

February/ March 2008
Volume 1, Issue 3

AP/IB/Advanced Curriculum

Mark Your Calendar:

- 3/18/2008
1-day follow-up vertical
team training
- 7/16-7/20/2008- AP
National Conference in
Seattle, WA & IB National
Conference in San
Francisco, CA

For additional details
about information in the
newsletter, contact:
Angel Dowden
6341 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-6341
919-807-3895

Angel Dowden, AP/ IB Program Coordinator, NCDPI

The 2008 AP/IB and Honors Forum

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction held its 4th annual AP/IB and Honors Forum on February 13, 2008, at the Twin City Quarter in Winston-Salem, NC. This year's theme was equity and access in advance curriculum courses for all students.

In keeping with the mission of the Advanced Placement (AP) Incentive Grant, the Forum sought to have conversations on how North Carolina can make advance curriculum coursework, such as academically gifted (AG), AP, International Baccalaureate (IB) and Honors, more accessible to underrepresented populations like American Indian, African American, and Hispanic/ Latino students.

To do this, the keynote speaker was Dr. William Darity, professor of Economics at Duke University. Dr. Darity spoke about connecting advance curriculum coursework from K-12 and exposing underrepresented populations to advance curriculum coursework in earlier grades (i.e. 2nd or 3rd grade). Over 450 participants were on hand

to take part in the Forum. Not only were participants able to select from over 47 breakout sessions, but they were also able to hear about the marriage of AP and IB curriculums by the IB coordinator at Enloe High School, April Hoffman, during the luncheon. Breakout session topics included Diversity and Openness: Keys to Growing a Successful AP Program, Achieving High Levels in AP/IB and Honors World Language Exams as well as Field Trips for AP Environmental Science, to name a few. The luncheon closed with words of educational encouragement by Dr. June Atkinson, State Superintendent.

Overall, the AP/ IB and Honors Forum was a great success. In years past the Forum was dominated by AP information, but this years' Forum coordinator worked diligently to ensure that Honors and IB were well represented. That goal was well

accomplished. In addition to the numerous AP breakout sessions that were held, IB topics included Features of the IB Diploma Programme as well as What is the IB Programme, to name a few, and Honors topics ranged from Career and Technical Education courses to U.S. History.

Stay tuned, for information on next years event. For more information on AP and IB, visit www.ncpublicschools.org/apinitiatives.



Dr. William Darity
Professor of Economics at Duke
University

Professional Development in AP/IB and beyond



“Increasing the enrollment of underrepresented students in Advance Placement, International Baccalaureate and other advance curriculums.”



With the rapid changes in the educational landscaping and the rise of competitiveness amongst college going students, it is not enough to simply teach an advance curriculum course, be it AP, IB, and/or Honors. Teachers must take advantage of the wealth of professional development opportunities available.

Professional development is not simply a means of keeping licensure current. It is also a means of ensuring that educators are prepared for the 21st century and are preparing students for the 21st century.

It is now time to begin registering for summer institutes and National Conferences. On January 31, 2008, the College Board posted its listing of summer institutes available in North Carolina in all official AP courses. Educators interested in attending a summer institute should visit: http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Pageflows/use_rmanagement/login/fromEPL.do, establish an account and view available options.

The week long summer institutes are 5 day, detailed workshops in specific College Board approved AP areas. The institutes are \$1000.00 per person. This fee includes the week long

course as well as lodging for the week. If asking your school or school district to pay \$1000.00 is steep, consider applying for one of the College Board’s grants that will cover this type of professional development. The AP fellows grant is an individual grant awarded to teachers for \$1000.00 per teacher. To receive more information about this grant program, visit: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/ap-grants/fellows>. Additionally, the College Board offers whole school grant programs as well. Be sure to check those out.

Both the College Board and the International Baccalaureate organizations offer national conferences during the summer. This year’s national conferences for both organizations take place July 16-20, 2008. The College Board’s national conference will be in Seattle, WA, while the International Baccalaureate’s will take place in San Francisco, CA. Visit <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/prof-dev/eventsstudents> for information about the College Board conference and

<http://www.ibnaconference.org/> for information about the International Baccalaureate events.

Education is not stagnate, and as educators, we must not become stagnate. Let’s continue to move forward in education by taking advantage of professional development for advance curriculum coursework in order to make North Carolina a leading state in education as well as continue to decrease dropout rates and produce the best and brightest future leaders. Visit www.ncpublicschools.org/apinitiatives for more information.