Stimulating High Achievement Among Minority Learners

Helping students achieve at the highest level possible is the focus of the Fall 2002 Colloquium Series. Findings from research, practical suggestions from the classroom, and real cases from the field will demonstrate how it is very possible to help ALL students achieve at high levels. These sessions are a must for practicing teachers, teacher educators, teachers in preparation, and other professionals who wish to enhance their knowledge and awareness in this extremely important area. Each session will be held in Room 1315, Benjamin Building, 4:15 to 6:00 P.M.

Session I: Wednesday, September 18, 2002
Helping English Language Learners Attain High Achievement In The Public Schools

How can we enable English language learners to attain high achievement in English and in all the K-12 content areas? How can we involve their parents in facilitating this achievement? This colloquium will provide specific instructional and social strategies, based on research and personal experience, for creating success for English language learners and for students in other minority categories as well.

Presenters:
Dr. Rebecca Oxford, Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Debra Suarez, Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Millicent Kushner, Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Karen Woodson, Director of ESOL and Language Minority Programs for Prince George’s County Public Schools

Session II: Wednesday, October 16, 2002
Focus on School Reform: Improving Academic Achievement Among Poor and Minority Students

Helping “failing” schools become high achieving schools require a solid plan and a committed set of teachers and administrators. This colloquium will address the many issues that must be considered when large-scale school reform is attempted through a discussion of the reform plan being developed for Howard County Public schools. The Howard County plan will emphasize education that is multicultural and the interaction of culture and academic content. The components of the plan have implications for teacher preparation programs and those who deliver instruction to diverse groups of K-16 students.

Presenter:
Dr. Jacqueline Brown, Director of Academic Reform, Howard County Public Schools

Session III: Wednesday, November 13, 2002
Stimulating High Achievement through Science

All across the United States poor and minority students are improving in their performance in science education. Most notably is the achievement gains being made in major urban school systems that have received major financial support from the National Science Foundation through the Urban Systemic Program (USP). What accounts for this documented improved achievement in science? Was it a revised, powerful curriculum? Was it focused professional development with teachers and administrators? Did the teachers find new ways of teaching that were effective with poor and minority students? This colloquium will examine the answers to the above questions. Clear implication will be made for teacher preparation and to the professional development for teachers.

Presenter:
Ms. Celeste H. Pea, Program Director, Division of Educational System Reform, National Science Foundation

Session IV: Wednesday, December 11, 2002
Stimulating High Achievement Using Technology: Success Stories from Students and Teachers

Technology holds unlimited potential in stimulating high academic achievement in minority children. Actual cases demonstrating how teachers across many content fields used technology will be discussed. Students from schools using technology in creative ways will make guest appearances. The strategies demonstrated and discussed will provide direction for teachers who wish to use this medium in their classrooms at all educational levels.

Presenters:
Dr. Stan Bennett, Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Human Development
Ms. Davina Pruitt-Mentle, Director, Educational Technology Outreach Programs

For more information contact Dr. Martin L. Johnson, Associate Dean for Urban and Minority Education and Director of MIMAUE or visit www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE