



WV-EPFP from left to right:
 Cynthia Gissy, Steve Rodriguez, Donna Peduto, Barbara Owens, Adam Green,
 Melanie Skeen-Gregory, Rockie DeLorenzo, Nathan Estel, Amena Anderson
 with West Virginia First Lady Gayle C. Manchin

Presenters from the 2007-2008 program year included:

- Pat Getty**, President-Claude W. Benedum Foundation
- Karen Huffman**, Special Assistant to State Superintendent-WV Department of Education
- Lloyd Jackson**, President-Jackson Gas (former WV Senate Education Chair)
- Dr. Pat Kussimo**, CEO-West Virginia Center for Professional Development
- First Lady Gayle Manchin**-The State of West Virginia
- Linda Martin**, President-Challenge West Virginia
- Brian Noland**, Chancellor-West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
- Howard O’Cull**, Executive Director-West Virginia School Boards Association
- James Phares**, Superintendent-Marion County Schools
- Roman Prezioso**, Chair-West Virginia Senate Health and Human Services Committee
- Rachel Tompkins**, President-Rural Schools and Community Trust



The Center for Education in Appalachia

~ Is committed to supporting public education that leads to economic opportunity in West Virginia and across Appalachia.

- ~ Attempts to build networks and partnerships between people and organizations committed to education in West Virginia and the Appalachian region;
- ~ Serves as an information resource to state educational policy making efforts in West Virginia with a special focus on its unique rural, Appalachian context;
- ~ Facilitates efforts to *push up* issues and working models from local communities and to generate knowledge so that state policy initiatives will be effective when implemented within local communities.

WV-EPFP Program Details

Program Timeline: October 2008 – May 2009

Program Costs:

Program Fee: \$2500

The first 18 fellows who apply and are accepted will receive a \$1000 stipend to offset this fee.

Travel:

Fellows are also responsible for lodging and travel costs to attend national conferences in Phoenix, AZ and Washington, DC. The Center for Education in Appalachia will support the first 18 accepted fellows with \$1450 to offset travel related costs.

It is the goal of WV-EPFP for Fellows to have sponsors to offset these program costs.

For more information please contact:

Dr. Craig McClellan, Director
 The Center for Education in Appalachia
 Fairmont State University
 Website: www.fairmontstate.edu/cea
 Phone: (304) 367-4824



Supported by a generous grant from the
 Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

The West Virginia Education Policy Fellows Program (WV-EPFP) creates and maintains networks of key state stakeholders and patrons committed to the mission of public education in West Virginia. The program will help advance the knowledge base of emerging state leaders to accomplish the challenges of modern leadership and to effectively represent West Virginia within the national policy debate. These networks include state and local education agencies, state level policy makers, and representatives of the business and corporate communities. WV-EPFP is affiliated with the national EPFP program sponsored by the Institute for Educational Leadership.

"EPFP opened us all up to the writers, implementers and critics of the policies that provide the foundation for West Virginia's public schools."

Nathan Estel
Director, Office of Professional Preparation
West Virginia Department of Education



What Do Fellows Learn?

EPFP curriculum focuses on leadership, policy, and networking within the state and national contexts. Current and prospective state leaders are identified as policy fellows, and participate in local and national forums to enable these leaders to:

- ~ Develop and refine their leadership voice;
- ~ Understand, identify and expand their ability to influence education policy making;
- ~ Gain access to the people, processes, and systems that shape policy on behalf of children, families and communities;
- ~ Join a state and national network of diverse policymakers, decision makers, and practitioners.

Fellows use their work settings as the context for examining important leadership and policy issues in their states and in the nation. The program provides Fellows with experiences:

- ~ To help them understand how policy is made and influenced;
- ~ To learn about key education policy issues;
- ~ To explore connections and collisions between the issues and their champions and/or critics;
- ~ To become skillful conversant with policy-makers and stakeholder at all levels;
- ~ To hone their skills as leaders and partners in collaborative change.

How Do Cohort Seminars Work?

West Virginia's 2008-2009 EPFP cohort will be based in Charleston. Policy seminars will take place October 2008 thru May 2009. Seminars focus on topics relevant to WV's people and state including the following topics:

- ~ Networking and collaboration among education stakeholders;
- ~ The West Virginia education policy making process;
- ~ Linkages between education, the WV economy and the media;
- ~ Issues embedded in the 21st Century Learning Partnership and other major state initiatives;
- ~ Topics relevant to Appalachia, that impact West Virginia schools, children and families.

Policy fellows also participate in two national IEL conferences focusing on leadership and policy. This years events will be held in Phoenix, AZ and Washington, DC.

Current and potential state and local leaders are recruited from educational stakeholder groups such as the West Virginia Department of Education, state elected officials, state educational organizations, and business and community leaders.

Who is IEL?

The Institute for Educational Leadership is a non-profit, non-partisan organization located in Washington DC. IEL's mission is to build the capacity of individuals and organizations in education and related fields to work together across policies, programs and sectors to improve the quality of services and outcome for American's children and families.

- ~ IEL prepares over 200 fellows a year nationally and has been in existence since 1964.
- ~ Alumni include distinguished national figures as well as leaders within the educational political and business communities of West Virginia.
- ~ EPFP Programs currently exist in Arizona, Connecticut, Indiana, Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and the District of Columbia.



www.iel.org