Program
Soul Searching: Discussing the State of Urban Education Lecture Series

The Issue
As a center for Urban Educational Excellence, we are charged with the task of not only examining the challenges that face our schools and the communities they serve, but to put forth solutions to overcome the obstacles. Previously, the Center only provided two broad avenues to achieve this task: The Benjamin E. Mays Lecture Series and the SOURCES of Urban Educational Excellence research conference.

The Background
Understanding that the challenges of our schools and their need for our assistance in defeating them are ongoing, The Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban Educational excellence designed a monthly lecture series that hosts educators, policy advocates, and activists in the field of Urban Education.

The Purpose
Soul Searching: Discussing the State of Urban Education lecture series provides a platform for educators, researchers, advocates, and activists to present their research findings and potential solutions to urban education challenges.

The Solution
On biweekly Fridays, the Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban Educational Excellence hosts a public lecture series that features members of the education community. The organization of this series is student-led, powered by the work of student and graduate assistants in the Center. The lecture presentations are about two hours long and open to the community. The series serves a three-fold purpose. Its first capacity is as a bridge between the academic research performed in the center and the community which it serves. Its secondary service is a platform for all members of the education community to contribute to academic thought and solution for urban schools. Finally, it provides a signature academic experience for the students and professionals in training.