



The Holmes Partnership™

Holmes Office (414) 229-5702

Winter 2008 • January 26, 2008

Newsletter Office (614) 253-4731

President of the Holmes Partnership

The term of Alfonzo Thurman as President of the Homes Partnership concludes at the end of this conference. Dr. Thurman has chosen to not seek re-election. The nomination process concluded before this meeting and produced three fine nominees. However, only one candidate elected to be considered for this position. This candidate is current Holmes Board Member, Dr. Catherine Emihovich. She is the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Florida. On the Holmes Board of Directors, she serves as the Vice President of Research.

The President of the Holmes Partnership is elected by a vote of the Board of Directors. Balloting for this position took place at the Holmes Partnership Board meeting before the Orlando Conference on January 24, 2008. The actual vote followed a question/answer session that was encouraged by the candidate. Provision was made for every Board Member to be able to vote even if they could not be in attendance. Congratulations to Dr. Emihovich from the entire Board and membership upon her election to the Presidency of the Holmes Partnership.

Thanks Max!

At the conclusion of this conference, Maxine Freund will be stepping down as the Vice President for the Holmes Scholars. She has done a sensational job in this very important capacity. The summer Holmes workshop and pre-national conference workshop designed just for the Holmes Scholars have become *signature work* of the Partnership.

Max has demonstrated a great passion for this work and has been responsible for tremendous progress in this area. We all want to congratulate her and thank her for wonderful efforts. Dr. Freund continues as an active member of the Capital Educators Partnership and on the faculty of the George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development.

Why Seven Vice Presidents

The Holmes Partnership has been going through a reorganization in recent years. A major change was the creation of seven vice president positions. As a direct result, Holmes will no longer have regional vice presidents. This is an attempt to delineate while diffusing the work load to a variety of sites. The people currently involved are:

- Catherine Emihovich, Vice President of Research
- Wanda Blanchett,, Vice President for Partnership Recruitment, Development and Support
- (Currently Vacant) Vice President for Programming
- M. Christopher Brown II, Vice President for Holmes Scholars
- Jeff Gorrell, Vice President for Partner Relations
- John Grossman, Vice President for Publications, communications and Public Relations
- Beverly Cross and Linda Tiezzi Waldera, Co-Vice President for Equity and Urban Initiatives

We all hope that these changes will bring more support and service for the membership.

Scholars Pre-Session

The Holmes Scholars started this annual conference with a series of pre-sessions. Nearly 70 scholars participated in this valuable event. Some of the topics presented included: Publishing your Research; Higher Education Recruitment; Creating your Literature Review; Intro to Grant Writing; and Getting your research Funded.

The Scholars held a business meeting for their national organization during the pre-conference. Finally, the Scholars will have a job fair during the later part of this conference. The Scholars Program is very much alive and really thriving.

Spotlight on the Board

Elizabeth Lewin has been a member of the Holmes Partnership Board of Directors for multiple terms. When she was first elected to the Board, she was serving as Superintendent of Schools. Today, she is a clinical professor in the partnership at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. Dr. Lewin is the Representative of the Mid West Region. Her term extends through the 2010 national meeting.

Equity and Urban Initiative

Co-Vice Presidents Beverly E. Cross and Linda Tiezzi Waldera are providing the leadership for the Equity and Urban Initiatives for the Holmes Partnership. They began their service with a series of listening sessions in order to frame the agenda. Included in these sessions were a number of prominent leaders outside of Holmes, particularly from national foundations. Five key ideas were heard during these contacts.

- Move beyond traditional teacher education.
- Reframe the debate on preparing educators for diverse environments.
- Identify transformative paradigms for teacher education.
- Revive, reconfigure, and reenergize the next generation of partnerships.
- Focus on data systems that better serve equity and urban initiatives.

Holmes will certainly have an energetic and timely agenda in this area.

PK-12 Recognition Day

The second day of the conference is being touted as PK-12 Education Recognition Day. A special breakfast for all of our colleagues in the classroom is set to start the day. Please note the visit of Rick Ellenbury, the Florida Teacher of the Year. He will be with us all morning. Also, note the luncheon keynote speech of Jennifer Vey of the Brookings Institution. Her presentation will help all of us refocus on our work. All the educators involved in our partnerships are focused on improving teaching and learning. All the success in PK-12 makes us very proud.

New Attendees

This is the first Holmes National Conference for a number of this in attendance. Some of these individuals were part of an orientation session hosted by Board of Directors members Fran Kochan of Auburn University and Jeff Gorrell of George Mason University. Those in attendance include people from the following universities: Southern Mississippi, Duquesne, George Washington, Florida State, Ohio Univer-

sity, Minnesota, North Texas, Bloomsburg, Cincinnati and Ohio State. Some of the participants are from universities who are considering membership.

Thank you

A great deal of work goes into the preparation of a conference. We want your feedback on the event. Each year we try to improve upon what was done the previous year.

Please fill out the evaluations so that we may have your written responses. Also, we want you to take the time to stop and talk to members of the Board of Directors. We need you to be candid with your reactions. Holmes is completing the 22nd year of its work. Your personal critique will help us do a better job in the future.

The Holmes Partnership™ is unique in advancing our mission by:

- *Maintaining networks of local partnerships working to improve teaching and learning for all children;*
- *Sustaining the nation's most effective professional advancement pipeline for under represented educators; and*
- *Profiting from its network of national partner organizations dedicated to education reform.*

You will find information about the organization, news and announcements, contact information, and lists of local and national partnerships. Download a membership application form at: www.holmes-partnership.org/application.html.