



## **AESA Annual Conference Update December 3-6, 2008 Phoenix, Arizona**

### **2008 Annual Conference features three internationally recognized speakers**

Three internationally acclaimed speakers will highlight the general sessions at the 2008 AESA Annual Conference, December 3-6 at Phoenix. The conference also features 100 concurrent sessions presented by ESAs and the choice of two optional preconference events: the Board Member and CEO Pre-Con organized by the AESA Foundation or the NAMTC Leadership Summit presented by the National Association of Media and Technology Centers.

### **Register online now – Rates go up on November 1**

AESA member registration by credit card is currently \$695 per person. All staff and board members of an agency are members. The rate for online credit card registration increases to \$795 after November 1. AESA member registration with check, purchase order, fax, or mail is \$750 before November 1 and \$850 after that date. Registration for the AESA Annual Conference, AESA Foundation Pre-Con, and NAMTC Leadership Summit are available online at:

[http://www.aesa.us/AnnConf2008\\_Registration.html](http://www.aesa.us/AnnConf2008_Registration.html)

### **Hotel rooms, rates, tied to online registration**

AESA has a negotiated room rate at the J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge of \$199 per night. AESA members may register for that rate online after they have completed conference registration. The computerized system requires conference registration before it will accept hotel reservations. The AESA rate is a significant discount from the hotel's regular room rates of \$350 - \$450 and up per night.

### **Conference speakers**

Opening the conference at the Thursday General Session will be **Yong Zhao, Ph.D.** Zhao has published extensively in the areas of globalization and education, digital citizenship, diffusion of innovation, teacher adaptation of technology, computer assisted language learning, and international and comparative education. Friday's General Session speaker is **Ruby Payne, Ph.D.** She has written or co-authored more than a dozen books, with her foundational work, *A Framework for Understanding Poverty*, having sold over 1 million copies. Saturday's closing General Session speaker is **Susan K. Sciafani, Ph.D.** She served as Assistant Secretary of Education for Vocational and Adult Education in the U.S. Department of Education from 2003-2005. During that time, she was the United States' representative to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and to the Asia-Pacific Cooperation (APEC). She has continued her international work with the Chartwell Education Group.

### **100 concurrent sessions**

The 100 concurrent sessions are grouped in five strands on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, December 4, 5, and 6. The strands, and number of sessions in each, are: Delivering Success, 26; Demonstrating Results, 13; Measuring Success, 26; Technology: Transforming Learning, 17; and, Tools for Collaboration, 18.

### **AESA Foundation's preconference**

The AESA Foundation's Board Member and CEO Preconference is on Wednesday, December 3. The staff of the Professional Development Alliance at Joliet, Illinois will facilitate the program. The highly interactive, multi-media, activity based session will utilize the M I C E Effect strategy: Make it possible, Imagine the possibilities, Champion the difference, and Empower others! Cost of the AESA Foundation Preconference is \$150, and may be included when registering online for the AESA Annual Conference.

### **NAMTC Leadership Summit preconference**

In addition, the National Association of Media and Technology Centers will conduct its 10<sup>th</sup> NAMTC Leadership Summit on December 2 and 3 at Phoenix. The day-and-a-half event will provide insights into the rapidly changing technologies that are influencing instructional strategies. **Phil Fawcett**, principal program manager for Microsoft Research, will be the keynote speaker for NAMTC's closing session. Registration for the NAMTC Leadership Summit is \$200, and may be done when registering online for the AESA Annual Conference.

### **Complete your online registration now**

The steps for registering for the AESA Annual Conference, preconference events, and other activities are detailed on the AESA website at:

[http://www.aesa.us/AnnConf2008\\_Registration.html](http://www.aesa.us/AnnConf2008_Registration.html)

We look forward to seeing you at Phoenix!