

ACADEMIC NEXUS

DECEMBER 2006

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION FOR FISK FACULTY

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Dear Fisk Family,

This is the inaugural issue of *Academic Nexus*, a monthly newsletter designed specifically with you--the Fisk faculty--in mind. Overall, the intent in putting forth this publication is to assist faculty in taking advantage of professional development opportunities on campus as well as at other off-campus venues.

We will provide information for Fisk faculty that will be of assistance to you as you progress through academia. We will include information about professional conferences, technical workshops, grant opportunities and relevant continuing education opportunities. In addition, we will use this forum to highlight Fisk faculty successes and accomplishments--in and out of the classroom. This will include publications, presentations, reappointments, tenure, promotions and more. We invite members of the University faculty to submit announcements and other information of general interest to the Fisk faculty.

We are hopeful that, through this forum, we will enhance the communication between the University administration and our distinguished faculty. In so doing, we envision the redoubling of our efforts to internalize and practice the values embodied within our D.E.T.A.I.L.S. We invite and welcome your feedback on anything published in the newsletter.

Allow me to also take this opportunity to wish each of you a joyous holiday season and a fantastic New Year!

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Executive Vice President & Provost

Teaching Conferences: 2007

The National Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference for Minority Serving Institutions: Teaching and Learning for Empowerment, is January 14-16, 2007, at Clark Atlanta University. Their goal is to involve institutions that represent students of color in the national and international conversation about the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

This conference will include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities that are all often underrepresented at these discussions. For more information please call (404) 880-8014 and go to www.cautlinfo.org.

The deadline for registration is *December 15, 2006*.

The Georgia Conference on College & University Teaching (CETL) is February 23-24, 2007, at Kennesaw State University, in Kennesaw, Georgia.

The conference sessions will discuss Assessment, the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, the Reflective Practice of Teaching and Learning, Interdisciplinary Teaching, e-Learning, Diversity, and Mentoring of Students and Faculty. Participants are invited to submit proposals for poster and table-top teaching exchanges on innovative teaching techniques and activities.

Accepted presenters will get a reduced registration rate.

Some sample presentations include:

- *Why Don't My Students Think I'm Groovy? Engaging the Millennial Student* and
- *Faculty Learning Together: Exploring Teaching Techniques that Influence Student Motivation.*

To present, please register before *February 9, 2007*, at www.kennesaw.edu/cetl/conference/gaconf14.htm.



2006 SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ♦ **The Discovery Research K-12 Program Web Conference and Teleconference**, is December 11, 2006, at 1 PM Central Time. This HBCU outreach activity is to disseminate information for the National Science Foundation. They will cover: Applied Research, Development of Resources and Tools, and Capacity Building. Go to <https://nsf-training.webex.com> to register.
- ♦ **The National HBCU/MI Conference** is December 14-15, 2006, at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans, LA. Discussions include the White House Initiative on HBCUs, the rebirth of New Orleans and the Gulf region, and how HBCUs contribute toward community and economic development.

For more information contact the Office of the Provost.



The Mellon Faculty Seminars in Ghana: July 5-19, 2007

The sixth annual Mellon Faculty Seminars are for enrichment opportunities for faculty who teach at the member colleges and universities of the United Negro College Fund. The Selection Committee invites applications from tenured faculty and tenure-track faculty training in these Mellon disciplines or fields: Art history, Classical Studies, computer science, English, foreign languages, American and English literature, history, musicology, philosophy, religious studies, mathematics, physics, geology, anthropology, sociology, and political theory.

The award will cover travel

from Atlanta, Georgia to Accra, and Accra to Kumasi, private room and board, and two separate book allowances.

This seminar will deepen scholastic understanding of significant topics through reading, discussion, and research under the direction of Dr. Anne Bailey, Associate Professor of SUNY Binghamton and Dr. Brempong Osei-Tutu of the University of Ghana, Legon. Their topic is *"Towards Intra-racial and Interracial Understanding: African Voices on the Atlantic Slave Trade."*

For brochures and registration information, please contact the Office of the Provost .



The seminar will also include site visits to Cape Coast Castle.

The deadline for application is *January 31, 2007*.

Note: The Fisk Jubilee Singers will also be in Ghana July 2-13, 2007.

"We must go beyond textbooks, go out into the bypaths and untrodden depths of the wilderness and travel and explore and tell the world the glories of our journey." --**John Hope Franklin**, 1967

Working Conferences 2007

The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) is presenting two working conferences and two meetings:

1. General Education and Assessment, Engaging Critical Questions, Fostering Critical Learning, is March 1-3, 2007, in Miami, Florida. This conference will address creating and assessing curriculum to foster learning outcomes and integrate learning across the disciplines.

