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HILTON

Joining Professional
Organizations:
Still Very Important



KEITH O. HILTON

In 1981, my second year in New York, I received a handwritten letter from a colleague at nearby Baruch College inviting me to join the National Alliance of Black School Educators. This meant a lot to this new kid on the block.

NABSE, founded in 1970, was originally the National Alliance of Black School Superintendents. Today it is open to all African American educators.

Also during that same year, I was invited to join another regional education association called AEEE - the Association for Equality and Excellence in Education. AEEE (A-triple-E) consist primarily of African-American, Latino and Afro Latino college professionals in New York and New Jersey working in TRIO programs; Special Student Services, Upward Bound, Talent Search and EOC.

I later served as New York State Chapter President to AEEE. The networks and friendships that were established with the folks in Jersey and New York are still solid ones.

Membership in AEEE, by the way, is not limited to TRIO personnel. In fact at the time, I was not directly working with any TRIO shop, although prior to New York, I had served as director of a program at a college in Virginia.

In the 1990's, I am still an advocate of professional organizations as ways for educators to stay abreast of issues impacting departments, students and careers.

Many seasoned professionals recommend that school workers belong to organizations on four levels; international, national, regional and local. These organizations may be related to one's program, department, gender and culture.

I suggest that you take this process one step further. Seek leadership positions in one or more of these organizations.

I also strongly encourage, not only educators, but all parents, students, professionals, entrepreneurs and community leaders to become active in at least four professional associations.

It is especially crucial that some of these organizations be education oriented because of the international and national need to develop firm educational infrastructures.

The following are just a few organizations to explore. Some are primarily African-American. Keep in mind that there are hundreds of excellent organizations to choose from. The main thing is to become involved.

If there are other educational organizations that you would like to see listed or noted, please drop me a note or call.

The Academic Canon Commission (ACC), ACU-I (Association of College Unions - International), the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE), C-CAP (Capital Colleges for Academic Policies).

The Humanitarian Common Market (HCM), the Liberal Arts Financial Association (LIFA), NAFEO (the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, NASPA - the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators).

The National Association of University Women (NAUW), the National Council for Black Studies (NCBS), the Pedantic World Direction (PWD, the Senior Scholars Society (SSS).

HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION is designed to dialogue with college and world readers. Education is ongoing and certainly not limited to classroom study. let's talk. (714) 899-0650.

EDUCATION

HOW BUDGET CUTS IMPACT NEVADA HIGHER EDUCATION

Following are some facts, figures, and an overview of how state budget reductions are affecting the University and Community College System of Nevada's seven higher education institutions. Based upon the governor's July 6, 1992 announcement that an additional \$6 million will be cut from UCCSN 1992-93 budgets, institutions are preparing budget reduction plans. Upon completion, they will be recommended to the Board of Regents for its approval this summer.

General Statistics:

1991-93 budget cuts	\$32 million
1992-93 additional UCCSN budget cuts	\$ 6 million
UCCSN's share of state general fund	20.5 %
UCCSN's contribution to esti-	

mated state 1991-93 deficit of 173 million 22 %

Impact on employment

Nevada higher education was budgeted to hire an additional 440 employees (313 professionals and 127 classified) during the 1991-93 biennium. Positions are added in higher education based primarily upon student enrollment growth.

UCCSN has been the fastest-growing higher education system in the nation every year throughout the late 1980's and early 1990's. The full-time student population grew by 9.52 percent during the 1991-92 school year alone, while the state budget allowed for 7 percent enrollment growth. (One full time student equals 30 credits.) More than 70,000 students are enrolled in its two universities and

four community colleges.

Most of the 440 new positions approved by the 1991 Nevada State Legislature to accommodate extremely rapid growth were earmarked for southern Nevada institutions (178 for UNLV and 106 for Community College of Southern Nevada).

Most new positions budgeted for 1991-92 were not filled; most new faculty and staff for FY 92-93 will not be filled.

Other 1992-93 employment impacts include:

- Elimination of numerous part-time instructors' jobs
- Fewer graduate assistantships
- Fewer on-campus student jobs
- Vacancies will remain unfilled

SAFEKEY PROGRAM OPENS FIVE NEW SITES

The Southern Nevada Safekey Program, administered by the City of Las Vegas Department of Parks and Leisure Activities, announces the opening of five new Safekey sites. The new sites, to begin programming with the opening of the new school year on August 24, are Antonello Elementary School, Bendorf Elementary School, Thorp Elementary School, Sunrise Acres Elementary School, and the Madison Sixth Grade Center.

Safekey is the before and after school recreation/enrichment program designed to assist working parents with child-care needs. Safekey provides assistance with homework, nutritional snacks, and a supervised recreational period daily.

Safekey accepts students in grades K-6. The cost is \$25 per week for the after-school program, and \$12 for the before school program, with a sliding fee schedule according to the number of children per family or

days per week the child attends. Scholarships are available to those who qualify. To find out if there is a Safekey program at your child's school, or for registration information, call 229-6729.

EDUCATION COMMENTARY

PARENTS' PERSISTENCE PAYS OFF AS WEST LAS VEGAS GETS SCHOOL

The noisy parent, like the squeaky wheel, gets the oil, or in this case, the new school. Case in point:

A number of Black parents finally convinced the school board to build a new elementary

school in or adjacent to the predominantly Black westside.

It would be easy to say that the school board was finally worn down and gave in to a group that refused to take "no" for an answer.

And there's a degree of truth in that statement.

Still, the persistence of these parents is to be applauded, not condemned. If more parents, of all colors, cared as much about their kids education, we would all be better off.

The preceding editorial was presented on KTNV on July 6, 1992 by Jim Behling, Vice President and General Manager.

STAY IN SCHOOL

Ivan Neal has put out
a lot of fires.
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firefighter—
he's a teacher. But to the
kids he's reached, he's a hero.



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