

AEFA

Fall 2009

American Education Finance Association Newsletter

PROPOSALS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE DUE NOV. 1

AEFA 35th Annual Conference
Richmond, Virginia, March 18-20, 2010

“Education Finance and Policy in a Time of
Fiscal Constraints and Federal Action”

[Instructions for submitting proposals](#)

Tom Downes and Dan Goldhaber take helm as the new editors of *Education Finance & Policy*. They have taken a keen interest in increasing the journal's visibility through the website as well as other strategies. [Contact](#) your library about an EF&P subscription.

Downes

Goldhaber

Photo: Judith Wood

James Guthrie (left) gets the Outstanding Service Award from Past-President Jennifer King-Rice at the Nashville conference

AEFA has completed transition to the new website www.aefa.cc. Please make sure you can login and your profile information is correct . . . [continued on next page](#)

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President's Message

Marty Orland is the Director of Evaluation and Policy Research at WestEd. He assumed the presidency of AEFA following the March, 2009 meeting in Nashville.

Dear AEFA Colleagues,

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your president. With the help of my colleagues on the executive committee – Susanna Loeb, Amy Schwartz, and executive director Craig Wood – and an energetic and forward thinking board of directors, my goal is to...

(continued on next page)

Please submit your contribution to the *AEFA Newsletter* by December 1, 2009 to hnelson@aft.org. The newsletter is sent to members of AEFA and helps the Board of Directors conduct the business of the organization. The newsletter also provides opportunities to share information on a wide range of school finance organizations, publications and activities. Most recent info at <http://www.aefa.cc/>.

(President's Message continued)

. . . continue the Association's upward trajectory as the "go to" voluntary membership organization on issues of educational finance and policy and the relationship between them. Despite the hard economic times, membership and conference participation rates continue to be healthy. In addition, the results of our post conference survey suggest good levels of satisfaction with our services and products. That said, there are clearly areas that require continued vigilance and improvement.

A first-class membership organization needs a first-rate web presence. We now have a completely revamped website with the capacity to permit access to rich content by members and non-members alike. It can also facilitate the completion of administrative chores such as membership renewal, conference registration, and proposal submission. The key challenges, at this point, are to ensure that first-time applications, such as the completely online proposal submission and review process work well, as well as to develop new applications and content that take full advantage of the system's capabilities. In the coming months, the Dissemination and Technology committee under the leadership of Sean Corcoran and Lori Taylor will be working with the executive director and staff on these matters. Please explore the new website and let us know your ideas about new content and capabilities that you would like to see.

One area where new website capabilities are already beginning to be put to good use concerns our journal *Education Finance and Policy*. Non-members are now invited on our website's homepage to preview the journal (which will hopefully induce some to become Association members), while we also work to facilitate more seamless member access to both current and archived journal articles. *EF&P's* new editors Tom Downes and Dan Goldhaber have taken a keen interest in increasing the journal's visibility through the website and other strategies. This serves the interests of both *EF&P* and the Association and we will be working with the editors in the coming year to help advance this agenda.

Under the leadership of program chair Susanna Loeb, plans are well underway for an outstanding annual conference in Richmond, Virginia on March 18-20, 2010. An Association priority in recent years has been to upgrade the quality of conference participant experiences in terms of both sessions and venue, while keeping costs relatively stable. This trend will continue. We have secured an excellent property at reasonable rates for our 2011 conference in Seattle, Washington, and are working on getting commitments now for future conferences through 2014 that meet our exacting criteria.

These are just a few highlights of our efforts to help ensure good value for your membership and continue our forward momentum. We welcome your comments,

concerns, and suggestions. Share them with us via email, AEFA@col.ufl.edu.

Best Regards,

-Marty Orland
President

Transition to New Website Completed

Please make sure you can login and your profile information is correct. If you have trouble with your username or password, please use the "Forgot Password?" link to update your password. Enter the email address that you believe AEFA has for you. The Reset Email will be sent to this email address. You will be given your username and a link to reset your password.

You can edit where you feel more detail needs to be added. Please check your personal membership information for accuracy.