The keynote speaker for the evening will be Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs,

Johnella Butler, from Spelman College.

2. The Student as Scholar: Undergraduate Research and Creative Practice is April 19-21, 2007, in Long Beach, California. This conference explores ways to help greater numbers of students participate in research at the undergraduate level.

The featured session is for the Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) campaign that seeks to expand public and student understanding of what really matters in college in the 21st century.



The Autumn 2007 meetings include:

1. Civic Learning at the Intersections: U.S. Diversity, Global Education, and Democracy's Unfinished Work is October 18-20, 2007, in Denver, Colorado.
2. Faculty Work in the New Academy, is November 1-3, 2007, in Savannah, Georgia.

For complete details go to www.aacu.org before February 8, 2007.

Dare To Be Great

Fisk maintains high expectations for all students. Fisk students are expected to develop the capacity for independent scholarship and for intellectual, professional and civic leadership. The Fisk student is prepared to serve the global community.



National Conference on Race & Ethnicity in American Higher Education (NCORE)

NCORE is announcing their 20th anniversary conference and a call for presentations for May 29-June 2, 2007, in San Francisco, CA.

The leading and most comprehensive national forum on issues of race and ethnicity features symposiums, institutes, keynote addresses, one-on-one meetings, workshop sessions, and special events including book signings, movie screenings, roundtable discussions, and conversations with the experts.

One topic featured in the President Symposium is *Diversity and Globalization in the 21st*

Century: Issues and Challenges, on May 29th.

On June 2nd, Lani Guinier, legal professor and civil rights expert from Harvard University, will be the keynote speaker.

There are 20 pre-conference institutes to choose from for May 29th-30th including "*How Black Colleges Empower Black Students: Lessons for Higher Education*", "*Educating Beyond Our Borders: Race, Ethnicity, Identity and Privilege in a Not-so-Flat World*," and "*The 'N' word and Beyond: Unpacking Social Oppression—Dismantling Hierarchical Language—Challenging the Popularity of*

Dysfunctional Pop Culture Communication."

Some proposal topics for presentations include:

- How to Teach Diversity to Future Healthcare Professionals
- Understanding and Meeting Unique Needs of Different Racial and Ethnic Groups on Campus
- Creating Valuable Linkages Between the University and the Community

To see the list in its entirety go to www.ncore.ou.edu.

Contact the Office of the Provost for brochure and applications before the *March 30, 2007* deadline.

Our Success

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D.E.T.A.I.L.S.

Fellowships and Awards

The UNCF/Mellon Faculty Doctoral Fellowship Program, is accepting nominations for faculty members who have completed at least one year of teaching at Fisk (the nominating institution) and completed all course work, but the dissertation, in the following areas:

Art history, English, foreign languages, history, English and American literature, musicology, philosophy, religion, theater history, African American Studies, Latin Studies, Classical Studies, Women's Studies, computer science, ecology, environmental science, geology, mathematics, physics, demography, anthropology, political theory, , sociology, and other social science areas that research with historical or philosophical methods.

These fellowships are granted

to increase the number of minority professionals holding PhDs. Stipends are determined individually and the maximum award is \$42,000.

The deadline for nominations is *January 31, 2007*.

The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation (AAUW) provides fellowships, grants, and awards to female tenure-track, full-time, and part-time faculty, independent scholars, and researchers each year. See listings for U.S. and international women scholars at www.aauw.org.

The Fletcher Fellowship is awarded to scholars, writers, and artists whose work contributes to improving race relations in American society and furthers

the broad social goals of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision of 1954. The fellowship amount is \$50,000.



For more information please see check the website: www.fletcherphilanthropy.org.



Fisk University Remembers:

- ◆ The **Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday** observance is on January 15, 2007.

- ◆ The **MLK Convocation** is Thursday, January 11, 2007 at 10 AM in the Fisk Memorial Chapel. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski III, President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

- ◆ **The Freedom Ride:** January 28-29, 2007, begins at Vanderbilt University at 8 AM on Saturday. The buses will retrace the 1961 route from Nashville to Montgomery and Birmingham and back, with tour stops in Montgomery. On Sunday, there will be discussions and a tour of the Civil Rights Museum and participants will return to Nashville at 6 PM.

Our own President Hazel R. O'Leary, Dr. Reavis Mitchell, Congressman John Lewis, and Miss Diane Nash will attend with two current Fisk students chosen from the Office of the Provost letter contest.

- ◆ And **THANK YOU** for all that you do to make Fisk University the best small liberal arts college in America.



*If you have information or announcements for
Academic Nexus,
please send them to the address above.*

