



Critical Questions In Education: Volume 6, Issue 1

The Academy for Educational Studies
Springfield, Missouri

June 15, 2015

Colleagues and Friends of the Academy:

Welcome to Volume 6, Issue 2 of *CQIE*! Before getting to an overview of this issue, we have a couple of Academy updates.

As you may know, the Academy is in its second year of hosting not one, but two annual conferences. Our Director Steve Jones has been diligently working to put in place what will certainly be a couple of great events—November 2-4 in Baltimore and March 7-9 in San Antonio. The Baltimore deadline for submitting proposals is fast approaching. For more details about both conferences, please visit our brand new web site: academyforeducationalstudies.org. You will also find two calls for special theme issue articles—one for *CQIE* and another for our most recent venture—resurrecting the venerable *Thresholds in Education* journal published on paper only until recently at Northern Illinois University.

And with that news out of the way, onto *Volume 6, Issue 2*. Our first essay examines the growing national practice of providing merit pay to school teachers. T.J. Brewer, P.S. Myers, and Michael Zhang examine the history and research on merit pay programs concluding that such “schemes” might create competition rather than collaboration among teacher colleagues. David Roof follows with an intriguing historical piece meant to help us understand where we have been so we can understand how we “got” “here.” Our third manuscript takes up servant leadership as a pedagogical philosophy. Robert Fitzgerald argues that the basic tenets of servant leadership make for a humane, even spiritual, classroom pedagogy. Finally, Andrew McKnight presents his qualitative findings from work with inner city youth and their reactions to time they spent in the institution of schooling—certainly a group from which we could all learn some crucially valuable lessons.

We also have our regular book review: Steve Jones and his student Sariah Roberts critically review William Deresiewicz’ *Excellent Sheep: the Miseducation of the American Elite and the Way to a Meaningful Life*. Last, and certainly not least, one of our favorite video essays to date: *The Academy Talks with Gary Orfield*.

PAX,

Eric C. Sheffield, Founding Editor

Jessica A. Heybach, Associate Editor