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# South

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT, SOUTHERN CONSORTIUM.

## 2007 Conference Overview

Kennesaw State University can be added to the list of schools successfully hosting the American Democracy Project-South Conference. Clayton State University hosted in 2005 and Morehead State hosted in 2006. In 2008 we will be at Middle Tennessee State University, in 2009 at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, GA., and in 2010, we will be at Norfolk State University in Virginia.



Photo: Student participants at the ADP South 2007 conference at Kennesaw State University

We have added to our consortium. Molly Kerby, Western Kentucky University has agreed to serve as Secretary. In this capacity Molly will send out newsletters updating the membership on news and plans. Gregg Kaufman, Georgia College and State University, will serve as vice Chair this coming year. Ron Kates, Middle Tennessee State University, will be the Chair from 2007-2008. Amelia Ross-Hammond, Norfolk State will serve as the board member charged with finding new program initiatives.

Derek Sutton, North Georgia College, will serve as the board member charged with student initiative. Greg Granger, Northwest Louisiana State, will serve as a board member at large along with Ron Sitton, University of Arkansas-Monticello. Remaining on the board will be David Locascio, Longwood University in Virginia, and past chairs Bev McCormick (Morehead State University), Gene Hatfield (Clayton State University) and Jackie Tisdell (Louisiana System)



## THE HONORABLE JUDGE PRICE

ADP South guest speaker Judge Charles Price became Alabama's first African-American circuit judge when he was appointed to fill a vacancy. He is best known for his decision regarding the unconstitutionality of fellow circuit Judge Roy Moore displaying the Ten Commandments behind his bench and holding prayer within the courtroom, a ruling Caroline Kennedy asserted "demonstrated both integrity and courage . . . [in] support[ing] our nation's historical separation of church and state."



## Speaker Ben Keesey, Invisible Children CEO

*"...We are storytellers. We are visionaries, humanitarians, artists, and entrepreneurs. We are individuals part of a generation eager for change and willing to pursue it."*

<http://www.invisiblechildren.com/>

After finishing his last college final at UCLA, Ben Keesey got on a plane the next day to go to Africa. He has not been the same since. As a math/accounting major with college internship at several major accounting firms, he thought he was preparing for a job in corporate America. He was wrong. Motivated by the unseen war in Northern Uganda, Invisible Children was created by three young filmmakers with a singular mission: to use the power of stories to change lives around the world. Keesey helped found the organization in 2003 and runs its daily operations. He has a powerful story to share with today's students about making a difference.

In the spring of 2003, three young filmmakers traveled to Africa in search of a story. What started out as a film-making venture transformed into much more when these boys from Southern California discovered a tragedy that disgusted and inspired them, a tragedy where children are both the weapons and the victims.

After returning to the States, they created the documentary "Invisible Children: Rough Cut," a film that exposes the tragic realities of northern Uganda's night commuters and child soldiers.

The film was originally shown to friends and family, but has now been seen by millions of people. The overwhelming response has been, "How can I help?" To answer this question, the non-profit Invisible Children, Inc. was created, giving compassionate individuals an effective way to respond to the situation.

### Schools for Schools:

Introducing a program that's bridging cultures, connecting people and impacting lives. Schools for Schools is a unique initiative that rallies students across the world to think of creative fundraising ideas to rebuild schools in northern Uganda, ultimately bringing 10 of the country's war-torn schools to a nationally competitive standard. Students and schools who sign up to make a difference are connected via an interactive online community where they can track how much money they've raised, how it's helping, and what others across the globe are doing to make an impact.

In its first semester, more than 580 schools signed up and raised over \$1.2 million for schools in the conflict region. Second semester is now underway.  
[http://www.invisiblechildren.com/theMission/schools\\_for\\_schools](http://www.invisiblechildren.com/theMission/schools_for_schools)

## 2007 Award Winners



### Campus award:

First Place - Georgia College and State University (Alternative Spring Break),  
Second Place - Clayton State University (SAM Chapter)  
Third Place - Norfolk State University (Constitution Day)

### Co-curricular award:

First Place - Western Kentucky University (Women and Children Learning Camp),  
Second Place - Georgia College and State University (Newspaper Literacy Program)  
Third Place - Norfolk State University (Jena Six)

### Curricular award:

First Place - Morehead State University (Literacy Program),  
Second Place - Clayton State University (Graduate HR Class)  
Third Place - Norfolk State University (HIV Prevention)



## Student "THINK TANK"

This year the conference featured something new, a student's only Civic Engagement Think Tank competition. Students were assigned to groups and asked to develop a cross-campus, diversity education program. Each group was given time to develop ideas and programs that could be used at their universities. The goal of the THINK TANK was to promote collaborative learning in the democratic process among students at campuses in the southern region. The winners of the THINK TANK will receive funding for the ADP Conference in Snow Bird Utah, June 2008, if they successfully complete their project during the spring semester. Funding will be provided by the New York Times.



