



AEFA

SUMMER 2003



American Education Finance Association Newsletter

AEFA Launches *Journal of Education Finance & Policy*

---- Figlio and Monk Named Editors ----

The Publications Committee, as an arm of the AEFA President and Board of Directors, has been engaged in detailed planning for a new AEFA publication. Tentatively this new publication will be entitled, ***Journal of Education Finance & Policy***. (As an early aside to newsletter readers, suggestions are welcomed for more suitable journal names, should you care to submit ideas.) The new journal will have as its mission:

The stimulation and transmission of knowledge that enhances just and effective education resource generation and distribution and promotes human learning.

The AEFA Board voted enthusiastically and unanimously to appoint Dr. David Figlio, University of Florida, and Dr. David Monk, Pennsylvania State University, as co-editors of the new Journal to be published by AEFA.

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President's Message

You will be pleased to know that AEFA is alive with activity. For those of you who have not visited the web page recently, I encourage you do so (www.aefa.cc). Ed Steinbrecher has made a number of additions and changes to the web page. Among other news on the web page, you will find information about the March conference in Salt Lake City. Marge Plecki, President-Elect and the Conference Program Committee are making very good progress in planning for the conference and she will have more news in the fall newsletter.

I encourage each of you to identify a couple of people you think would benefit by becoming AEFA members and ask them to join. The web page identifies the benefits of membership and provides the membership application. Elsewhere in the newsletter Randy Reback, who joined as a student and received the New Scholars Award in 2002, describes his experience as a new AEFA member.

(continued on next page)

Please submit your contribution to the *AEFA Newsletter* by SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 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.

(President's Message continued)

We recently held our summer board meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, the site of our 2005 conference. The board worked very hard, but some of us did have time to take in restaurants and activities. It is a great location, the hotel will be newly refurbished and there a variety of activities near the hotel.

We are moving ahead with gathering information and planning for a journal for the association. Your comments have been very helpful in this regard. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will find an article that describes this process in more detail. I want to thank the members of the Publications Committee who have worked extraordinarily hard. This is a very important activity of the Association and I am very pleased with the way it is developing.

If you have questions or comments about AEFA, please do not hesitate to contact me at wycckoff@albany.edu or (518) 442-5269.

Jim Wyckoff, AEFA President



Journal of Education Finance & Policy

Publication Committee Status Report
July, 2003

The Publications Committee is simultaneously engaged in: (1) Recruiting, screening, and nominating editors, final selection of which must be approved by the AEFA Board of Directors; (2) Screening candidate organizations (university presses and private sector companies) as possible publishers to work with AEFA; and (3) Promoting interest in the new journal. These two processes are highly related as editor candidates want to know the name of the publisher, and potential publishers want to know names of editors.

This new journal is being planned to have characteristics such as these:

- ✓ *Published Quarterly* (beginning in fall 2005)
- ✓ *Multidisciplinary Content* (Education Finance, Public Finance, Economics, Law, Political Science, Public Policy, Public Administration, etc.)
- ✓ *Multifaceted Orientation* (Research, Scholarship, Theory, Practice, possibly, "Identified Opinion")
- ✓ *Multiple Departments* (e.g., Double Blind Reviewed Research and Scholarly Papers, Commissioned Book Reviews, Commissioned Theme Issues, Public Forums.)

- ✓ *Multifaceted Audience* (University researchers and instructors, local, state national, and international education officials, policy makers and their staff, members of the legal profession, and education association members and staff, etc.)
- ✓ *Nonpartisan Orientation* (No systematic ideological or organizational alignment.)
- ✓ *Episodic (Perhaps Annual) Theme Issue* (Replacing current AEFA yearbook)
- ✓ *AEFA Board Appointed Co-Editors* (At least in Vols. 1-3, possibility a single editor thereafter.)
- ✓ *Discipline/Practice /Regional Associate Editors* (Up to six individual appointees, precise number at the editors' discretion, selected by Co-Editors with advice and consent of AEFA Board of Directors)
- ✓ *Editorial Advisory Board* (Up to 30 individuals selected by Editors with advice and consent of AEFA Board of Directors.)

The Publication Committee plans, in the next AEFA Newsletter to identify a journal publisher, specify a final name for the journal, and provide a list of "Frequently Asked Questions and Answers."

Publication Committee

Jay Chambers
Margaret Goertz
James Guthrie (Chair)
Thomas Downes
Edwin Steinbrecher



Highlights

AEFA Summer Board Meeting

The AEFA Board of Directors met in Louisville, Ky., site of the 2005 Conference, for two days of productive meetings. Highlights of the actions included the following:

- ✓ Reviewed the Treasurer's report and adopted the budget for 2004.
- ✓ Approved a \$10 increase in the membership dues and the conference registration fee effective for 2004.
- ✓ Reviewed the conference and membership report and the Evaluations of the 2003 Conference and discussed the planning for the 2004 Conference.

