

Statement on reading score trends by Bruce Fuller, Patricia Gandara, and Michael Kirst, PACE co-directors.

A compilation of state reading scores was released in early October by Prof. Bruce Fuller and his team at the University of California, Berkeley. These initial findings, drawn from state education departments, were not published by PACE. An administrative error occurred in attributing the study to PACE due to confusion with regard to Professor Fuller's role as co-director. PACE co-directors maintain their own program of research, independent of the consortium.

As an independent and non-partisan university research consortium, PACE does not take political positions with respect to its analyses, nor do any of its co-directors.

Dedicated to sound policy analysis of California education issues, PACE is committed to hosting a discussion of the effects of NCLB on California's and, for comparative purposes, other states' achievement growth. Such a discussion must include all sides of the debate and be informed by solid research. To this end PACE has invited, and continues to invite, researchers to post links to research on this topic.

We hope that the forum provides the opportunity for honest and open debate on the impact of NCLB - a bipartisan initiative that aims to raise student achievement by strengthening our accountability systems and fostering higher performance by all students. We invite your perspectives and will post studies that provide different perspectives at the PACE web site: http://pace.berkeley.edu/pace_publications.html