Photo: *THINK TANK* winners:  
Not pictured (Maira Garcia & Alexis Dabney—Texas St-San Marcos). Pictured: Petra Kohlman (New York Times); Joe DeLong & Brandon Ward (Western Carolina University); Chris Thibodeaux, Tom Andris & Justine Mays (Georgia College and State Uni-



# Focus on Campus Projects

## WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY'S WOMEN & KIDS LEARNING TOGETHER CAMP



Photo collage by Trish Lindsay Jagers (WKLT Camp 2006)

The Women & Kids Learning Together Summer Camp (WKLT) is a new project sponsored by the Women's Studies Program at Western Kentucky University. The annual summer event is a student-led, week-long camp for low-income women in the Bowling Green and surrounding areas of south central Kentucky. Students take the role of coordinators for both the women's camp and the kid's camp and are responsible for acquiring grant money, marketing, and publications related to the camp. Additional students from the campus community are recruited to lead sessions such as dance, art, and health. Student coordinators and session leaders are given 200 book stipend for working at the camp. WKLT is the only project in Kentucky that serves as an esteem builder for low-income women and their children.

WKLT focuses on education, the arts, and physical and emotional wellness in order to help improve the lives of low-income and under-educated women in the Bowling Green and surrounding areas of south central Kentucky. Through student-led classes, workshops, and teambuilding activities, these women will be better prepared for long-term education and employment. They participate in activities that allow them to explore self-expression and engage in new experiences. The *kids, too* portion of the program encourages the participants' children to be creative and to express themselves in positive and healthy ways. The children participate in art, drama, dance, and creative writing activities, again, all led by Western students. This aspect of the program supports WKU's efforts to encourage active student learning and community engagement.

For more information visit <http://www.wku.edu/womensstudies/wklt/wklthome.htm>.

## SERVICE LEARNING IN HERITAGE LEARNING AT NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY (Natchitoches, LA)



Photos: View of c. 1909 St. Charles Chapel; Heritage Resources student Jason Foust scrapes paint from windows after recent repainting of historic St. Charles Chapel (Bermuda, LA).

Graduate and undergraduate students in Heritage Resources at Northwestern State University (NSU)—an ADP South participant—engaged in a range of Service Learning activities over the course of the Fall 2007 semester. Specifically, students enrolled in a graduate seminar in Heritage Resource Management (HR 5400) and those in an undergraduate Introduction to Historic Preservation class (HPRE 2010) completed a minimum of 20 and 10 hours of service, respectively. The students kept journals over the course of the semester in which they recorded immediate impressions, logged hours worked, posed questions for future research, and from which they could reflect back on the semester's assorted activities at the end of the term so as to prepare in-class presentations as well as five-page critical evaluations of their Service Learning experiences and how they articulate with specific course content and the assorted agencies' missions. In addition to their Service Learning requirement, these same students have Meeting Attendance requirements which are met by attending meetings of their local Historic District Commission, Planning & Zoning board, Heritage Area meetings, and other planning meetings that involve the wealth of heritage resources from the surrounding 44,000 acre Cane River National Heritage Area in which NSU's campus is located. The Meeting Attendance minimums are 10 and 5 hours for the graduate and undergraduates, respectively.



Photo: Heritage Resources clean-up crew at St. Charles Chapel (l-r): Amanda Paul, Suzanne Graham, Rebecca Bonnet, Dr. Julie Ernstein, Jason Foust, Kate Baldwin, and Ryan Smith.



## Coming in 2008

Gulf-South Summit  
Belmont University, Nashville, TN.  
March 13-15, 2008

The Gulf South Summit brings together national speakers and over 350 practitioners for dialogue on these themes and provides a forum for best practices, sharing of research, and development of a professional network of practitioners in all aspects of service-learning. Faculty, staff, students, community leaders, and community partners are invited to participate in the Summit. For registration information, visit <http://campus.belmont.edu/gss2008/index.htm>

The American Democracy Project  
National Meeting  
Snowbird, Utah  
June 12-15, 2008

Planning is well under way for AASCU's 2008 American Democracy Project (ADP). Mark your calendar!

The American Democracy Project  
Southern Consortium-2008  
Middle Tennessee State University  
TBA



Photo: Student THINK TANK members (runners-up)

Does your campus have an awesome service-learning or civic engagement project that you would like to share with the ADP Southern Consortium? Is there an event coming up you would like published in our newsletter?

Let us know!!!!

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## ADP South Executive Council

### 2008-09

Jackie Tisdell, Founding Chair  
- Louisiana System

Gene Hatfield, Past Chair-  
Clayton College and State University

Mike McCullough Ex. Dir. Ctr -  
The University of Tennessee  
at Martin

Beverly McCormick, Past  
Chair - Morehead State University

Ron Kates Chair - Middle Tennessee State University (2009)

Greg Kaufman, Vice Chair,  
Georgia College and State University

Ron Sitton, At Large, University of Arkansas- Monticello

Greg Granger, At Large,  
Northwestern State University

David Locascio, At Large,  
Longwood University

Molly Kerby, Communications Secretary,  
Western Kentucky University

Amelia Ross-Hammond, Program Initiatives,  
Norfolk State University

Derek Sutton, Student Initiatives,  
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