

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Chancellor
Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



October 7, 2009

Jack Dempsey, *co-chair*
Helen Neville, *co-chair*
Menah Pratt-Clarke, *vice chair*
Ken Ballom
Jorge Chapa
Lynn Chaney
Domonic Cobb
Jeff Gardner

Lyndon Goodly
Anna Gonzalez
Brad Hedrick
Pradeep Khanna
Sharon Lee
Leslie Morrow
Chantal Nadeau
Aimee Rickman

Kim Shinew
Sam Siner
Bradley Tran
Simone Williams
Lori Williamson
Bill Berry, *ex officio*

Dear Colleagues,

Our campus has made measurable progress in recent years to provide equitable access and opportunity to students, faculty, staff and other stakeholders. To help us maintain this momentum, we are asking you to serve on the Diversity Committee for the current academic year.

We are pleased to inform you that Dr. Helen Neville, Professor of Educational Psychology and African American Studies, and Dr. Jack Dempsey, Executive Director of Facilities and Services, have agreed to co-chair the Committee. Many of you will recall that Professor Neville is resuming her role as co-chair, after having stepped away from the Committee while on leave to complete a research project.

Since June 2007 when the Diversity Committee produced our Project 2012 strategic plan, we have been working to ensure that Illinois respects and draws upon the talents of all members of our learning community. Although we still have a great deal of work ahead, we should take pride in our accomplishments thus far which, among other indicators, have resulted in us leading our Big Ten peers in percentage of underrepresented undergraduate students. Additionally, our faculty is quite diverse, compared with other Big Ten schools. And building on recommendations that flowed from the Committee, we have made significant strides in diversifying our curriculum, as evidenced by more recent progress such as the approval in July of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender/Queer Studies minor and the Academic Senate's approval on October 5 of our major in Latina/o Studies. The Women's Resources Center opened its doors in February of this year. The seeds of these outcomes were sown in years past by this Committee, among several other goals and objectives for the campus.

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As the campus moves through the mid-point in our five-year diversity plan, we think it will be most helpful if this year's Committee could take both a retrospective and prospective assessment of how well we are proceeding. We are asking you to evaluate honestly how we are advancing and whether the hopes, dreams, aspirations, challenges and opportunities we envisioned when Project 2012 was produced continue to be on the mark. Project 2012 was designed to be a dynamic blueprint, and not some static report that would just sit on a shelf. Your examination and engagement of the plan will assure that we continue to derive meaningful value from it.

Mindful of the demands on your time, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (OEOA) has volunteered to provide staff support and serve as the primary resource to the Committee to assist you in obtaining reports, documents and other information that you require. OEOA Interim Director Menah Pratt-Clarke, will serve as vice chair of the Committee to facilitate this arrangement. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access at 333-0885.

The campus appreciates your commitment to equity and access and we look forward to hearing of your progress at the end of the spring semester. OEOA staff will be in touch with you to schedule your meetings.

Very truly yours,



Richard Herman
Chancellor



Robert Easter
Interim Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Proposed Committee Members

Helen Neville	College of Education/LAS	Proposed Co-Chair
Jack Dempsey	Director, F&S	Proposed Co-Chair
Menah Pratt-Clarke	Interim Assistant Chancellor/OEOA	Proposed Vice Chair

Ken Ballom	Assoc VC	Student Affairs
Bill Berry	Associate Chancellor	Chancellor's Office
Jorge Chapa	Director, CDMS	Race/Ethnicity
Lynn Chaney	Assoc. Director	Alumni Association
Domonic Cobb	Assistant Provost	Provost's Office
Lyndon Goodly	Assoc VC	Vice Chancellor Research
Anna Gonzalez	Assoc VC	Student Affairs
Brad Hedrick	Director, DRES	Disability
Pradeep Khanna	Assoc VC	Public Engagement
Leslie Morrow	Director, LGBT	LGBT
Chantal Nadeau	Chair, GWS	Gender/Women Studies
Kim Shinew	EEO Faculty Senate	Faculty Senate representative
Lori Williamson	Assoc VC	Advancement

Student members

Student Affairs Undergraduate Turner Fellow	Simone Williams
Student Affairs Undergraduate Turner Fellow	Sam Siner
Student Affairs Undergraduate Turner Fellow	Jeff Gardner
CDMS Graduate Fellow	Sharon Lee
CDMS Graduate Fellow	Aimee Rickman
Illinois Student Senate President	Bradley Tran