Induction Academy***

**Jim Rosborg, co-author of *What Every Superintendent and Principal Needs to Know*, provided the keynote address for the first session of the *Center's Principals' Forum*, February 3, 2006, as part of ACI's Recruitment and Retention Initiative.** Dr. Rosborg has recently been appointed as Program Coordinator for the External Graduate Programs at McKendree College and instructor of graduate classes in Education. In June of 2005, Rosborg retired after eleven years as superintendent of the 3,750 student Belleville Public School District #118, Belleville, Illinois. He consistently focused his energy on building a climate of collaboration to benefit all students. Under Rosborg's leadership, Belleville #118 had some of the highest district scores in the state of Illinois. In addition, District #118 schools received Golden Spike Awards, State and National Blue Ribbon Schools Awards, and most recently, the Northern Illinois University's Spotlight Award for academic achievement. Each participant received a copy of the book *What Every Superintendent and Principal Needs to Know* written by Rosborg, Max McGee, and Jim Burgett. Following the keynote presentation, the principals joined the teachers for dinner and participated in the *Induction Academy* program.

**The second *Principals' Forum* will be held on Friday, April 7, 2006, with keynote speakers Kristine Servais and Kellie Sanders.** Servais is an assistant professor in educational leadership at North Central College; Sanders is an elementary school principal. Together they have written a handbook, *The Courage to Lead: Choosing the Road Less Traveled*, which will be provided free of charge to each participant. Their presentation will provide a glimpse of the leadership workshop that will be offered as part of the *Center's Summer Retreat*, June 22-23, 2006, in Bloomington, IL. To register for the April *Principals' Forum* or the *Summer Retreat*, contact David Williams at 312-263-2391, ext. 41. [Back to headlines](#)

## **ACI's Teacher Induction Academy Summer Retreat, June 22-23, 2006**

Invite all beginning teachers who work in school districts that partner with your institution to attend ACI's *Teacher Induction Academy* Summer Retreat on June 22-23, 2006, in Bloomington, IL. Some of the featured topics at this year's Summer Retreat will include: Ruby Payne's *A Framework for Understanding Poverty*; The Importance of the Arts in High-Need Schools; Service Learning; Literacy; The Administrator-Teacher Relationship; Technology (High-Tech, Low-Cost & Podcasting); and a special presentation by the current Illinois Teacher of the Year, Jacqueline Bolger.

The retreat is open to teachers from across the state of Illinois, with a special emphasis on those teaching in high-need schools. The event is FREE for all teachers interested in participating (includes meals, resources, and overnight accommodations). Space is limited. The deadline for registering is May 22, 2006. Please contact Lidia Han at [lhhan@acifund.org](mailto:lhhan@acifund.org) or (312) 263-2391, ext. 38, for more information and details about the registration process. [Back to headlines](#)

## **Alternative and Accelerated Certification Programs**

**Meet David Williams, ACI's new Program Officer, Alternative and Accelerated Certification**

**David Williams has joined the *Center* staff as Program Officer for Alternative and Accelerated Certification.** David has worked closely with many ACI member colleges and universities in both science education and teacher development, particularly with Greenville, Millikin, Augustana, Knox, University of Saint Francis, and Olivet Nazarene. While much of this work has focused on education in the sciences and mathematics, he also has worked in the social sciences, arts, language, and professional education.

Most recently, at Northwestern University, David worked in the Office of Strategic Initiatives as an outreach and grant director. In the past, he held positions at Argonne National Laboratory and Advanced Photon Source, and as Director, X-ray Collaboration, Illinois Technology and Education. These positions provided David with hands-on experience in teacher development services, internship development, outreach coordination with schools, colleges and industry, program evaluation, budget administration, marketing, IT coordination, data mining, partnership development, and grants management for seven Illinois universities. Significant activities included teacher internship coordination, symposia design and delivery, outreach to manufacturers and to 4,000 K-12 and college students and teachers per year, public affairs, media and government relations, and grant reporting. Throughout his career, he has been involved with linkages between teacher education and support for returning adult students in postsecondary education. David has a PhD in curriculum development from Ohio State University, an MA in educational evaluation and design, and a BS in history and education. [Back to headlines](#)

## ***Center seeks new partners for Transition to Teaching Partnerships, Illinois Special Education Collaborative (I-SPED)***

**ACI members wishing to propose 2006 cohort programs in special education and other high-need areas, such as mathematics, science, and bilingual education should contact David Williams ([david.williams@acifund.org](mailto:david.williams@acifund.org), or 312-263-2391, ext. 41).** Colleges proposing Special education cohorts can receive support through ACI's *I-SPED* Collaborative, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education grant (FIPSE). Candidates in these Special Education cohorts may receive funding through Transition to Teaching. Cohorts in other high-need fields may qualify for funding from ACI's *Transition to Teaching* grant, also.

