

# *AESA News and Comment*

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## **2005 AESA Convention, November 3 – November 6, 2005 The Omni Hotel, Charlottesville, VA**

### **Call for Proposals**

#### **Proposal Deadline – April 25, 2005**

##### **Public Education in Democratic Life: An Idea Whose Time Never Came**

The AESA Annual Meeting in 2005 will be in Charlottesville, Virginia. Thomas Jefferson believed that his founding of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville stood among his greatest achievements and asked that it be recognized on his headstone. Yet he failed twice to institute a system of public education in the state of Virginia before his death in 1826. Neither Jefferson nor his opponents envisioned a public education for all, but only for a limited part of the Virginia populace. Since that time, the history of public education in the United States has been marked by laudable achievements from early childhood to higher education, but also by deeply entrenched anti-democratic practices and outcomes. Critics from the left and the right agree that the public schools have failed to achieve their promise. Public education is today at a crossroads as various forms of privatization and market ideology promise to alter public schools more dramatically than at any time since the beginning of the 20th century. Some have already proclaimed the death of the public schools.

In 2005, the theme of the AESA Annual conference will be “Public Education in Democratic Life: An Idea Whose Time Never Came.” Proposals will be welcomed that address the past, present, and future relationships between public education and democratic ideals. Papers and panel discussions may address such issues as the meanings of “public” in public education; the persistent failure of public education to serve the entire populace; efforts to reform public education from competing ideological perspectives; and the meanings and practices of various forms of privatization in education.

The AESA Program Committee also invites proposals on all topics relevant to the Social Foundations of Education. The committee is open to a full range of disciplinary and theoretical perspectives that examine issues in the field. Proposals may be submitted for individual papers, symposia, panels, and alternative presentations until **April 25, 2005**. Proposals should draw on one or more of the scholarly fields AESA encompasses (history, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, politics of education, cultural studies, and comparative/international education among others). Symposia that bring together a number of papers based on a common discipline are especially encouraged, as are those that focus on pressing educational issues of wide scope. Other approaches are also welcome. Graduate students, as always, are encouraged to present their work.

### **Guidelines for Proposals**

Proposals must be submitted electronically. This year we are using a web-based on-line electronic system. All proposals should be submitted to the website at the following URL:

<http://facilitate.coe.uga.edu/aesa1/aesa.html>

and should be submitted by April 25, 2005. This system was initiated by Kathleen de Marrais at the University of Georgia in 2004 and we will try to build on the successful inaugural year. Any questions regarding on-line submissions should be directed to Steve Tozer at [stozer@uic.edu](mailto:stozer@uic.edu).

**Length.** Proposals for papers should not exceed two double-spaced pages. Proposals for panels, symposia, and alternative formats should not exceed three pages.

*(continued on p. 2)*

**Cover Sheet.** On the first page of each proposal, please provide the following information: title or topic of the proposal; category of the proposal (paper, symposium, panel, alternative); names, affiliations and relevant backgrounds of all participants (and, in the case of a symposium, the title of each participant's presentation); address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person submitting the proposal; and addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of all other participants. This identifying page will not be sent to reviewers. The body of the proposal should contain no identifying information on participants.

**Blind Review and Notification.** The Program Committee will review each proposal. Criteria for review will include the scholarly quality of the proposal, its educational significance, and its likely interest to the audience. Only the person submitting the proposal (the individual presenting a paper, for instance, or the organizer of a symposium) will be notified of the decision.

### Categories of Proposals

**Individual Papers:** A paper is a scholarly examination of a topic of interest to AESA members. Following the cover sheet, a paper proposal should restate the title of the paper, describe its contents, and discuss its significance. Presenters will have approximately 20 minutes to read or, preferably, summarize their work. Completed papers should be in the hands of session chairs and discussants by **October 4, 2005**.

**Symposia:** A symposium is composed of participants who deliver brief presentations based on prepared papers on a common theme. After the cover sheet, a symposium proposal should restate the topic of the session and the title of each presentation, discuss the significance of the topic, and describe the contents of each presentation. Most symposia will be allocated 90 minutes on the program. Time should be allowed for each presenter, for a discussant or critic, and for audience participation. Therefore, the organizer of the symposium should plan accordingly and give each presenter a time limit. A chair and a discussant (with contact information) should be identified on website where indicated. Symposium papers should reach the chair and discussant by **October 4, 2005**.

**Panels:** A panel discusses a topic as a group rather than through formal individual presentations, thereby allowing more direct give and take. Following the cover sheet, a panel proposal should restate the topic of the session, explain its significance, and describe the way it will be approached or discussed. Panelists should keep in mind that they will have no more than 90 minutes for their discussion, including audience participation, and plan accordingly. A chair (and contact information) should be identified where indicated on website. Although panels have less need for a discussant than paper sessions or symposia, a discussant can be identified if the organizer wishes.

**Alternative Presentations:** Proposals that do not fit into the above categories, such as performance pieces, video productions, debates, photo assemblages, or other creative endeavors, will also be considered. They should encourage critical reflection on educational issues and allow for audience participation. Following the cover sheet, an alternative proposal should include information on the topic or content of the presentation, and the method(s) or approach(es) taken by the presenter(s).

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#### Send Proposals to:

Steve Tozer

University of Illinois at Chicago

**From March 20 through April 25, 2005**

Electronic submissions only to  
<http://facilitate.coe.uga.edu/aesa1/aesa.html>

Direct questions to **Steve Tozer**  
[stozer@uic.edu](mailto:stozer@uic.edu)

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#### Convention Hotel Information:

Omni Hotel Charlottesville  
 235 W. Main Street  
 Charlottesville, VA 22902

For Reservations Call: 434-971-5500 or  
 1-800-THE-OMNI

**Editor's Correction**

**AESA Co-Historians: Richard Lakes and Patricia Carter  
Georgia State University**

AESA now has new Co-Historians for the association. They are Richard D. Lakes and Patricia A. Carter, from Georgia State University. They have been hard at work gathering materials from the previous Historian, Chris Eisele. I neglected to make this announcement in the first issue of the 2005 *AESA News and Comment*, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard and Patricia, on behalf of AESA members, for graciously taking on this important role. The materials that they are having transferred from Chris include materials going back to the 1960s through at least the 1990s.

**Call for Nominations**

According to AESA Bylaws, the Nominating Committee prepares “a slate of nominees for office by formally soliciting nominations from the membership of the Corporation, and by its own deliberations.” The committee ensures that “the slate broadly represents membership characteristics.”

Richard Quantz, Miami University, is the Chair of the Nomination Committee and welcomes nominations for **Vice-President** and for **three Executive Council members**. Send your nominations to [quantzra@muohio.edu](mailto:quantzra@muohio.edu).

**AESA Web Site**

<http://www3.uakron.edu/aesa>

The AESA web site is a valuable source for information on conferences, news and events, and publications. Additionally, you may renew your membership to AESA through the website.

**Renew Your Membership in AESA!**

**Membership Benefits:**

- *Educational Studies* (Published Quarterly)
- *AESA News and Comment* (Published Quarterly)
  - Annual Meeting
  - AESA Listserv Discussion Group
- Affiliation with the Council for the Social Foundations of Education (formerly Council of Learned Societies)

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