

Connections

The Atlanta University Center Consortium, Inc.



AUC Consortium Launches APN Communiversality, Community Leadership Development Certificate Program

In February of 2013, twenty-four metro-Atlanta residents took part in the launch of a uniquely designed Community Leadership Development Certificate Program - the brainchild of AUC Consortium Executive Director, Dr. Sherry Turner. Six weeks later, the course on personal leadership dynamics has been applauded for its ingenuity and deemed, by some, as a blueprint for neighborhood capacity development.

The first of three six-week courses offered participants essential tools for learning personal strengths and community leadership through effective public speaking, networking, time management and personal branding. Class sessions also featured intimate conversations with local leaders such as Atlanta Planning Advisory Board President Cathy Richards, "Able" Mable Thomas of the Georgia State General Assembly, and Fulton County Assistant District Attorney and Community Prosecutor Steven Jones.

The Community Leadership Development Certificate Program represents Phase I of the AUC Consortium's CommUniversality, a newly emerging community-oriented learning institute. Through Communiversality, faculty and administrators from the Consortium and local-area experts facilitate a broad range of courses. Residents living within Atlanta Promise Neighborhood boundaries may take advantage of various low-cost options. Future courses will focus on coalition building, homeownership, financial

literacy and personal development. Participants will be awarded a certificate at the conclusion of the program.

For several years now, AUC Consortium member campuses have been fulfilling their promise to support community revitalization within adjacent and nearby neighborhoods. Dr. Turner, who serves as CommUniversality Director stated, "*Launching CommUniversality is only one way that Atlanta University Center Consortium member schools have lived up to their promises in the past year. We were also one of the first to support the proposed West End Community Improvement District by contributing financial support and staff to help that project come to fruition.*" Through our Atlanta Promise Neighborhood initiative we are working with community leaders to improve educational opportunities, community health, housing safety, and economic development.

The inaugural session, *Personal Leadership Dynamics*, concluded on March 11, 2013 at Morehouse School of Medicine. The second session, *Organizational Dynamics & Leadership*, is slated to begin April 6, 2013 and will focus on conflict resolution, team-building and group processes. Applications are now available and consideration will be given to those who register early.



Atlanta Promise Neighborhood Communiversality: Enhancing Neighborhood Leadership and Capacity



Executive Director's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

For nearly 150 years, the AUC Consortium and its member institutions have lead the nation in cultivating leadership among promising undergraduate, graduate and professional students. This year, we build upon our foundation of excellence in higher education with the launch of our Community Leadership Development Certificate Program. The creation of this program also marks the establishment of the Consortium's Communiversality, whose mission is to provide innovative community-oriented learning opportunities to enrich lives, strengthen the workforce, enhance the community, and facilitate the fulfillment of Atlanta Promise Neighborhood goals.

Our courses are designed to provide Atlanta Promise Neighborhood residents and other metro-Atlanta citizens who desire to transform their communities with essential tools for understanding their own strengths, mobilizing strong teams and accomplishing collective goals. We hope that you will join us as agents for change as we continue to build stronger communities.

Sincerely,

Sherry

Sherry L. Turner, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Community Leadership Development Certificate Program Advisory Board

- Damian Boyd, *Pastor, The Vertical Church*
- Tacuma Brown, *Sr. Adviser for Community Relations, AUC Consortium*
- Sandra Bush, *NPU-T Liaison, APAB Education Committee*
- Gwen Cain, *Program Manager, Morehouse Community Revitalization Initiative*
- Nia Knowles, *Vice President, NPU-T*
- Cathy Richards, *President, Atlanta Planning Advisory Board*
- Deborah Scott, *Executive Director, Stand-UP/Trade-UP*
- Dr. Jane Smith, *Executive Director, Spelman College Center for Leadership & Civic Engagement*
- Dr. Bruce Strickland, *Director, Clark Atlanta University Global Leadership Academy*
- Dr. Sherry L. Turner, *Executive Director, AUC Consortium, Inc.*
- TBD, *Morehouse School of Medicine*



Leadership Course Highlights Strengths of Charter Class Participants

For six weeks, participants in the Community Leadership Development Program were presented with new opportunities to improve their public speaking, time management and personal branding. Participants were able to use assessment tools to discover their greatest talents and strengths. Each class session was facilitated using hands-on-interaction, group activities and close-up introductions to exemplary local leaders.



The Strategists
DaDa Beecher
Ayana Gabriel
Stephanie Hunte
Jeff Kazanow
Orville Lindstrom

The Influencers
C. Shaheed DuBois
Damien Smith
Gil Frank



The Achievers
Kiesha Cooper
Carla Morrison
Vida McCallum



The Relationship Builders

Trina Baynes
Paul Brown
Viola January
D. Makeda Johnson
Danielle Joyner
Marcia Lopez
Murjan Rasheed
Marva Shelton
Cassandra Sutton



Personal Dynamics of Leadership Instructors

Virtues of Leadership

Ms. Jamila Canady

Public Speaking

Ms. Felesha Love & Ms. Wanda Whiteside

Priorities & Time Management

Ms. Zarat Boyd

Recognizing Leadership Strengths

Dr. Sherry Turner

Managing Your Personal Brand

Ms. Tomika DePriest

Networking for Results

Ms. Denise Holmes

The Atlanta University Center Consortium, Inc.

OUR MISSION

The Atlanta University Center Consortium is the world's oldest and largest association of historically Black colleges and universities. Comprised of four member institutions – Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Spelman College, the Consortium is a vibrant intellectual community with a long tradition of scholarship, service and community engagement. AUC Consortium, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that operates on behalf of its members to advance each institution's mission and strategic goals by fostering collaboration, managing center-wide initiatives, offering services that benefit our students and community, and leveraging our shared resources.

CommUniversity: A Community-Oriented Learning Institute

The aim of CommUniversity is to offer a wide-range of innovative community-oriented learning opportunities for residents, service providers, business owners and other stakeholders to enhance personal enrichment, workforce development and the achievement of Atlanta's Promise Neighborhood (APN) and Choice Neighborhood (CN) goals and objectives. CommUniversity is the community-learning component of the APN continuum of solutions. It is designed to promote collaboration and mutual learning among members of the campus community, residents and service providers. CommUniversity includes a comprehensive, integrated, and coordinated set of community learning opportunities across the APN strategic areas.

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