

Report to the Wright State University Board of Trustees  
Submitted by the Division of Multicultural Affairs and Community Engagement  
March 25, 2016

**DIVERSITY DATA**

Staff in the Division of Multicultural Affairs and Community Engagement are involved in providing numerous diversity related trainings to campus and community groups. In February, we were asked to provide training to approximately 100 Nutter Center staff, many of whom are involved in providing security for events on campus. The program evaluations received from this group containing varied occupations and personal backgrounds, serve as a good example of the outcomes we achieve in our diversity training sessions. Sixty-six (66) participants completed the evaluation survey. Of those responding, 91% agreed or strongly agreed that they would recommend the training to others. Additionally, respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the following: 83% reported that the presentation was beneficial, 82% stated that the material covered was relevant to their work, and 72% indicated they learned something new. A few respondents were skeptical regarding the training. Of these participants, one wrote, "Nothing is going to change. It's life, but always try to help." Another stated, "People are way too annoying about things. People make problems out of nothing." However, most people attending the training found it to be a productive use of their time. These participants wrote they learned to "think about differences- use empathy" and "that we still have a lot of work to do before we can be equal". One person even responded, "Everyone should have this training. It would make our job easier".

**DIVERSITY PROGRAMMING**

The following are just a few examples of the many cultural programs and trainings offered by the staff in the division of Multicultural Affairs and Community Engagement:

**Black History Month Celebration**

Wright State observed Black History Month with a wide variety of events including guest speakers, an art expo, a poetry slam, a film screening, a dance performance by the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (DCDC) and a book discussion. All events were free and open to the public. These events were well attended with audiences ranging in size from 25 to more than 100. Examples of events follow:

- Monday, Feb. 1- Opening Ceremony: Hasan Kwame Jeffries discussed "Making Sense of the Madness: Race, Racism and Presidential Politics in the Age of Obama"
- Tuesday, Feb. 9- Bolinga Black Art Expo: Featuring arts, crafts and exhibits

- Wednesday, Feb. 10- Sultans of Swing: 100 Years of Baseball, Jazz and Fiction: A panel discussion on “Leagues of Their Own: Women and African Americans in Baseball History”  
Sponsored by Wright State’s CELIA.
- Wednesday, Feb. 17- Spoken Word and Poetry: Spoken word artists and students presented dramatic interpretations
- Friday, Feb. 19- Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality Symposium: Keynote address “Gendered Bodies/Gendered Lives” by Brittney Cooper, assistant professor of women’s and gender studies and Africana studies at Rutgers University (Presented in collaboration with the Women’s Center and African and African American Studies.)
- Thursday, Feb. 25- Film Screening and Discussion: Jennie Livingston’s “Paris is Burning” (Presented in collaboration with the Office of LGBTQA Affairs.)
- Ongoing through February and March 2016 - Book Discussion: Michelle Alexander’s “The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness”

### The Year of the Active Bystander

This academic year at Wright State has been designated the Year of the Active Bystander as part of stepped-up efforts to help students, faculty and staff respond productively to prejudice they encounter in their daily interactions. Programming for the Year of the Active Bystander on campus continued with two events led by Dr. Sarah Gervais. Dr. Gervais, an associate professor in the Social and Cognitive Psychology and the Law-Psychology programs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, presented a lecture February 3 titled, “Excuse Me, What Did You Say? Using Interpersonal Confrontation to Reduce Prejudice”. On February 4, she conducted a workshop titled, “You Don’t Have to be Confrontational to Confront Prejudice”.

### Lunar New Year—Year of the Monkey Celebration

The Asian and Native American Center hosted another successful Lunar New Year celebration on Feb. 8. Over 400 students from the following school districts attended the event: Bishop Ready High School, Cincinnati Hill Christian Academy, Dayton Montessori Society, Dayton Regional STEM School, The Miami Valley School, Piqua School District, Richard Allen School, Seven Hills School in Cincinnati, and Stebbins High School. Students from the Dayton Regional STEM School, Richard Allen School, and Miami Valley School participated as performers during the first half hour of the program. The celebration’s special feature was a Chinese acrobatic show by Li Liu.

