

November 17, 2006

News and information on NEA's Higher Education Web Site

Register Online 25th Annual Higher Education Conference
"The Academy at Work"
March 2 - 4, 2007 San Diego, CA

[Register now](#) and mark your calendar to join us for the 2007 NEA Higher Education Conference—The Academy at Work. The conference will be held at the [Hilton San Diego Resort on Mission Bay](#). Plan to attend Leadership Day on March 1, 2007. Leadership Day will focus on the nuts and bolts of collective bargaining and advocacy campaigns.

<http://nea.org/he/conf.html>

Thought & Action Special Focus: The Academy at Work



Read the many thought provoking articles that focus on the current working conditions of the academy. The growth of a predominately contingent faculty workforce, eradicating gender bias, taking greater responsibility as public intellectuals, and promoters of democracy are just some of the topics sure to stimulate your thinking.

<http://nea.org/he/tanda.html>

October Advocate Online



First-Year Students

The first year of college is a unique time in the lives of our students, whether they are fresh out of high school, returning to the classroom after many years away, or fall somewhere in between. Teaching these students is obviously a challenge because everything is so new to them. But it's also a prime opportunity to introduce higher level thinking to students new to the challenge of college-level work.

<http://nea.org/he/advo-new/>

Emerging Leaders Academy

Apply now for the next NEA Higher Education Emerging Leaders Academy training class. ELA provide hands-on training to new and future leaders of NEA higher education locals. The training is conducted in three sessions over a nine month period. Find out more about this program and apply by **February 20, 2007**.

<http://nea.org/he/leaders/emerging.html>

Speaking on College Affordability

Read the [testimony](#) of NEA Student Program Chairperson Anthony Daniels, on the issue of college affordability, before a recent US Department of Education rulemaking hearing. Anthony's personal testimony brought to light the burden of large student debt, insufficient federal aid, and the need to implement the recommendations that focus on access and affordability from the Secretary's Commission on the Future of Higher Education report. Read more about [NEA's engagement](#) in this issue.

Testifying at a hearing in Orlando, Florida on the Spellings Commission report, United Faculty of Florida president [Tom Auxter makes recommendations](#) on affordability, standardized testing, and the academic staffing crisis.

<http://nea.org/he/future/commission.html>

Union Victory at Evergreen State

Faculty members at Evergreen State College voted to unionize on Oct. 31. The United Faculty of Evergreen became the fourth faculty union among Washington's public colleges and universities who have organized unions

in the past two years. Professors and instructors at Central, Eastern, Western Washington and now Evergreen State are dual-affiliated with Washington Education Association/NEA and AFT-Washington/AFT.

<http://www.washingtonea.org/>

NEA Responds to Spellings Speech

Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings addressed the issues raised by the Secretary's Commission on the Future of Higher Education in a speech to the National Press Club on Tuesday, September 26, 2006. NEA has been closely following the Commission's activities over the past year, and released [this statement](#) in response to the Secretary's speech.

<http://www.nea.org/newsreleases/2006/nr060926.html>

Call for Papers

"Will the Past Define the Future"

Submit articles for this [special section](#) in the 2007 issue of *Thought & Action*. Deadline for papers is **April 15, 2007**.

<http://nea.org/he/heta/index.html>

Vote On This Question

Have faculty search committees been successful in promoting diversity? [Vote now!](#)

<http://nea.org/he/advo-new/index.html#vote>

Protecting Academic Freedom

Take a look at this [presentation](#) (pdf, 108 kb) for a look at the history of academic freedom, recent threats to academic freedom, and NEA's role in protecting academic freedom. For more information on protecting academic freedom, go to <http://nea.org/he/freedom/index.html>

<http://nea.org/he/freedom/index.html>

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