

GREAT TEACHERS FOR OUR CITY SCHOOLS

The 2nd Annual National Summit on Recruiting, Preparing and Retaining Quality Urban Teachers

April 1-3, 2009
Curtis Hotel
Denver, Colorado

Legend: ▲ = Recruitment Sessions

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Marco Polo Ballroom
3rd Floor
General Plenary

Welcome and introductory remarks by Esther Rodriguez, Director, Urban Teacher Partnership, Metropolitan State College of Denver and Theress Pidick, Director, Urban Teacher Partnership, Denver Public Schools

The Future of Teaching in Urban Schools ▲ ◆ ●

- Barnett Berry, President, Center for Teaching Quality
- Kilian Betlach, Policy & Practice Associate, The Education Trust—West, Oakland, CA
- Ariel Sacks, Teacher, Brooklyn, NY

In this opening session, Barnett Berry and teacher leaders from California and New York will discuss the changing educational landscape affecting teaching in urban schools, including teacher preparation and retention, professional compensation and teacher leadership.

Thursday, April 2, 2009

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.
Red Rover
3rd Floor
Presentation with Q&A

Pathways to 21st Century Teaching through Learning Teams ▲ ◆ ●

- Tom Carroll, President, National Commission on Teaching and America's Future
- Winston D. Jackson, Principal, George Washington Carver/Bruce Street School, Washington, DC
- Hillary Dow, Learning Teams Coordinator, Newark Public Schools

This session will focus on the potential for transforming urban schools from teaching organizations into learning organizations staffed by cross-generational teams. The presentation will include demographic data on teachers and principals, analysis of emerging economic trends and the findings of research studies and policy papers developed by the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future.

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.
Dodge Ball
2nd Floor
Presentation with Q&A

Poor Working Conditions Make Urban Schools Hard to Staff ▲ ●
Introductory remarks by Sandra Haynes, Dean, School of Professional Studies, Metropolitan State College of Denver

- Eileen Horng, Research Associate, Institute for Research on Education Policy and Practice, Stanford University

Qualified teachers powerfully influence student achievement. However, some schools and students have far less access to qualified teachers than others. This session will explore how adverse working conditions contribute to the unequal distribution of qualified teachers.

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.
Duck, Duck, Goose
3rd Floor
Panel Discussion

Components of Urban Preparation Partnerships ▲ ◆

Introductory remarks and facilitation by Paul Lingenfelter, President, State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO)

- Anne Rogers Poliakoff, Director, Teachers for a New Era Learning Network, Academy for Educational Development
- Charles C. Igel, Researcher, Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL)
- Trudy Clemons, Senior Researcher, Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL)
- Carrie Harris, Researcher, Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL)

This presentation will provide a look at the major features of teacher-preparation partnerships between universities and urban school districts, and their impact on schools, students, prospective teachers and teacher educators. The presentation will draw on recent and ongoing evaluations of two different initiatives -- the Teachers for a New Era Learning Network and Denver's Urban Teacher Partnership – in areas such as leadership, communication, organizational structures and clinical settings.

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.
Green Light
2nd Floor
Practitioner Workshop

Lesson Study: A Strategy for Enhancing the Preparation and Retention of Teachers in Urban Schools ▲ ◆

- Lew Romagnano, Professor, Mathematics, Metropolitan State College of Denver
- Don Gilmore, Professor, Mathematics, Metropolitan State College of Denver
- Jim Loats, Professor, Mathematics, Metropolitan State College of Denver
- Brooke Evans, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Metropolitan State College of Denver

The Mathematics Education Group at Metro State has developed a new collaborative model for student teaching based on Japanese lesson study. This session will provide a look at some preliminary findings about the impact of this model on how pre-service teachers approach their first year of teaching, as well as the ways cooperating teachers mentor prospective and novice teachers.

