



## Spring 2017 Newsletter

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I believe that It is our "shared and common humanity" that defines CLEAR as an organization. And yet, almost on a daily basis I encounter issues that seek to deny reaching this most precious of places. Issues such as implicit bias, stereotyping, deficit thinking, racial anxiety, and structural racism are just a few of the barriers we face on the journey to experiencing a shared humanity. On April 21st CLEAR and Illuminate Education will host an Equity Symposium at the Smitcamp Alumni House at Fresno State and our Common Humanity is one of the subjects I look forward to sharing about with you. We must openly and respectfully discuss how to challenge the factors that would separate us as a people. And then, we must prepare ourselves as "intentional activists" supporting each other as we move to "the right side of history" in this movement. Should you have the opportunity to do so, please join us on April 21st and add your voice to ours.



All the best,  
Ken

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### Youth Middle School Mentoring

With the help of The California Endowment, this 2016-2017 school year, CLEAR has been able to support youth mentoring programs in the Fresno Unified School District. Cooper Academy, Wawona Middle School, and Baird Middle School each have mentoring programs that provide mentoring, leadership development and academic enrichment to 7th and 8th grade students. The goals of the programs include building leadership characteristics, enhancing academic achievement levels, improving attendance, and lowering suspension and detention rates.

#### Wawona Mentor Leadership Academy 2016-2017





## 4th Annual Golf Tournament Save the Date! Friday, June 2, 2017 Belmont Country Club

We are excited to announce the fourth golf tournament fundraiser at Belmont Country Club in Fresno! Funds directly support the middle school mentoring programs that address behavioral and academic issues that many of our youth

encounter. We invite all men and women to join us for some fun, competition and a memorable event!

[View past tournaments here...](#)

### Equity: It Starts With Us Conference

by *Illuminate and CLEAR*



Presented by Illuminate Education and the Center for Leadership, Equity, and Research (CLEAR), the Central Valley Equity Symposium is a one-day event addressing key issues of equity and access in education. Sessions will focus on the needs of underserved student groups, culturally-responsive teaching, and equity-driven leadership.

The Symposium is open to all attendees, including administrators, teachers and community members. Please join us as we come together to make our schools a safe and welcoming environment for all students to thrive.

[Learn more here.](#)

## Professional Development Seminar Series Teacher Candidates

CLEAR is offering a series of FREE professional development seminars to School of Education teacher candidates currently enrolled in a teacher credential program. The series consists of three seminars, each covering in detail the newly adopted Teaching Performance Expectations released by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. These revisions completely overhaul the standards and expectations for teacher preparation programs in California and as programs transition to these new standards by summer 2017, CLEAR's alliance of faculty and stakeholders are committed to providing teacher practitioners with useful resources aligned to the new standards.

### All seminars held from 6PM-9PM at Fresno State.

Seminar II      Wednesday, April 5, 2017

TPE 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning

TPE 4: Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for All Students

Seminar III      Wednesday, April 19, 2017

TPE 5: Assessing Student Learning

TPE 6: Developing as a Professional Educator

All participants will receive a certificate of participation from CLEAR after the completion of each seminar attended. Participation certificates are great to add to any professional portfolio and demonstrate your personal commitment for continued professional growth and development!

[Learn more here.](#)

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## 6th Annual Mentoring Summit October 27, 2017

Have you heard the news?

This year, we are bringing Dr. Pedro Noguera to Fresno! He is one of America's most important voices for healthy public education, focusing on the ways in which schools are influenced by social and economic conditions in urban settings. He's an expert on school reform, diversity, and the achievement gap—and he translates social theory into concise, direct language with emotional impact and intellectual rigor.



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### CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program Cohort 5

#### CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program Meetings: A time to connect and reflect

The end of an extended work week, six or seven days for some, doesn't usually end with a desire to rise early on a coveted day off to attend a meeting at 9:00 a.m. Nevertheless, if you ask a current or past cohort member (mentors and protégés alike) of the CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program why they do it, we believe they would say that their decision was well worth the time. What do we base our belief on? Feedback of course. Here are a few reflections from our December 10th and February 18th meetings.

"This morning reminds me that CLEAR unites people with common values. While observing today's networking meetings, I saw that people are instantly relaxed and comfortable with each other - probably because we can assume our like-mindedness, common values and mutual respect. I cannot assume those things when I walk into a setting where I'm the only person like me in the room. My mentor(s) have been critical in establishing that I have values and goals in common with respected leaders. Keep uniting us!"

*"Please, please, please, continue to develop the professionals associated with this organization. It is crucial that we as members represent the program and ourselves to the best of our ability. Continue to promote leadership as it truly is the heart of any successful individual and group of people".*

*"Today was great. I enjoyed having so many FUSD and FP faculty in the room. (That is good networking). More leadership: how do we increase the number of admin of color in CA public schools? I want to learn and hear more about this. Thank you for breakfast and lunch. 8-12 was a good amount of time".*

*"Really interesting, candid conversations on equity! The 9 building blocks were really useful starters for the conversations, but I wish we could've talked a little more to brainstorm how we could implement the Building Blocks (even though the Building Blocks weren't meant to be overly descriptive or prescriptive.)"*

The CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program is currently in its fifth cohort. A renewed focus on leadership has been the foundation of this year's cohort. The purpose of the program continues to build and promote leadership, provide encouragement and networking opportunities and professional career development. The one-year commitment welcomes aspiring and seasoned leaders to come together in a mentor and protégé partnership to discuss issues close to their hearts and actions needed to resolve them. The partnership also requires that mentors and protégés connect in-between meetings to support the professional goals of the protégé.

A great lesson always has an opening and closing. Cohort 5 is midway through the lesson. With only two more meetings on the 2016-2017 schedule, recruitment for Cohort 6 will soon begin. The time to reach out and speak with someone who could benefit from this experience is now. As Dr. Ken Magdaleno has shared, "The CLEAR "Leadership" Mentoring Program helps advance education and community leaders to their next phase of leadership through timely and relevant workshops, networking, and mentoring support.

-Felicia Olais, Facilitator