

**University Diversity Advocacy Council**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 4, 2011**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
**267 University Hall**

**Present:** Christa Agiro, Allan Boggs, Carl Brun, Rick Danals, Helen Kay Dean, Edward Depp, Jean Edwards, Lillian Johnson, Simone Polk, Lawrence Prochaska, John Rogers III, Sheila Shellabarger, Amber Vlasnik, Jeff Vernooy, Megan Watson

- April 6 at 3:00 in Dunbar Library, there will be a book discussion. "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks". Contact Sheila Shellabarger for more information.
- Eric Ellis will be speaking on April 6. Contact Edward Depp with OBFS for more information.
- This Thursday is 'Take your sons and daughters to work' day. Contact Amber Vlasnik for more information.
- Human Resources thanked Simone Polk for her assistance with the Diversity training given by HR.
- Some changes have been made to the Dialogue on Race Relations. It is now 3-3 hours sessions instead of 12 hours. Some wording changed to accommodate grades K-12. Forgiveness and repentance is still a main part of the dialogue. The next session will be done in conjunction with Sinclair on 4/30, at Sinclair.
- April 12 will be a 'Trust Building' session. Contact Simone Polk for more information.
- April 22 is Quest. To register, go to <http://www.wright.edu/quest/2011/> Theme is "Developing a Legacy of CommUNITY"
  - Showing the HBO film "A Small Act". The writer/producer/director of the film, Jennifer Arnold, will speak at Quest.
- NCORE conference coming up in California. Please contact Jeff Vernooy if you will be presenting at the conference this year. <http://www.ncore.ou.edu/>

**The next UDAC meeting will be held**  
**May 5, 2011**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
**267 University Hall**  
[www.wright.edu/udac/](http://www.wright.edu/udac/)

(attachments)

## Nominations Sought for The Goldenberg Quest for Community Award

The University Diversity Advisory Council (UDAC) invites nominations for the annual Goldenberg Quest for Community Award. The award will be presented to the campus unit or organization that demonstrates commitment and success in the enhancement of the campus climate for diversity. The recipient unit or organization will receive a (\$1000) cash award and be recognized at the Quest for Community: A Call to Action conference on Friday, April 22, 2011.

The winning unit or organization will have demonstrated success in at least one of the following: continuous

- overall enhancement of campus climate;
- improvement in the hiring and retention of faculty and staff from underrepresented groups;
- improvement in the recruitment, retention and success of students from underrepresented groups;
- incorporation of diversity into the curriculum.

**Nomination letters are due by April 15 2011.** They should not exceed two pages and must include the nominated unit or organization's name, director's name, campus address, campus phone and e-mail address, how the nominator knows or interacts with the nominated organization, and a narrative on why the unit or organization should be considered for the Goldenberg Quest for Community Award.

Nomination letters may be sent by e-mail attachment to Jane Schelb <jane.schelb@wright.edu>

1:15–2:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions I (Sessions listed below)

**Raiders Educating and Advancing Cultural Horizons (REACH)**

*Rod Harris, Wright State University*

*Ryan Jones, Wright State University*

*Josh Wood, Wright State University*

*Rayne Bozeman, Wright State University*

*Joseph Gibbons, Wright State University*

*Christian Richardson, Wright State University*

The REACH team is a small group of students dedicated to the goal of creating a better Raider Nation. In accordance with Wright State's Vision Statement and its focus on innovation and diversity, the team will share a plan designed to transform our campus culture.

**Unite Your Community through Mentoring: Build Your Own Pipeline Program from High School to College**

*Susan Price, PhD., Kettering College*

*Niki Ross, RN, Dayton Public Schools*

This presentation will focus on "innovative ways that campus programs impact our community." A college diversity officer, a high school teacher, and a high school senior will discuss how a college mentoring program impacts the lives of high school seniors with college aspirations.

**Building the "Wright Bridge" for Students from Intersecting COMMUNITIES**

*Sonseeahray D. Ross-Bigbee, Wright State University*

*Christopher J. Hogan, Wright State University*

*Kristina P. Bryant-Case, Wright State University*

*Bryan M. Martin, M. Ed., Wright State University*

The student-led workshop will focus on & explore three new & unique program initiatives that address building a strong sense of "commUnity" without losing a sense of "U" among students from diverse, yet intersecting populations as they matriculate to the role of student & leader in a university setting.

