Education Professor Named President of National Association

University Communications November 2008

An associate dean for The University of Arizona College of Education has begun his term as president of the Association for the Study of Higher Education.

Jeffrey F. Milem will serve through November 2009.

"It is my genuine honor to have been elected to provide leadership for my peers and for our field of study in the coming year," Milem said.

The association, also known as ASHE, is "the major professional organization for scholars of higher education," Milem said. ASHE, a scholarly society, has about 1,900 members.

Milem, who holds The Ernest W. McFarland Distinguished Professorship in Leadership for Education Policy and Reform, is a highly regarded researcher and expert in the field of higher education.

Much of his work has focused on issues related to race and class within the higher education system and he has been called upon by various organizations and conferences to speak on issues such as college admissions, affirmative action and the benefits of diversity.

Organizations, including the Institute of Medicine, the Harvard Civil Rights Project, the American Council on Education and the American Educational Research Association, have commissioned Milem to conduct research on various topics.

In the past, Milem has worked with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights as well as the American Council on Education.

He also served as an associate professor and the graduate program director for the higher education administration program at the University of Maryland. There, Milem also served as director of the Provost's Research Collaborative, a longitudinal research program studying student experiences with diversity.

"As I approach my role as president of ASHE, I am deeply committed to ensuring that the work of my colleagues and the important scholarship that is done in our field is called upon to inform and improve critical policy issues at the national, state and institutional levels."

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