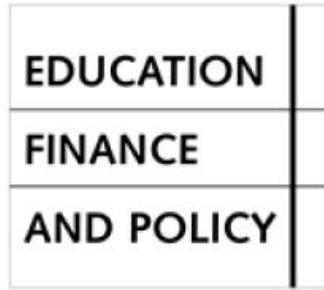
Contact Your Library About an *EF&P* Subscription

Yes, times are tight. That's why inexpensive and timely journals like *Education Finance and Policy (EF&P)* are a great deal. So, please contact your library about an *EF&P* subscription.

The journal has become established as a mainstay of the professional literature dealing with education finance and policy. And access to the journal is a valuable tool for teaching since an institutional subscription gives your students access to all of the articles in *EF&P*. If your organization has not already subscribed, please encourage them to do so. With the start of the new fiscal year, this is good time for libraries and organizations to update their subscription lists. [Attached](#) is a library recommendation form for your use.

-Thomas Downs
Co-editor

from The MIT Press



Editors:
 Thomas A. Downes
 Dan Goldhaber

Ongoing public policy developments affecting educational institutions and systems present education policy makers, administrators and economists with new global challenges and opportunities. To aid in the deliberations, and help frame the intellectual discourse on education policy and practice, *Education Finance and Policy* promotes understanding of the means by which global resources can be justly and productively engaged to enhance human learning at all levels.

Topics explored in the journal include: school accountability; school choice; education standards; equity and adequacy in school finance; within- and across-district resource allocation; teacher compensation; training and labor markets; instructional policy; higher education productivity and finance; and special education.

Education Finance and Policy is published for the American Education Finance Association.

Pricing for 2010

Print with Electronic Access: \$328.00

Electronic Only: \$283.00

For more information or to order *Education Finance and Policy*, please visit www.mitpressjournals.org/efp or e-mail journals-orders@mit.edu or contact your subscription agent.

Library Recommendation Card

Dear Librarian,

I have reviewed *Education Finance and Policy* and recommend that you acquire this journal. It can be ordered from your subscription agency or directly from the publisher. Thank you for your consideration of this journal.

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Jean Flanigan 2009 Dissertation Award Goes to Justin Smith



Justin Smith is an assistant professor at the University of Manitoba. He received his PhD in economics from McMaster University in 2008. His dissertation, entitled "Age Effects and Information Shocks: A Study of the Impact of Education Policy on Student Outcomes," was supervised by Abigail Payne, Philip DeCicca and Thomas Crossley. In his dissertation, Justin investigates the role of

student age in determining academic achievement, and whether new information on school quality affects student mobility between schools. His research focuses mainly on topics in education and labour economics.

2009 New Scholars Awards Presented to Jason Fletcher and Larry Miller



Jason Fletcher is a recipient of the 2009 Doctoral New Scholar Award. Dr. Fletcher, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2006, is currently an assistant professor in the Division of Health Policy at Yale University. His research project is entitled, "Achievement Effects of the Inclusion of Students with Special Needs: Evidence from North Carolina." Full

inclusion of students with special needs has grown in popularity and a large fraction of children in elementary schools have a classmate with special needs. However, little research has focused on the potential effects of this policy, both on the included students and their classmates. This project begins to evaluate the effects of this policy on the achievement of *classmates* of children with special needs by using administrative data from the state of North Carolina.



The recipient of the 2008 Pre-Doctoral New Scholars Award is **Larry Miller**, a recent graduate of the Department of Public Administration at Syracuse University. The title of Dr. Miller's proposal was "Three Essays Examining the Relationship Between Public Budgeting Policies, Resource Equity and Student Outcomes." His study

compared the resource patterns produced by a position-based budgeting system to resource patterns produced by a weighted student funding (WSF) budgeting system that adjusts funding levels based on educational cost factors, and then examined the relationship between WSF and the achievement gap between high and low poverty schools. Dr. Miller wrote his dissertation under the supervision of Ross Rubenstein.



Roe L. Johns Travel Grants and Will Meyers Memorial Scholarships

Each year AEFA makes available a limited number of awards to individuals presenting papers at AEFA's annual conference. The criteria and amounts for the 2010 Johns and Myers awards are listed below.

Roe L. Johns Travel Grants are awarded to graduate students in the area of education finance who present papers at AEFA's 2010 Conference in Richmond, Virginia. A total amount of \$1,500 is available and will be distributed equally to those applying and eligible for the travel grants. The maximum award for an individual is \$300.