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Denver Center for
Performing Arts
Donald Seawell Grand
Ballroom

Introductory remarks by Maria Guajardo, Executive Director, Denver Mayor's Office for Education and Children

Whatever It Takes—Building Community in Support of Urban Student

General Plenary

Achievement ▲ ◆ ●

- Geoffrey Canada, President and CEO, Harlem Children's Zone

What would it take to change the lives of poor children in ways that could be replicated nationwide? The question led Geoffrey Canada to create the Harlem Children's Zone, a 97-block laboratory in Central Harlem where he is testing new and sometimes controversial ideas about breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty in America. During this luncheon presentation, Canada will share his conclusion: If you want poor kids to be able to compete with their middle-class peers, you need to change everything in their lives, including their neighborhoods, their schools and the way teachers are prepared and developed to meet the needs of students.

2:15 – 3:45 p.m.

Red Rover

3rd Floor

Presentation with Q&A

Pathways to 21st Century Teaching through Learning Teams ▲ ◆ ●

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- Hillary Dow, Learning Teams Coordinator, Newark Public Schools

This session will focus on the potential for transforming urban schools from teaching organizations into learning organizations staffed by cross-generational teams. The presentation will include demographic data on teachers and principals, analysis of emerging economic trends and the findings of research studies by the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future. A paper for publication will be produced in conjunction with this presentation.

2:15 – 3:45 p.m.

Dodge Ball

2nd Floor

**Practitioner Workshop/
Models**

Developing Teachers for Multicultural Urban Classrooms ▲ ◆ ●

Introductory remarks and facilitation by Todd Laugen, Assistant Professor, History, Metropolitan State College of Denver

- Chance Lewis, Associate Professor, College of Education and Human Development, Texas A&M University
- Elizabeth Hope (Beth) Dorman, Assistant Professor, Regis University, Denver

This session will provide an overview and examples of how teachers' professional identities and school contexts shape teaching and learning in urban classrooms. Participants will share resources, pedagogical tools and strategies to support the development of culturally responsive, equity-oriented teaching.

2:15 – 3:45 p.m.

Hopscotch

3rd Floor

Presentation with Q&A

Working Conditions in Urban Schools ▲ ●

Introductory remarks by Eileen Horng, Research Associate, Institute for Research on Education Policy and Practice, Stanford University

- Eric Hirsch, Director of Special Projects, New Teacher Center
- Lynn Malarz, Senior Policy Analyst, National Education Association

For any organization, the conditions in which employees work drive their satisfaction and productivity. Yet many schools struggle to address working conditions – isolating teachers from peers, denying them basic materials, inundating them with noninstructional duties, and offering limited opportunity for leadership, professional growth and advancement. In this session, presenters will provide school leaders with ways to generate data-driven decisions about policies that make schools better places to work and learn.

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Marco Polo Ballroom
3rd Floor
General Plenary

Teaching Inequality: The Stories and Statistics on Teacher Quality,

Preparation and Access in America ▲ ◆ ●

Introductory remarks by Penny Engel, Assistant Director, Government and External Relations, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

- Candace Crawford, Senior Practice Associate, Education Trust, Washington, DC
- Brooke Haycock, Artist-in-Residence, Education Trust, Washington, DC

Weaving data with art, this session will provide a revealing look into the very heart of issues involving educational achievement and opportunity. It begins with *Six Degrees of Preparation*, a documentary drama that exposes damaging beliefs and practices in school districts and schools of education, and vividly portrays their impact on new teachers and the children they serve. This presentation will be followed by a review of data on the importance of teacher quality and the inequitable patterns in access to quality teachers that disproportionately affect poor and minority children. The session will conclude with a conversation about what we can do to address these patterns so that all students have the teachers they need -- and deserve.

Friday, April 3, 2009

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Marco Polo Ballroom
3rd Floor
General Plenary

Introductory remarks by Jessica Morffi, Government Relations Manager, Educator Relations and Center for Study of Teacher Assessment, Educational Testing Service

Growing Urban Teacher Leaders ▲ ●

- Sabrina Laine, Director, National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality, Learning Point Associates
- Lewis Chappelle, California Teacher of the Year, 2008
- Lee-Ann Stephens, Minnesota Teacher of the Year, 2007
- Tommy Smigiel, Virginia Teacher of the Year, 2008

With increased focus on maintaining excellent teachers and supporting new ones, there is recognition that we need to find ways to utilize the leadership capability of teachers across the teaching continuum through distributed leadership models. Providing excellent teachers with 'places to grow' will encourage them to stay in the profession. Using the talents of excellent teachers to support beginning practitioners will help to build a sense of community and support for our newest teachers. And, providing leadership

capacity through teacher leaders will make principals more effective.

