

Georgia Center Annual Report 2007

- A. One focus of the project was to establish an endowed chair in the College of Education (The Goizueta Foundation Chair in Education Administration). Dr. Charles Reavis accepted the chair position on July 12, 2004 and remains chair. Some of the highlights of Dr. Reavis distinguished career include:
- ✓ Professorships at Texas Tech University, Old Dominion University, and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte;
 - ✓ Authorship of thirty-four scholarly publications including five books;
 - ✓ Numerous invited speeches and professional paper presentations,
 - ✓ Fifteen grant awards totaling over \$33 million;
 - ✓ Active participation in University, community, and professional organizations;
 - ✓ The award of the McDonald Excellence in Teaching Award and the Dean's Service Award while at Texas Tech
- B. As endowed chair, Dr. Reavis is the Director of the Georgia Center for Education Renewal. The mission of the Center is to improve education – pre-school through doctoral study - through research, policy analysis, publication, and professional development programming on all levels; local, statewide, regional, national, and international. Dr. Reavis' role has been a commitment to "Closing the Gaps" through obtaining grants/endowments, research, and service. Three goals were determined for "Closing the Gaps":
- Goal 1 - Gaps between research and practice
 - Goal 2 - Gaps between the university and public schools
 - Goal 3 – Gaps in achievement between minority and majority students, K-16
- C. The 2006-07 work resulted in the following achievements many of these could be listed under more than one goal, but for purposes of conciseness will only be listed under the goal of which they most furthered the attainment. Goal one: Closing the gaps between research and practice - accomplishments:
- ✓ Contracted and completed an additional six computer-based lessons in the "Teaching in Technical Institutes" series on contract with Lincoln Educational Services.
 - ✓ Completed the research for a start-up of a British Specialist School in preparation for a grant proposal for a Hybrid School in Georgia.
 - ✓ Presented at the National Network for Educational Renewal Conference, a national and international audience, a power point entitled "The Flat World and Democracy-centered school Leadership".
 - ✓ Presented at the Georgia Educational Research Association a power point summary entitled "An Evaluation of the Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement".
 - ✓ Awarded of a faculty grant for work on Practical Applications of Research.

- ✓ Attended the Association for Career and Technical Education to share and market the research based lesson modules entitled “Teaching in Technical Institutes”.
- ✓ Submitted three articles on the work of “Closing the Gaps”.

Goal 2: Closing the gaps between the university and the public schools - accomplishments:

- ✓ Involved in the collaborative work with the Educational Leadership Department faculty to revise and/or redesign the Masters and Ed.S degree programs for leadership.
- ✓ Revised and re-submitted a U S Office of Education grant, “Development and Research on Democracy-centered rural High School Reform to Improve Achievement for Minority Male Students”.
- ✓ Developed and hosted a Distributed Leadership Conference that featured presenters from England, Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement, and Georgia Southern College of Education.
- ✓ Promoted membership in the International Networking of Educational Transformation (iNET) to link P-16 educators with the international work in education of this organization.
- ✓ Participated in an iNET on-line conference, “Preparing School Leaders for the Flat World”.
- ✓ Prepared and submitted a proposal to the Wallace Foundation to support of the work of the Georgia Center.

Goal 3: Closing the gaps in achievement between minority and majority students, K-16 – accomplishments:

- ✓ Established collaboration with the Liverpool Football (Soccer) Club Community Academy Program and iT Pod program to promote academic achievement for low achieving students in area schools to be implemented in the 2007-08 school term.

Other accomplishments important to the College of Education:

- ✓ Prepared materials for the successful NCATE accreditation process.

- D. A survey of three components of the work of the Georgia Center was designed and administered. The survey centered around 1) Research You Can Use - Now!; 2) Providing university and or P-12 perspectives (depending on target group) on issues facing schooling; and 3) Offering assistance on issues facing schools/university. The target groups were public school superintendents and college faculty.
- E. The results of the survey from regional superintendents were the Center was successful in that all rated it Helpful or Very Helpful! Implications are to continue to provide services to schools and systems. The survey to college faculty centered around five areas of work/projects of the Center. The results were directly related to the involvement by the faculty member. Most, who were involved, found it to be “Very Helpful” and “Helpful”. What was of concern was

the number who had marked “NA”. After much reflection and discussion with Dean of the College of Education, it seems most college level faculty do not see the important work they are doing in research, learning communities, and teaching students, teachers, and leaders as connected to the Center’s efforts of educational renewal through “Closing the Gaps”. Two resulting strategies to address the “NAs” are: 1) to report the work they do through a Center newsletter; 2) get more involved in the initiatives in which they are involved to offer assistance, as well as, understand better how to bridge “the gap” between college faculty and the Center.

- F. There were no board or staff changes during 2006-07 reporting period.