

NCREST CO-HOSTS AERA OFF-SITE VISIT TO MIDDLE COLLEGE-EARLY COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOLS

On Tuesday, March 25th, participants in the 2008 AERA Conference will visit two Middle College-Early College (MC-ECs) High Schools located at LaGuardia Community College in Long Island City, New York. Growing in numbers nationwide, MC-ECs are designed to improve access to college for traditionally underserved high school students. These schools, in a small setting located on a college campus, allow students to earn both a high school diploma and transferable college credits upon graduating. The MC-EC model has recently been referenced by the two Democratic presidential contenders, and has been noted in the media, targeted by foundations, and are attracting the attention of policy makers, on local to national levels.

Hosting the off-site visit will be:

The *Middle College National Consortium (MCNC)*, serving a nationwide complement of 35 Middle College and Early College schools which, promotes and sustains a set of shared beliefs and instructional practices.

The *National Center for Restructuring Education, Schools & Teaching (NCREST)*, associated with Teachers College, Columbia University, a research partner to organizations interested in using research to inform the development of effective school models.

LaGuardia Community College, nationally known for its innovative programs, for the diversity of its population, and home to three MCNC high schools

Middle College High School at LaGuardia, founded in 1974 at the first middle college high school in the U.S.

International High School, a redesigned MC-EC serving recent immigrants to the U.S.

Presenters will include college administrators and faculty, high school administrators, teachers, counselors, NCREST researchers, and MC-EC students. Among them will be Dr. Cecilia Cunningham, Executive Director of Middle College National Consortium and recipient of the 2004 McGraw Hill Prize in Education, Dr. Elisabeth Barnett, Senior Research Associate at NCREST, and Gail Mellow, President of LaGuardia Community College.