- ✓ Heard from committee chairs regarding the activities of each of the committees and discussed plans for the upcoming year.
- ✓ Approved continuation of the Research Initiatives awards of \$3000 for both doctoral and pre-doctoral scholars.
- ✓ Approved a report from the nominations committee of candidates for office to be voted on at the 2004 Conference.
- ✓ Discussed site selections for the 2006 annual Conference.
- ✓ Reviewed and approved the proposal for the 2005 Yearbook.
- ✓ Approved moving forward on the establishment of a new *Journal of Education Finance and Policy* (see related report of the publications committee).
- ✓ Agreed to explore the ways of supporting the development of the report on Financing Programs in the U.S. and Canada.

Patrice presented "Equity and Distribution of Resources and Performance Across Elementary and Middle Schools Within Large Urban School Districts: Evidence from New York City."



**The American Education Finance Association
Seeks Candidates for the Twenty-Seventh Annual**

**JEAN FLANIGAN
OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD**

PURPOSE: To recognize exemplary dissertation research in the area of education finance.

AWARDS:

- One-year complimentary membership in AEFA.
- Presentation of a plaque at the opening session of the 2004 annual meeting to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah on March 11-13, 2004 and placement in a concurrent paper session.
- Complimentary conference registration at the 2004 annual meeting.
- A \$200 honorarium.

ELIGIBILITY:

Candidates must have defended their dissertation or been awarded a degree by an accredited U.S. or Canadian institution between June 1, 2002 and August 31, 2003. The deadline for submission is December 6, 2003.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Submit an unbound, hard copy of the complete dissertation.
- II. Submit an overview of the dissertation in disk and hard copy format. The overview must be fewer than 1500 words, including graphics and appendices, and include the following elements:
 - The question investigated.
 - A description of the conceptual or theoretical base.
 - A brief review of the relevant literature.
 - A description of the data and methodology.
 - A review of the findings.
 - A discussion of the relevance of the findings.
- III. Under separate cover, the chair or a member of the dissertation committee must submit a letter of endorsement that does the following:
 - Attests to the nominee's eligibility.
 - Specifies the meritorious nature of the dissertation as it relates to the evaluation criteria.

New President and Board Members Elected

At the 2003 AEFA conference in Orlando, Fla., members chose Marge Plecki, of the University Of Washington as AEFA's President Elect. She will serve as program chair for the 2004 conference, after which, she will succeed current president James Wyckoff. Congrats also go to newly elected board members:

- Thomas Downes, Tufts University
- Jennifer King Rice, University of Maryland
- Lyle Krause, Alberta Teachers Association
- William Mathis, Superintendent, Rutland Northeast, Brandon, Vermont
- Amy Ellen Schwartz, New York University



**Outstanding Dissertation Award Winners
Recognized at 2003 Conference**

The 2003 Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Awards were presented to Robert Bifulco (University of Connecticut), Tana Bishop (University of Maryland), and Patrice Iatarola (Florida State University).

Tana presented "The Distribution of Teacher Quality Across Public Secondary Schools and Classrooms: A Multi-Level Distributional Analysis" at the conference.

- Indicates the nominee's current position, address, and telephone number.

IV. The overview, the dissertation and letter of endorsement must arrive at the following address by December 6, 2003:

Christopher Roellke
Associate Professor of Education
124 Raymond Avenue
P.O. Box 407
Vassar College
Poughkeepsie, NY 12604

Phone: 845-427-7264
Fax: 845-437-7359
E-mail: chroellke@vassar.edu

**Deadline for Receipt of the Application Materials is
December 6, 2003**



See You In Salt Lake City!

Mark your calendar for the 2004 Conference to be held at the Salt Lake City Marriott-City Center Hotel, March 11-13, 2004. You will be in the center of this beautiful, clean city with great restaurants and attractions and surrounded by snow-capped peaks that offer some of the best skiing in the world. Come and see why this progressive area was chosen for the 2002 Winter Olympics.



**AEFA
29th Annual Conference
March 11-13, 2004**

Marriott City Center
220 South State Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Phone: 801-961-8700

[Visit Marriott City Center](#)

In 2005, AEFA will be in Louisville, Kentucky for our 30th Annual Conference

March 17-19, 2005
Louisville, Kentucky
Galt House Hotel



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**American Education Finance Association
Annual Conference
March 11–13, 2004
Salt Lake City, Utah**

**Conference Theme:
"Education Finance in a Time of Fiscal Stress."**

AEFA invites interested parties to submit proposals for papers, panels of papers and large or small group sessions (including symposia) for presentation at AEFA's annual conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, Thursday, March 11 through Saturday, March 13, 2004.