### Pre-college Programs Hosts Annual Trio Day Leadership Seminar

On February 27, Upward Bound students from Central State, the University of Dayton, Wittenberg and Wright State University participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Trio Day Leadership Seminar. WSU served as the host. The President of Ohio Trio, Valda Bronston, was the morning guest speaker. She provided a history of Trio and encouraged students to give back through Upward Bound. The guest speaker for lunch was Michael Gaines, Director of CSU West and Trio Alumnus. Mr. Gaines provided a powerful and motivating message on leadership and becoming the best student possible. Students participated in morning workshops geared towards leadership and self-advocacy. Each workshop was facilitated by an Academic Counselor or Advisor for the respective Upward Bound Programs.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

### Students in Service to the Community

The Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement placed 75 WSU students as reading tutors in Westwood, Kiser, Ruskin, Cleveland and Edison elementary schools as well as the El Puente Center. Dr. Jack Dustin, Interim Director of Service Learning and Civic Engagement, also worked with the Housing Director to place students employed as Resident Assistants with Rebuilding Together Dayton over WSU's Spring Break to work on five homes.

### Measuring the Impact of Service Learning

In February, Dr. Dustin presented a draft plan to the Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE) regarding assessment for service learning and community engagement. The proposal suggests a common mechanism for measuring the impact of these activities across the state. The proposal grew out of work of the SOCHE Civic Learning and Engagement Committee.

### Recruitment for Upward Bound

Upward Bound Program recruitment is underway. The UB program is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of the program is to prepare high school students from low income backgrounds, who would be the first in their families to attend college, to aspire towards and succeed in higher education. Eligible students receive a comprehensive set of services and activities during the academic and summer components designed to encourage college entry and completion. Students, in grades 9-12 attending Dayton Public Schools, may download application materials. Applications are processed on a first come first serve basis. Public Service Announcements are distributed to local schools, churches, Chambers of Commerce, and newspapers. The recruiting article appeared in the January 30 Dayton Weekly.

### Miami Valley Camp Fair

The Office of Pre-College Programs hosted its 15 Annual Summer Opportunities Camp Fair on March 5, 2016. Each year many families and vendors converge on the Wright State Campus to participate in the camp fair. This year's camp fair featured a variety of traditional and non-traditional summer camp opportunities for kids in grades K through 12. The event was held from 11-2 in the Student Union Atrium and was free and open to the public.

### Exploring STEMM

The Office of Pre-College Programs, in conjunction with the College of Science and Mathematics, College of Engineering and Computer Science, and the University Libraries, is pleased to present *Exploring STEMM-Enriching Minds through Science 2016*. Students who are selected will participate in a variety of STEMM related activities over a two-day period. Students will spend one night on campus under the supervision of Residential Assistants. In order to participate, students must be Ohio residents. Some of the topics students will explore include: The Nanoworld of precious metals, Human Anatomy, Falling Waters, Brain Plasticity, DNA and forensic science

### Wright State University Kids on Campus

The Wright State University Office of Pre-College Programs provides an opportunity for students in grades K-6 to participate in a monthly academic enrichment program. Kids on Campus (KOC) is geared towards motivated learners looking for a fun-filled way to spend their Saturdays. The March 2016 course featured "Architectural Engineering". Students learned about the importance of building homes and other structures and designed bridges and towers. There are three courses students can choose from and students can register to attend a morning session, an afternoon session, or both. Fifty-seven (57) students participated in March's KOC event.

### AWARDS

- ✧ Dr. Nicole Carter, Women's Center Director, received the Outstanding Faculty Commitment to the First Year Seminar for "inspiring students early on (and) changing their perspective and relationship to learning". She was also the Dayton Daily News Daytonian of the week for the week of March 9.
- ✧ Dr. Kimberly Barrett, Vice President for Multicultural Affairs and Community Engagement, was honored at a gala in March for being named one of the 2015 Top 25 Women to Watch by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking organization in recognition of her leadership and dedication to the Dayton community.
- ✧ On Monday, March 28, the Division of Multicultural Affairs and Community Engagement held their annual Awards Reception. This award ceremony celebrates Wright State

University students, faculty, and staff that have demonstrated their commitment to diversity, inclusion, and community engagement. The award recipients were as follows:

- \* Student Diversity Advocate Awards: Tristina Allen and Brian Tyler Gregory
- \* Faculty Diversity Advocate: Dr. Nicole Richter, Associate Professor of Film Studies
- \* Staff Diversity Advocate: Megan Watson, Academic Advisor, Athletics
- \* Engaged University Citizen: Dr. Julie Williams, Associate Professor, School of Professional Psychology
- \* Wright Staff Award: Petey Peterson, Director, LGBTQA Center