



NEWS RELEASE

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AVID Initiative Announces Advisory Board

AVID, an acronym for Advancement via Individual Determination, a college preparatory system serving largely minority and low-income students in over 4,000 schools in 45 states and 15 countries today, has announced the advisory board members for its African American Male Initiative (AAMI).

Founded in 1980 in San Diego, AVID is a program that helps those students who fall in the academic middle. AVID works to increase college entrance numbers by improving the education system for students who are often left behind. Through rigorous curriculum and intensive support, AVID makes it possible for everyone to go to college.

The San Diego-based AVID Center is the national headquarters for AVID. AVID Center provides school districts with the curriculum, methodologies, and training to prepare their students for college eligibility and success. AVID Center has developed a number of initiatives to increase the college-going rates for this nation's students. Among those initiatives, AAMI was developed to address the achievement gap and issues that affect the academic success of African American male students in this country. AVID has brought together a team of experts to sit on the advisory board for this project.

- Sylvia R. Carey-Butler, Ph.D.
Director of the Enrollment Management Program
Institute for Capacity Building, United Negro College Fund
- Ronald Ferguson, Ph.D.
Lecturer in Public Policy
Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy
Harvard University
- Donna Ford, Ph.D.
Professor of Special Education
Vanderbilt University
- Robert Gira
Co-chair, AAMI Advisory Board
Executive Vice President for National Programs
AVID Center
- Dr. Joe Hairston, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Baltimore County Public Schools
- Larrie J. Hall, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Support Services
SIATech Academy
- Lea Hubbard, Ph.D.
Professor in the Foundations area of the
Learning and Teaching Program
University of San Diego
- Joe Johnson, Ph.D.
Co-chair, AAMI Advisory Board
Executive Director
National Center for Urban School Transformation
- Chance W. Lewis, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Urban Education
Texas A&M University
- James Moore, III, Ph.D.
Director

Todd Anthony Bell National Resource Center on the African-American Male at
The Ohio State University

- Pedro Noguera, Ph.D.
Professor in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and
Human Development
New York University
- Sylvia Rousseau, Ed.D.
Professor of Clinical Education
USC Rossier School of Education
- Gilman W. Whiting, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies Program in African
American and Diaspora Studies;
Director, Scholar Identity Institute
Vanderbilt University

Together with AVID Center Staff members, the advisory board will work to:
create curriculum for culturally relevant teaching; recruit and retain African American
male AVID teachers, site team members, and tutors; recruit and retain African American
males in AVID throughout grades 5-12; increase the number of African American males
in Advanced Placement® and honors courses; increase the number of African American
males taking AP® tests in core academic areas; improve self advocacy for learning and
achieving; develop a support mechanism that increases African American males’
educational aspirations as well as support them in rigorous academic programs, courses,
and curriculum; develop a community of scholars who will promote a college-going
culture; and use AVID’s structures in developing strong academic and social support
networks for African American males.

For more information on AVID’s equity initiative, including AAMI, visit
www.avidcenter.org/equity.

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For more information please visit us at www.avidonline.org.