-- Detailed Instructions Attached to Newsletter --



AERA Finance Special Interest Group

Finding a finance presence at AERA is not an easy task. In keeping with our goal to increase our membership, visibility, and activity within AERA, I urge you to encourage your colleagues and students to join our SIG. Dues are only \$10. A membership application form is available on our website:

<http://www.filebox.vt.edu/chre/aera-fiscalsig/index.htm>

In addition to SIG news, our web page provides other valuable features, including references and research briefs that are very useful for classroom instruction. Lisa Driscoll of Virginia Tech maintains the website.

Upcoming SIG activities will be announced in our next regularly scheduled newsletter this fall. In the meantime, send any ideas you may have regarding expanding SIG activities and membership to any of the officers:

2003-04 SIG Officers

Deborah Verstegen, University of Virginia, President
dav3e@virginia.edu

Bruce Baker, University of Kansas, Program Chair
bbaker@ukans.edu

Scott Sweetland, Ohio State University, Treasurer
sweetland.1@osu.edu

Mike Addonizio, Wayne State University, Secretary
maddoni@wayne.edu



Call for Proposals 2004 AEFA New Scholars Program

AERA FIPF SIG Mission Statement:

To provide a forum for research in Education Finance and its impact on policy for all levels and aspects of education.

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

This year we are supporting two competitions:

- Doctoral scholars. Contracts for \$3,000 will be awarded to up to two individuals who received, or will receive, a doctoral degree between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2003. Individuals must be AEFA members to apply for and receive the doctoral scholar awards.
- Pre-doctoral scholars. Contracts for \$3,000 will be awarded to up to two individuals who (1) are currently enrolled in a doctoral program, or (2) received or will receive a master's degree between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2003. The pre-doctoral awards also include a one-year membership to AEFA.

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.

Applications should outline (a) the issue to be investigated, (b) the research methodology, (c) the data sources to be used, (d) the importance and relevance of the issue to education finance. Applications should be complete yet concise (not to exceed 1800 words including any appendices). The applicant must submit the name of someone familiar with the applicant's ability to complete the proposed research project (e.g., dissertation chair, faculty member, or supervisor). Applications must include a completed cover page that can be obtained from the AEFA New Scholars Program committee chair (see below) and should be submitted to the address below in both hard copy and electronic formats (Word for Windows or Word Perfect formats). Applications for the 2004 New Scholars Program must be received by November 14, 2003.

Successful applicants will present a paper at the subsequent AEFA conference. Awards are subject to available funding. The results of the competition will be

AEFA's New Scholar Grant Helps Randall Reback Get Fast Start

For the past three years, the AEFA meetings have been my favorite place to meet and converse with colleagues. The friendliness and intellectual curiosity of the Conference participants have been extraordinary; perhaps this is sample selection due to a shared interest in improving schools!

Whatever the explanation, the meetings were an excellent opportunity for a graduate student to receive constructive criticism on dissertation chapters and to befriend other researchers interested in school finance.

— *I was thrilled to receive an AEFA New Scholars Grant last year. This award enabled me to hire undergraduate research assistants and to purchase reference books in order to assemble a data set describing colleges' teacher certification programs* —

The award also served as a nice promotion for my presentation of the resulting paper, "Entry Costs and the Supply of Academically Talented Public School Teachers," in Orlando.

As in other years, I was delighted with the quantity and quality of comments that I received, especially from Larry Kenny who served as discussant. I would like to thank Jim Wyckoff, Ed Steinbrecher, and the AEFA New Scholars Grant Committee for honoring me with this award. I am also grateful to my dissertation adviser, Julie Cullen, both for nominating my project and for introducing me to AEFA three years ago. I look forward to seeing everyone again (and skiing with some of you) in Salt Lake City.

Randall Reback
Assistant Professor, Barnard College

announced at the March 2004 Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

For an application cover page or additional information, contact:

Dan D. Goldhaber, Ph.D.
University of Washington, Evans School of
Public Affairs
Center on Reinventing Public Education,
Parrington 327
Box 353055
Seattle, WA 98195-3055
Telephone: (206) 685-2214
E-mail: dgoldhab@u.washington.edu

and eligible for the travel grants. Typically the grants average \$250 to \$300 each, up to a maximum of \$300 per recipient (5 grants) and a minimum of \$100 per recipient (15 grants). If more than 15 applications are received, travel grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Will Myers Memorial Scholarships are awarded to presenters at the 2004 Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah 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 timely submission (on or before November 3, 2003) and acceptance of presentation proposals. Applicants should submit their requests for the desired award along with their paper submission (electronic submissions are strongly encouraged), and a statement detailing their eligibility to receive the award to:

Dr. Marge Plecki
Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
University of Washington
Box 353600
Seattle, WA 98195
E-mail: edfin@u.washington.edu



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 2004 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 2004 Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah (March 11-13). A total amount of \$1500 is available and will be distributed equally to those applying

Have You Moved or Changed Your E-Mail Address?

