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Registration still open for unique ethics education conference

While educators, concerned citizens, students and others have signed up for a special two-day conference on topical issues and ethical dilemmas in education, space remains for others to take part. **Ethics in Education: A to Z** will cover major issues at all levels of American education, presented jointly by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, the Arsht Ethics Initiatives of the University of Miami Ethics Programs, and Miami-Dade County Public Schools. It takes place May 1 at the University of Miami and May 2 at Miami Senior High School. Registration information can be found at ethics.miamidade.gov.

The opening reception on Friday, May 1, offers great networking along with refreshments at UM's Storer Auditorium (5250 University Drive at the Coral Gables campus 33146). Local notables will present the Lifetime Achievement Award for Ethics in Public Service to former Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court **Gerald Kogan**. **Principal Baruti Kafele**, a former high school and middle school administrator who gained fame for turning around troubled inner city schools in New Jersey will speak on "The Intentionality of Ethics in Education." The award-winning motivational speaker is the author of *Closing the Attitude Gap, Motivating Black Males to Achieve in School and in Life*, and *The Principal 50: Critical Leadership Questions for Inspiring School-wide Excellence*.

A full day of fascinating presentations and panel discussions will take place on Saturday, May 2, at the historic and beautifully renovated Miami Senior High (2450 SW 1 St., 33135). Participants include leaders in their academic and professional fields. Harvard Professor **Andres Alonso**, a nationally recognized Cuban-American educational reformer will discuss the ethical implications of immigration in public schools along with Miami-Dade School Superintendent **Alberto Carvalho** -- also the 2014 Florida Superintendent of the Year and the 2014 National Superintendent of the year -- in a forum moderated by Local 10 Broadcast Journalist **Glenna Milberg**. Dr. Alonso, the former CEO of Baltimore City Public Schools, will also take part in a panel on School Choice and Public Resources that features former Miami-Dade School Superintendent and current Chairman of Imagine Schools, **Octavio Visiedo**.

Miami Hurricanes Head Football **Coach Al Golden**, former Miami Dolphin and current County Court **Judge Edward Newman** and Miami Herald Sportswriter **Michelle Kaufman** will share their thoughts on how to balance education with the allure and power of school sports. Other sessions will address student testing, school choice, civics education, bullying, social media, the role of school police, and even "tiger mothers," among other topics. The day includes an "ethics bowl" demonstration and a discussion among high school students on race and justice, moderated by Ethics Investigator and veteran South Florida columnist **Robert Steinback**.

Miami-Dade School teachers and administrators can earn up to 12 Master points. The cost for both days – including 3 meals and all supplies – is only \$50 thanks to the generous support of the Arsht Ethics Initiatives at UM. For a complete list of participants and detailed program and to register, visit ethics.miamidade.gov or call 305-579-2594.

The Ethics Commission was created in 1996 as an independent agency with advisory and quasi-judicial powers. It is composed of five members, serving staggered terms of four years each. Through a program of education, outreach and enforcement, the Commission seeks to empower the community and bolster public trust.

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