

Education

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HILTON

Consultants Say - Vol. 3, No. 8



KEITH O. HILTON

The readers of **HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION** are our consultants, offering advice and giving input.

The following are excerpts from letters and calls. Please call or send comments to **HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION**, 3139 N. Garey Ave., No. 101, Pomona, CA 91767-(714)899-0650.

These comments are from some educators to our NASPA (The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) column.

Some comments, unfortunately, show why the "Student Affairs" area has second class status within higher education. Far too much concern is placed on what academic affairs personnel will think, rather than acknowledging that those entering college are indeed student scholars with extracurricular activities interests. Numerous educators, however, do agree that the NASPA title is becoming antiquated.

Through your continued input and suggestions, this column will remain on the cutting edge of contemporary higher education issues.

1) DR. MARSHA A. DUNCAN, President of NASPA:

Your suggestion for a name change is intriguing. For the past few years several members of the association have advocated we consider a name change.

We are currently in the process of developing a marketing plan and expect that the name change idea may be considered at the end of that process. I'll be sure that your suggestion gets put in the "hopper of ideas" for consideration.

2) PROFESSOR GEORGE D. KUH, School of Education, Indiana University:

I very much appreciate your kind words about our session at the recent NASPA national meeting. While you

argue that scholar would broaden and strengthen the base of the association, I fear it would dilute the character and purpose of the organization, which is to represent professionals who provide services for, and advocate on behalf of, students. Further, the use of the term scholar is likely to be a lighting rod when the name of the organization is heard by the faculty members. Keith, please feel free to contact me from time to time and many thanks for your interest in our (research work).

3) DR. FRANCINE G. MADRY, Vice President for Student Affairs, Johnson C. Smith University (NC):

Your columns are both interesting and provocative. Your suggestion to change the word "Student" to "Scholar" in NASPA is interesting, although I am not a "convert" at this time. It does, however, make for interesting dialogue. I look forward to hearing from you again and perhaps meeting you at the 1991 conference.

4) DR. RODGER SUMMERS, Vice President for Student Affairs, West Chester University (PA):

Your columns (and issues) should prove to be of value to young people considering the field (of education). Feel free to call on me for information as you write your articles.

HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION is designed to dialogue with college and world readers. Education is ongoing and certainly not limited to school classrooms. Let's talk.

THE FORGOTTEN HALF

By Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

The "forgotten half" is the phrase now being used to describe the majority of American young people who do not go on to college. A bleak reality lies behind that title.

Thousands of our youngsters never finish high school. Of those who do achieve a high school degree, many have received no preparation for employment or lack the skills that today's employers require.

The United States is the only industrialized country in the world which has no system to help its youth move from high school into the world of work. We are literally wasting our human resources through a lack of planning and organization.

The Congress has just completed work on reforming the nation's system of vocational education. We hope that H.R.7, the "Vocational Education and Applied Technology Act" will assist our country in fashioning a better system of high school education and at the same time provide a better transition for students entering the workplace.

A key aspect of H.R.7 requires that all vocational students must learn both employment and academic skills. Too frequently, students are taught academic and vocational courses, as if there were no relationship between the two.

First, the business community has told us, in forceful terms, that students are coming out of high school without proper academic grounding. Graduating students must be prepared

with both job skills and basic academics.

Second, the new law will create a "tech-prep" program which will combine education and training in high schools with community programs at local colleges. Tech-prep means that a student will begin learning a trade in high school and then will continue with a related course of instruction through community college. In far too many areas, there is no coordination in training between high school and post-secondary education.

America needs mid-level technicians. This is one of the fastest growing job categories, but the area of employment where we are the weakest. This new tech-prep program is meant to close that employment gap.

Third, the new law will encourage vocational programs to be called applied technology education programs. Our purpose in changing the name is to signal a change of attitude that old line outdated programs are not what America needs. We need training that will provide skills for our young people for the future.

All of these changes are intended to update vocational education and to bring it into the school reform movement. We hope that these changes will lead to providing our country with the technicians we will need to compete with other international communities.

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CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PARENTING CLASSES HELD THROUGHOUT LAS VEGAS VALLEY

Parenting classes will be held throughout Clark County for parents with elementary and/or secondary students. The classes, sponsored by the school district's Curriculum and Instruction Division, will address issues like discipline, cooperation, resolving conflict, communication and homework.

Marie Wakefield, administrative specialist in Guidance and Counseling

Services, said the classes are designed to help parents enhance their relationship with their children. Some of the classes are free to parents. When a fee is charged for particular sessions, the money is used to cover textbook expenses.

Parents may join the classes at any time, but Wakefield recommends first speaking to the contact person for that particular session.

NEA Urges President Bush To Sign Civil Rights Act of 1990

Washington, D.C. -- The National Education Association urges President Bush to sign the Civil Rights Act of 1990 to ensure that all Americans have a chance to reach their fullest potential.

"I hope the President will sign the Civil Rights Act of 1990 with great pride, because this legislation is basic to American justice and democracy," says NEA President Keith Geiger. "It's designed to protect every American against job discrimination based on race, color, gender, religion or national origin."

Both houses of Congress

are expected to vote soon on a final version of the legislation, which is now in conference committee.

Bush has threatened to veto the measure on the grounds that it establishes quotas.

Not so, says Geiger. The Civil Rights Act of 1990 would restore the law to what existed before 1989. At that time, the Supreme Court issued six decisions that weakened two federal laws protecting Americans against discrimination on the job--Title VII of the Civil

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CONTACT A.O.I.P. 647-2117 1-4 P.M.