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. To stay current please send changes to:

Ed Steinbrecher, Executive Director
8365 S. Armadillo Trail
Evergreen, CO 80439
Phone (303) 674-0857
Fax (303) 670-8986
Email esteinbr@du.edu



AEFA Officers: Jim Wyckoff, President; Marge Plecki, President-Elect; Jay Chambers, Immediate Past President; and Ed Steinbrecher, Executive Director. **Board of Directors: Terms Expire at Adjournment of the 2004 Conference:** William J. Fowler, Dan Goldhaber, Susanna Loeb, Edward Muir and Christopher F. Roellke. **Terms Expire at Adjournment of the 2005 Conference:** Deborah H. Cunningham, James W. Guthrie, David N. Figlio, Janet S. Hansen and Donald R. Tetreault. **Terms Expire at Adjournment of the 2006 Conference:** Thomas Downes, Jennifer King Rice, Lyle Krause, William Mathis and Amy Ellen Schwartz. **Designees of Sustaining Members:** Edward J. Hurley, National Education Association; Jewell C. Gould, American Federation of Teachers; and David Ritchey, Association of School Business Officials International. **Newsletter Editor:** F. Howard Nelson. **Journal Executive Editors:** David Figlio and David Monk. **Executive Director Emeritus:** George R. Babigan.

**American Education Finance Association Annual Conference
March 11–13, 2004
Salt Lake City, Utah**

The American Education Finance Association (AEFA) invites interested parties to submit proposals for papers, panels of papers and large or small group sessions (including symposia) for presentation at AEFA's annual conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, Thursday, March 11 through Saturday, March 13, 2004. The theme of the 2004 conference is "Education Finance in a Time of Fiscal Stress."

We invite papers and group discussions that address different perspectives within the broad realm of education finance. Examples of general topics include:

- Adequacy, equity, and school accountability.
- Fiscal stress in school districts, how to identify and respond to it.
- Alternative approaches to school funding.
- Resource re-allocation at state, district, and school levels.
- School choice (e.g., charters, vouchers, public school choice).
- Compensation and labor markets for school personnel.
- The relationship between school reform, outcomes, and resources.
- Addressing the needs of special populations.
- Higher education finance and staffing issues.
- Ways to improve the cost-effective use of school resources.

As always, AEFA welcomes proposals that address other areas of interest in school finance research, theory, policy, practice or teaching.

AEFA is an organization that consistently has encouraged connecting research, policy and practice. We especially encourage submissions that include the perspectives and approaches of researchers, policymakers and practitioners as we seek better ways to bridge the gap between research and application.

Abstracts for papers should contain:

- Name and e-mail address of primary contact.
- Purpose, problem statement, research questions and/or hypotheses.

Proposals for large and small group sessions, symposia, or panels are especially appreciated and should specify:

- Name and e-mail address of primary contact.
- Organizing topic, theme, or issue.
- Sponsor (if applicable).
- Participants and their individual contributions to the session.
- Discussants (if desired).

E-mail submissions in a word-format document are **strongly encouraged**. Please send abstracts of no more than 300 words to AEFA President-Elect Marge Plecki by **November 3, 2003** to:

Dr. Marge Plecki
University of Washington
Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
Box 353600
Seattle, WA 98195
Phone 206-221-3430
Fax 206-616-6762
Email submissions to: edfin@u.washington.edu

American Education Finance Association**2004 AEFA New Scholars Program
Application Cover Page**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Title of Proposal: _____

Source(s) of data to be employed: _____

Date Masters Degree received or expected: _____

Date Doctoral degree received or expected: _____

Institution where currently enrolled in graduate program:

Reference who is familiar with candidate's project and ability to complete the proposed research:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

For the pre-doctoral competition only, reference must sign below that he/she has reviewed the proposal, feels it merits consideration, and supports the applicant as capable of completing the proposed work.

Reference signature: _____ Date: _____

Applicants should attach a proposal that outlines: (a) the issue to be investigated; (b) the methodology; (c) data sources; (d) the importance and relevance of the issue to education finance. Applications should be concise (not to exceed 1800 words including any appendices) yet provide sufficient detail to enable reviewers to judge the merits of the proposed project. Proposals must include the project title, but not the applicant's name as AEFA conducts a blind review of all proposals. Applicants should not submit vita, resumes or published articles. Applications should be submitted to:

Dan D. Goldhaber, Ph.D.
University of Washington, Evans School of Public Affairs
Center on Reinventing Public Education, Parrington 327
Box 353055
Seattle, WA 98195-3055
E-mail: dgoldhab@u.washington.edu

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 14, 2003