**Colorism: Exploring Division to Promote Unity**

*Ché Raquel Hurt, Wright State University*

*Lauren Fultz, Wright State University*

This session examines the prevalence of colorism in the African American community and the impact on African American women. By illuminating this taboo topic, it is our intent to gain the other's perspective as a means of narrowing the divide and beginning a more open conversation.

**Non Profit Leadership Alliance – Building Leaders through Community Participation**

*Brad Roediger, Non Profit Leadership Alliance*

*Kumar Marthy, Non Profit Leadership Alliance*

*Cittie Meyers, Non Profit Leadership Alliance*

This presentation highlights the effectiveness of community service in building individual character and skills, a better understanding of community unity and diversity through an interactive participation between the community and the student. This presentation will provide examples of these relations as well as opportunities to start getting involved.

2:30–3:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions II (Sessions listed below)

**Community Action: Improving the Experience of First-Generation College Students**

*Hannah Gammon, Wright State University*

*Kasey Greening, Wright State University*

Given the emphasis on attaining a college degree to secure future employment, there has been an increasing university enrollment of first-generation college students. Two doctoral students will discuss the experience of first-generation college students as well as provide information and suggestions to promote success with this population.

**The Essential Influence of Collective Wisdom in the Democratic Discussion-Based Classroom**

*Christa Preston Agiro, Wright State University*

*Jason Shinn, Emmanuel Baptist Church*

*Ashlyn Zimmer, Wright State University*

*Ashley Randolph, Wright State University*

This presentation will examine the benefits and challenges of democratic discussion-based learning and emphasize methods (establishing rules, application of collective wisdom (Galton, 1907; Surowiecki, 2004), and illusion perception) for helping students value others' voices and practice the act of hearing other opinions with genuine and unconditional positive regard (Rogers, 1967).

**Dialogues on Race Relations for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – “The Building Blocks of Community Trust”**

*Ms. Cathy Shanklin, The Dayton Dialogue on Race Relations*

*Simone G. Polk, Wright State University*

*Dr. Julianne Weinzimmer, Wright State University*

The workshop will focus on two new & unique curriculum initiatives that address building a strong sense of “commUNITY” among diverse populations in academic and community settings. The goal of the workshop will be to acquaint the attendees with a method of “reconstructed dialogue” to generate critical thinking and trust building.

**Working Against the Rise of Racist, Sexist, and Homophobic Hate Speech to Create Community on College Campuses**

*Forest Wortham, D.Ed., Wright State University*

*Carmiele Y. Wilkerson, Ph.D., Wittenberg University*

*Miguel Martinez-Saenz, Wittenberg University*

This workshop will focus on creating community amidst the growing battle against racist, sexist, and homophobic hate speech on college campuses in the US. We will explore questions posed by our own experiences with hate speech and discuss our interactions with students from the perspective of professor, administrator, and counselor and explore solutions to the concerns.

**Breaking Down Barriers to Unity by Embracing our Commonality**

*William Mosier, Wright State University*

*Gabriela Pickett, Unitarian Fellowship for World Peace*

Commonalities can be a vehicle for overcoming the cultural, ethnic, and religious barriers between people. In an era where globalization should bring humanity closer together, differences seem to pull communities apart. Learn how embracing commonality can help to overcome barriers and lead to an appreciation of diversity.



WRIGHT STATE  
UNIVERSITY

CHANGING LIVES

PRESENTS THE 11th Annual

[www.wright.edu/quest](http://www.wright.edu/quest)

## “Developing a Legacy of CommUNITY”

Friday, April 22 / 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
Student Union Apollo Room



Film Screening and  
Keynote Speaker  
**Jennifer Arnold**  
Director, Producer, Writer  
*A Small Act*

**A \$15 scholarship** from a Swedish woman to a Kenyan boy creates an astonishing ripple effect when the recipient goes on eventually to become a United Nations attorney and sets up a scholarship fund for other children in his village. *A Small Act* tells the story of the two unlikely philanthropists whose modest acts of charity shine a light on the incredible power of giving—no matter how small the gift—when plugged into an enormous drive to learn.

### Registration

The Quest for Community conference is free and open to all participants; however, advance registration is required. Please register at [www.wright.edu/quest](http://www.wright.edu/quest) or phone the Event Services office at (937) 775-5512 if you do not have internet access. **Registration deadline is April 15, 2011.**