A Call for Papers

"Politics, Activism, and the History of America's Public Schools"

A Conference Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of The Irony of Early School Reform

April 12th, 2008 at The University of Pennsylvania

Upon its publication, Professor Michael B. Katz's *The Irony of Early School Reform* (1968) underscored the possibility of using historical study to shed light on the contemporary state of schooling in the United States. This one-day conference aims to bring together emerging and veteran scholars whose work, like *Irony*, excavates the past to expose the present.

Conference organizers are soliciting papers from younger scholars—graduate students and assistant professors in the early stages of their career—whose work engages the history of America's public schools with an eye toward contemporary challenges and debates. The conference program committee will organize panels from submitted papers. During these panels, young scholars will have 15 minutes to present their papers, after which they will be discussed in a rigorous yet supportive workshop setting facilitated by a leading expert in the field.

With generous support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York City, the Spencer Foundation, and various departments and programs at the University of Pennsylvania, we have been able to secure the participation of some of the most eminent researchers in the history of American Education. We also will be able to offer a select group of younger scholars funding to offset travel costs. By bringing together junior and senior scholars for a day of critique, encouragement, and shared questioning, we hope to strengthen the community of scholars committed to studying the history of American education.

Submission Deadline: December 8, 2007

Submission Procedures: Please send the following information as attachments to penn_edconf08@hotmail.com

- * A paper proposal of 350 words that identifies the topic, its significance, and preliminary findings
- * A c.v. containing email and mailing addresses



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