Will Myers Memorial Scholarships are awarded to presenters at the 2010 Conference in Richmond who are current or former teachers. A total of \$500 is available to share equally between two eligible recipients or a maximum of \$300 for one recipient.

Eligibility for both awards depends on a timely submission (on or before November 1, 2009) and acceptance of presentation proposals. **Applicants should submit their requests for the desired award to cescue@ufl.edu.** If applying for the Will Myers scholarship, please include a statement indicating current or former teaching experience.

AMERICAN EDUCATION FINANCE ASSOCIATION

Call for Proposals

2010

New Scholars Awards

The American Education Finance Association's New Scholars Award Program is intended to interested masters and doctoral students and recent graduates in conducting research in elementary, secondary, and higher education finance. Each year AEFA sponsors research to support promising new scholars who wish to investigate significant issues in education finance.

Doctoral scholars. Grants for \$2,000 may be awarded to individuals who received, or will receive a doctoral degree between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2009.

Pre-doctoral scholars. Grants for \$2000 may be awarded to individuals who:

1. Are currently enrolled in a doctoral program, or
2. Received or will receive a master's degree between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2009. The pre-doctoral awards also include a one-year membership to AEFA.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2009
Email submissions to jjyinger@maxwell.syr.edu

Any individual can receive only one award in each category. Further, if there are multiple investigators on a project, all must be eligible for one or the other award and the award category must be that for the most senior investigator. In these cases, a single award will be made in the name of all investigators.

Please visit our website for more details on the New Scholars Awards

www.aefa.cc

Membership/Grants and Awards

Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award

The American Education Finance Association's Outstanding Dissertation Award is intended to recognize exemplary dissertation research by doctoral students in the area of education finance.

Awards

- A \$1,000 honorarium
- One-year complimentary membership in AEFA
- Presentation of a plaque at the opening session of the AEFA Annual Conference
- Opportunity to present in a concurrent paper session
- Complimentary AEFA Annual Conference registration

Eligibility

Candidates must have defended their dissertation or been awarded a degree by an accredited U.S. or Canadian institution between June 1, 2008 and August 31, 2009.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2009
Email submissions to jjyinger@maxwell.syr.edu

The committee also reserves the option to award one or more Honorable Mentions, who would receive a one-year complimentary membership in AEFA and Annual Conference registration.

Please visit our website for more details on the Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award

www.aefa.cc

Membership/Grants and Awards

Roe L. Johns Travel Grants are awarded to graduate students in the area of education finance, who present papers at the AEFA Annual Conference, March 18-20, 2010 in Richmond.



New President-Elect and Board Members Elected

At the 2009 AEFA Conference Martin Orland assumed the presidency and members chose Susanna Loeb as AEFA's president-elect. Loeb will serve as program chair for the 2010 conference in Richmond, after which she will succeed President Orland. Congrats also go to newly elected board members:



Susanna Loeb, President-Elect, Stanford University. Loeb is a professor of education and currently directs the Institute for Research on Education Policy and Practice (IREPP). She also co-directs Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE). Her research focuses particularly on teacher and school leader labor markets. She studies

how teachers' preferences and teacher preparation policies affect the quality of teaching and the distribution of teachers across schools.



Elizabeth Dhuey, International Affiliate, is an assistant professor of economics at the University of Toronto. She holds appointments in the Department of Management and the Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources. Elizabeth's research focuses on the economics of education; in particular, she has written articles on the effect of age at school

entry on later academic and labour market outcomes.

Donna Muncey, Local School District Affiliate. Until recently, Donna was the Chief Accountability Officer of Prince George's County, Public Schools, Maryland, and the 18th largest school district in the country. Previously, she served as the Chief Academic Officer of the Santa Monica-Malibu (California) Unified School District.



Douglas Harris, Member at Large, is an assistant professor of educational policy studies focusing on research methodology and addressing important policy debates. He conducted research on teacher value-added and teacher quality. His newest project is a scaled-up randomized trial of need-based college financial aid.

Gloria Rodriguez, Member at Large, is an assistant professor in the School of Education, University of California, Davis. Gloria has a Ph.D. from Stanford and an MPA from Columbia. Rodriguez's research interests include educational leadership and resource allocation from a critical, social justice perspective. She also served previously on the AEFA Board.