*ACI's Illinois Special Education Collaborative (I-SPED)* is designed to address Illinois' shortage of special education teachers by disseminating a model program developed by Saint Xavier University. Through *I-SPED*, ACI is helping members develop special education programs, planning a professional development conference for later this year, and soliciting input from ACI member special educators to communicate with the Illinois State Board of Education regarding policies that will advance special education in Illinois. **Contact Candace Baker, director of special education at Saint Xavier University and *Center I-SPED* advisor, for information about the Saint Xavier model for multi-categorical certification and for advice in program development ([sbaker@sxu.edu](mailto:sbaker@sxu.edu), 773-298-3340).** [Back to headlines](#)

## **Innovation Projects**

## Teaching Latina/o Students, K-College Diversity Colloquium April 28, 2006, 8:00 am-3:30 pm at Lewis University

Lewis University's College of Education is hosting a day of information and interaction with nationally and locally renowned educators and community leaders to discuss the learning needs of their Latino/a students. This *Innovation Project* seeks to help students and their families maximize opportunities for educational success. On Friday, April 28, 2006, from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, at Lewis University (One University Parkway, Romeoville, IL) Senator Miguel del Valle, Illinois 2<sup>nd</sup> District, will keynote this event. Breakout sessions include

Dr. Juan Andrade, US Hispanic Leadership Institute, *Issues in High School and Higher Education*;

Dr. Christine Liska Carger, Northern Illinois University, *A Boy's Experiences: A Case in the Push-out/Drop-out Tragedy*;

Dr. Rosita Lopez, Northern Illinois University, *Girls' Early Educational Experiences*;

Heather Hathaway Miranda, Lewis University Coordinator of Latina/o Studies, *Familia y Cultura: Family and Cultural Characteristics You Need to Know*;

Martha Villegas, Transcultural Student Services, Lewis University, *Cesar E. Chavez Service Learning: Si Se Puede (Yes You Can) Integrate Chavez into the Classroom*;

Dr. Leticia Oseguera, University of California Irvine, *Retention and Graduation in Higher Education*.

Registration is open until April 15, 2006. Please call Carla Lebre at 815-836-5961 for more information.

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## ***Innovation Projects due March 15, 2006***

**The next deadline for *Innovation Projects* is March 15, 2006.** Project ideas are invited from all ACI member colleges and partner LEAs. Funds of up to \$10,000 are available to support partners working together to develop innovative and replicable curricular models, pedagogies, and program practices that seek to improve teacher education and quality for high-need schools. To request a copy of the project materials, contact [centerforsuccess@acifund.org](mailto:centerforsuccess@acifund.org). (Akila Ruffin, 312-263-2391, ext. 37) [Back to headlines](#)

## **Curriculum Transformation Initiatives**

### ***Curriculum Transformation Summer Projects***

**Lead campuses participating in the *Center's Curriculum Transformation Initiatives* are invited to submit summer 2006 action research and campus project ideas.** The *Center* will invite projects of up to \$13,000 to support the work of up to eight faculty members, who will receive stipends of \$1,500 each to emphasize and strengthen collaboration of teacher education and arts and science faculty members,

address issues of curriculum transformation to improve teacher preparation to teach in high-need schools, and contain an action research component for presentation at the September 2006 *Center Arts and Sciences Colloquium*. **For more information, contact Lidia Han, Center TQE program officer ([lidia.han@acifund.org](mailto:lidia.han@acifund.org), 312-263-2391, ext. 38). Projects must be submitted by email to Lidia Han by Friday, May 19, 2006, and institutions will be notified by Friday, June 2, 2006. [Back to headlines](#)**

## **Upcoming Events**

**[View Center Events Calendar](#)**