10:30 – 12:00 p.m.
Dodge Ball
2nd Floor
Panel Discussion

Bringing Research to Reality: The Challenges of Incorporating Strategies to Attract and Retain Urban Teachers ▲ ●

- Dale DeCesare, Senior Associate, APA Consulting
- John L. Myers, Vice President, APA Consulting
- Lori Nazareno, Teacher Leader, Mathematics and Science Leadership Academy, Denver Public Schools
- Anthony Cody, Teacher, Oakland Unified School District

This discussion will provide information and findings about several strategies for attracting and retaining teachers in hard-to-staff schools, and the challenges associated with implementing such strategies. Panelists will draw on first-hand experiences as teachers; consultants helping implement district-wide teacher-pay incentives; and the designers of a new, best practice-based, teacher-led innovation school in Denver.

10:30 – 12:00 p.m.
Paper Room
2nd Floor
Emerging Strategies

Building Sustainable Urban District/Higher Education Partnerships—A Collaborative Using Channel Analysis ▲ ◆ ●

- Todd Reimer, Assistant Professor, Teacher Education Department, Metropolitan State College of Denver
- Theress Pidick, Director, Urban Teacher Partnership and University Partnership Team, Denver Public Schools
- Kent Seidel, Associate Professor, Chair P20 Leadership Program, University of Denver
- Jennie Whitcomb, Associate Dean for Teacher Education, University of Colorado at Boulder
- Cindy Gutierrez, Director, Initial Teacher Education Program, University of Colorado Denver
- Jennifer Stern, Executive Director, Janus Education Alliance, Denver Public Schools
- Kate Brennan, Site Manager, Denver Teaching Fellows, The New Teacher Project

This session will provide a look at the development of a project whose research design includes novice/veteran teacher observation, creation of a culturally responsive observation tool and a process for guiding recruitment, preparation and retention of urban teachers. This “channel analysis” project is part of the University Partnership Team (UPT), a collaboration between Denver Public Schools, six institutions of higher education and two alternative teacher preparation programs.

10:30 – 12:00 p.m.
Duck, Duck, Goose
3rd Floor
**Roundtable Discussion/
Models**

Urban Teacher Grow-Your-Own Strategies ▲
Introductory remarks and facilitation by Kathy Callum, Field Placement Coordinator, Urban Teacher Partnership

- Gwendolyn Benson, Associate Dean for School and Community Partnership, College of Education, Georgia State University
- Susan Ogletree, Director, Educational Research Bureau, Georgia State

University

- Laurie Forstner, Project Coordinator, College of Education, Georgia State University
- Anne Hallett, Director, Grow Your Own Illinois

This session will showcase two outstanding models for expanding the size and diversity of the urban teacher workforce: the Advanced Academy for Future Teachers, a joint initiative of Atlanta-area schools and Georgia State University's College of Education aimed at encouraging talented 11th- and 12th-grade students to pursue careers as math and/or science teachers; and Grow Your Own Illinois, an innovative partnership that recruits and prepares nontraditional candidates from low-income communities to become highly qualified teachers. Presenters will share descriptive information on recruitment efforts, project design, community engagement, and data collection and research results.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Marco Polo Ballroom
3rd Floor
Town Hall Discussion

Supporting Quality Urban Educators: The Role of State Policy

▲ ◆ ● *Introductory remarks by Stephen Jordan, President, Metropolitan State College of Denver*

- The Honorable Barbara O'Brien, Lieutenant Governor of Colorado

Colorado Lieutenant Governor Barbara O'Brien will lead a town hall-style discussion on the role of state policy leadership in supporting the recruitment, preparation and retention of quality teachers for urban and hard-to-staff schools.

Join us next Spring for the 3rd Annual Great Teachers for Our City Schools Summit!