Dominic Brewer, Member at Large, is Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs and the Clifford H. and Betty C. Allen professor in Urban Leadership at the Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California. Before joining USC in 2005, he was a vice president at RAND, directing the education policy research program for more than five years.

Highlights

AEFA Board of Directors Meeting

The Board met during the Nashville Conference and in June in Seattle, the site of the 2011 conference.

- **Membership.** Presently, the membership is stable, with a slight decrease in the conference attendance in Nashville. The membership has stabilized at around 500 to 600. The conference in Nashville had a little over 100 new members.
- **Budget.** The budget, while strong, is experiencing less revenue and slightly more expenses as a result of this conference attendance decline. Over time, our costs are expected to slightly increase. Every effort has been made to control these costs where possible. Membership revenue is up and conference revenue at Denver were the highest ever for AEFA.

- **Dues.** Dues did not increase in the current budget, but AEFA members should anticipate increases in the future due to restructuring and possible increased support for *EF&P*.
- **Audit Review.** For the first time in many years the AEFA books received an audit review. It is anticipated we will have an audit every year.
- **Conference Planning.** On a brighter note, our future conference planning is going well with the current economic situation working in our favor. That is, the costs of the "Eastern Urban Corridor" (2012) and Seattle (2011) are less than initially projected.
- **Website.** The website is fully operational and appears, to date, to be the success we envisioned. We have essentially lowered our annual website costs that exceeded \$4,000 per year to less than \$100 per year. Modest additional costs will be encountered as we continue to upgrade the site. While the website was a major and time-consuming process for us this year, it will prove to be one of the most economical investments we have made in many years.
- **Membership Survey.** One aspect of being able to operationalize our goals is to conduct our survey on an annual basis. Thus, data-driven decision-making will enhance the probability of success and inform the board in a data driven manner.
- **Education Finance and Policy.** Thomas Downes and Daniel Goldhaber were named the new editors *EF&P*, taking over from David Monk and David Figlio. The new home of the journal will be at the University of Washington. Tom and Dan plan to continue the practice of fast turnaround on manuscripts which is believed to be part of the early success of the journal in attracting high quality manuscripts. *EF&P* is only the 7th journal to list on the Social Science Index within its first five years. Assistant professors at top universities are submitting manuscripts. A new editorial board will be selected as is customary when journals change editors.
- **EF&P Finances.** The journal is financed from AEFA as part of annual dues, \$10,000 from the AEFA

budget and \$20,000 generously donated by America institutes for Research (AIR).

- **Nashville Conference.** AEFA had a successful conference in Nashville despite current economic pressures —more than 345 compared to 401 in Denver and 375 in Baltimore. Attendance was slightly down from the previous meeting in Denver which we had an all time high.



Designed by Thomas Jefferson, the Virginia Capitol stands on a hill up the street from the Omni Richmond Hotel.

In 2010, AEFA will be in Richmond

Omni Richmond Hotel
March 18-20

Future Conference

2011 in Seattle
Seattle Grand Hyatt

Every member is important to the strength of the AEFA and your best way to stay involved and contribute to your Association is to maintain your current mailing address and e-mail address in order to receive regular communications.

Maintain your current mailing and email address by updating your profile on www.aefa.cc or send changes to:

R. Craig Wood,
Executive director

Carlee Escue,
Assistant Executive Director

1215 Norman Hall
PO Box 117049
Gainesville, Florida 32611-7049
352-273-4297



AEFA Officers: Martin Orland; President; Susanna Loeb, President-Elect; Amy Ellen Schwartz, Immediate Past President. **Board of Directors: Terms Expire at Adjournment of the 2010 Conference:** Joyce Levenson, Rajashri Chakrabarti, Michael Rebell, Julie Cullen, and Lori Taylor. **Terms Expire at Adjournment of the 2011 Conference:** Lawrence Getzler, Julia Koppich, Sean Corcoran, John Yinger, Janet Hansen. **Terms Expire at Adjournment of the 2012 Conference:** Elizabeth Dhuey, Donna Muncey, Douglas Harris, Gloria Rodriguez, Dominic Brewer. **Designees of Sustaining Members:** Edward J. Hurley, National Education Association; Jewell C. Gould, American Federation of Teachers; and Ronald Skinner, Association of School Business Officials International. **Institutional Members:** American Institutes for Research, New Jersey Department of Education, RAND Corporation, Texas A&M University, University at Albany-SUNY, Vanderbilt University, Wisconsin Center for Postsecondary Education (WISCAPE) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. **Newsletter Editor:** F. Howard Nelson: hnelson@aft.org. **Education Finance and Policy Executive Editors:** Thomas Downes and Dan Goldhaber. **Executive Director:** R. Craig Wood. **Assistant Executive Editor:** Carlee Escue. **Executive Director Emeritus:** Ed Steinbrecher, George R. Babigian. **Website:** <http://www.aefa.cc/>.



