

The State of School Finance: Findings and Implications for Georgia and Beyond

Friday, April 18, 2008

Georgia Center for Continuing Education

Co-Sponsors:

- The University of Georgia Education Policy and Evaluation Center
- The Education Law Consortium

Registration and Coffee: 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Welcoming Comments: Dr. Andy Horne, Interim Dean, University of Georgia College of Education: 9:30 a.m.

Session One: National Perspectives and Legal Context: 9:45-10:50 a.m.

- Moderator: Dr. Sylvia Hutchinson, professor emerita, College of Education, UGA
- Anatomy of School Finance Litigation – John Dayton, J.D., Ed.D., professor and co-director of the Education Law Consortium, College of Education and Anne Dupre, J.D., Hosch professor and co-director of the Education Law Consortium, School of Law, UGA
- The Historical Context of School Finance in Georgia – Catherine Sielke, associate professor, College of Education, UGA
- Georgia's Voucher Program in National Legal Context – Kelly Sherrill, J.D., Attorney-at-Law, doctoral candidate, School of Law, UGA

Session Two: P-16 Connections: 10:50–11:55 a.m.

- Moderator: Meca Mohammed, doctoral candidate, University of Georgia College of Education
- Costing Out College Access: Narrowing the Gap – Scott Thomas, associate professor, Institute of Higher Education, UGA
- Merit aid and Sorting: The Effect of HOPE-Style Scholarships on College Stratification by Ability –David Mustard, associate professor of economics and Christopher M. Cornwell, professor of economics, Terry College of Business, UGA
- An Overview of Pre-K Funding in the United States –Catherine Sielke, associate professor, College of Education, UGA
- “Determining Efficiency of Georgia School Districts—A Normative Approach Using the Modified Quadriform” –Eric Houck, assistant professor and Jiang He, doctoral candidate, College of Education, UGA

Lunch session – 11:55 a.m. – 1 p.m.

- Comments: Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice President, Southern Regional Education Board.

Session Three: Georgia perspectives: 1 – 1:50 p.m.

- Moderator: Max Skidmore, academic professional, College of Education, UGA
- Fiscal Impact of Consolidation – John O’Looney, senior public service associate, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, UGA

- Site-Based Governance in Georgia – Bonnie Stewart, doctoral candidate, College of Education, UGA
- Local School Systems' Responses to Recent Fiscal and Economic Conditions – James Alm, dean and professor of economics, and David Sjoquist, professor of economics and director of the Fiscal Research Center, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University.

Coffee Break: 1:50- 2:05

Session Four: **Interest group discussions**: 2:05 – 2:45

Wrap-Up: 2:45-3:15

- Eric Houck, assistant professor, College of Education, UGA