AUC Consortium Extends Community Reach, Welcomes New Staff

The AUC Consortium has recently made significant strides in its civic engagement efforts. At the center of this shift is Dr. Sherry Turner’s decision to nurture more authentic community relationships by adding two new staff positions. Turner, who was appointed Executive Director of the Consortium in 2011, has undertaken a bold restructuring of the organization to reflect the priority member campuses have placed on community revitalization. Since arriving at the Consortium, Turner observed that whenever a matter of concern begged for the input of experienced and knowledgeable community leaders, time and time again, she received counsel from two people. One seemed to have the wisdom of a chieftain. The other consistently made it known that she was there to help. These attributes made them excellent choices for the newly created positions. Mr. Jerry “Tacuma” Brown now serves as the Senior Advisor for Community Relations and Ms. Wanda Whiteside, as the Community Outreach Coordinator.

A 25-year resident of Atlanta, Brown is widely respected for his dedication to the community. He provided effective leadership as the Chair of NPU-T from 1997-2008. He currently serves as a member of the Housing Authority of Fulton County Board of Commissioners and of the Executive Board for the Male Action Coalition, a nonprofit mentoring group for young males. In his new role, Brown will advise the Consortium’s Executive Director and Council of Presidents on community concerns.

An avid communicator, Whiteside is a natural for the new Community Outreach Coordinator position in which she will ensure a positive flow of communication throughout the campus and community. Crowned Ms. Howard in 1974, Whiteside holds a degree in theatre from Howard University and is an Emmy award winner with a background in the media. She has worked for such major media outlets as NBC-TV and the Chicago Tribune. An Atlanta resident since 1997, Whiteside is a three-term president of the Atlanta University Center Neighborhood Association.

As ambassadors, both Whiteside and Brown will help identify opportunities for collaboration and work to build alliances with residents, community leaders and other stakeholders involved in addressing community concerns.

The appointments of Brown and Whiteside signal a pivotal juncture for the AUC Consortium, the campuses and the community.
The AUC Consortium, through its member institutions, promotes leadership, service, and civic responsibility within our surrounding and broader communities.

AUC CONSORTIUM COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (UCDC)

A non-profit corporation that coordinates community development projects for the AUC schools. Since 1988, UCDC has worked to promote economic development and enhance the physical neighborhood and the quality of life for the more than 15,000 residents in areas near the AUC. UCDC acquires, rehabilitates, and facilitates decent affordable housing for moderate and low-income families.

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY CENTER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (AUCNA)

Promotes historical preservation and works to improve and sustain a high quality of life for the AUC neighborhood. AUCNA provides leadership in representing the interests of residents, businesses, organizations and educational institutions to the City of Atlanta and the community at large.

AUC CONSORTIUM COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP COLLABORATIVE (CLC)

Provides guidance to the AUC Consortium Executive Director and Council of Presidents in defining the primary goals and key strategies in building a vibrant community within and around the AUCC schools. The CLC consists of a broad range of stakeholders representing faith-based institutions; neighborhood associations; community organizations; government entities such as Atlanta Housing Authority, Atlanta Public Schools and Atlanta Police Department; merchants associations and UCDC.

ATLANTA PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD

A collaboration among the AUC Consortium, United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta and the Atlanta Housing Authority designed to ensure that all children and youth growing up in the targeted neighborhood will have access to great schools and strong systems of family and community support that will prepare them to attain an excellent education and successfully transition to college and a career.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Effective education
- Financial and economic stability of families
- Improved health and wellness
- Quality affordable housing
- Safe places and a strong public infrastructure
Did You Know?
The AUC Consortium member schools are located within Council District 4 (represented by Councilmember Cleta Winslow) and District 3 (represented by Councilmember Ivory Young). At-large city council representatives are Michael Bond, H. Lamar Willis and Aaron Watson.

Have You Heard?
The Atlanta University Center Neighborhood Association (AUCNA) became an official neighborhood association under the City of Atlanta’s Neighborhood Planning Unit system in 2009. It consists of the four AUC Consortium schools (Spelman, Morehouse, CAU and Morehouse School of Medicine), residents, businesses and faith-based organizations in the area. AUCNA exists to perpetuate the historic significance of the area, stimulate community economic development, reshape the area into a sought after end destination; and improve quality of life of the community. Membership is open to all students, faculty and staff of AUC Consortium Schools.

The AUC community is one of several neighborhoods that make up NPU-T, an advisory committee formed to give citizens input on City Council legislation concerning land use, zoning changes and other issues that may impact the development and character of a neighborhood. Other neighborhood associations include College Town, Ashview Heights, Booker T. Washington, Just-Us Neighbors, Beecher-Donnelly, West End Neighbors Residents Association, Westview and, of course, the West End.

Are You Aware?
AUC Consortium, Inc. is a nonprofit organization established by Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine and Spelman College to carry out their community revitalization and other shared initiatives. Dr. Sherry Turner currently serves as Executive Director.
**ATLANTA PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD**

is a long-term, holistic initiative focused on providing a safe, nurturing environment to improve the educational, health and social development outcomes for children and their families living on Atlanta's west side.

**APN VISION**

*By the year 2023, APN will provide all children opportunities that will successfully prepare them for college, career, and life - making APN one of the most desirable communities in Atlanta.*

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**Atlanta Promise Neighborhood Program Components**

**Educational Transformation**
- Four public school partners in transformation model
- Teacher effectiveness training
- Early childhood support
- Out-of-school time activities
- STEM curriculum and equipment
- College & career readiness/mentoring
- Ongoing support for students, families & teachers
- Professional learning communities

**Family Wellness & Stability**
- Physical and behavioral health
- Nutrition
- Physical fitness
- Housing
- Parenting classes
- Train and hire parents as “Parent Partner” leaders

**Community Revitalization**
- Jobs and work readiness
- Economic development
- Business incubator
- Long-term housing solutions
- Crime reduction
- Free Wi-Fi connectivity
- West End CID

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**Coming Soon:**
Check out our new APN website:
[WWW.ATLANTAPROMISENEIGHBORHOOD.ORG](http://WWW.ATLANTAPROMISENEIGHBORHOOD.ORG)
By creating a culture of civic engagement and social responsibility, the AUC Consortium encourages its students to make a difference in the world. Collectively, students from Clark Atlanta, Morehouse, Spelman and Morehouse School of Medicine engage in over 100,000 hours of community service annually.
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.

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