American Education Finance Association (AEFA)

www.aefa.cc

THE 35th AEFA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 18 - 2010

Richmond, Virginia

**Conference Theme:
Education Finance and Policy in a Time of
Fiscal Constraints and Federal Action**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

ONLINE SUBMISSION OPEN: OCTOBER 1, 2009

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 1, 2009

The American Education Finance Association (AEFA) encourages multidisciplinary research on salient education finance and policy issues and broad-based dialogue concerning policy, practice, and research. In an effort to bridge the gap between research and application and to broaden the focus of education finance and policy, the program planning committee invites researchers, policymakers, and practitioners interested in education finance and policy to assume a variety of roles including presenters, chairs, and discussants at the annual meeting.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

AEFA members and prospective members are invited to submit proposals for the 2010 annual meeting. Proposals may address any of a broad range of topics in education finance or policy. Individuals submitting proposals should be an AEFA member or planning to become a member prior to the annual meeting.

Proposals may be submitted in one of three presentation formats:

- **Research Papers:** Completed, empirically grounded research investigations on an important and relevant topic
- **Symposia:** Integrated dialogues among 3 or more participants concerning a well-defined topic/issue, sharing knowledge about new and important developments relevant to educational finance and policy. A symposium may also be a panel of three or four research papers that fit together well; such symposia will be treated as research paper sessions in the conference program.
- **Poster Sessions:** Exchange of information and informal communication of ideas, research and programs through presentation of materials such as pictures, data, graphs, diagrams and narratives on poster boards. In addition to a report or research study, sessions can also include: (1) descriptions of an innovative program or policy, (2) analyses of a practical problem-solving effort, or (3) early findings from research-in-progress. During the poster session period, participants will informally discuss their presentations with attendees. Participants will not be expected to provide a full-length paper. Handouts or other informational literature are optional.

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Equipment:** LCD projectors, laptops, screens, and poster boards (for poster sessions) of 32" x 40" black foam core board will be provided by AEFA. Any other equipment must be obtained by the participant at their own expense.
- **Participation limits:** To promote broad participation, an individual may not present more than one paper at the annual meeting. Participants may be listed as co-authors of more than one accepted paper and may perform a variety of other roles at the conference (e.g., symposium or poster session participant, session chair and discussant), but will generally be limited to a single paper presentation. This limit does not include invited presentations.
- **Notification of acceptances:** The program planning committee will select proposals that meet the November 1, 2009 submission deadline and AEFA standards for validity and relevance. The committee may not be able to accommodate all proposed papers, posters or symposia. As a result, some proposals may not be accepted for the conference and for other proposals the committee may ask for a format switch (e.g. from a paper to a poster or a poster to a paper). The committee intends to respond to all submissions by mid-December 2009.
- **Accepted papers and poster sessions:** Requests for any changes in the program must be received prior to January 15, 2010.
- **Submission of accepted papers:** Accepted papers must be completed and submitted to the session chair and discussant no later than two weeks prior to the conference, March 4, 2010.
- Refunds may be made for registration but not membership fees. There will be no refunds after January 15, 2010. Final deadline for presenters' fees will be January 15, 2010. Presenters who have not paid all their fees by January 15, 2010 will have their names and presentations removed from the program.

All Attendees are responsible for paying 2010 Membership Dues and 2010 Conference Registration.

2010 Member Dues:

| | |
|--|-------|
| Regular Membership Dues | \$110 |
| Retired Membership Dues | \$75 |
| Student Membership Dues | \$55 |
| International Membership Dues (including Canada) | \$135 |
| International Student Membership Dues (including Canada) | \$75 |

2010 Conference Registration:

Must be a 2010 Member to attend the 2010 Conference

| | |
|--|-------|
| 2010 Conference Registration | \$175 |
| 2010 Student Conference Registration | \$85 |

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