Affinity Networks: Your Pride, Your Passions

Jennifer Linton, Executive Director of Alumni Relations
Cristin Monahan, Assistant Director of Affinity and Diversity Engagement
Agenda

- Introductions
- Goals for discussion
- Affinity group framework
- What is your volunteer experience?
- Discussion
- Prep for report
Affinity: an umbrella term

An interest or identity through which alumni connect with one another, current students and the University.

Examples:

Identity-based groups
- UR New York Metro Women
- Multicultural Alumni Network

Student experience-based groups
- Athletic Alumni
- Greek Alumni
- Music/Performance

Interest-based groups
- UR Finance Alumni
- UR Green Alumni Network

“Mission Critical”
Alumni of Color/Multicultural Affinity groups
LGBTQ Affinity groups
Alumnae Affinity groups

Conceptual Draft
Goals for Discussion

- Outcome goal for affinity volunteer opportunity
  - Create numerous new opportunities for alumni to connect with other alumni in their region though their personal passions or shared identities.
  - Reinvigorate relationships with the University

- How does an “affinity network” work?
Your Experience

- NYC Women’s Group
- Hajim Young Leaders
- LiLAC
- Hillel
- NYC Alumni of Color

- What works?
- What doesn’t?
- What’s missing?
Questions

- How do we get alumni excited to be involved in this opportunity?
  - What elements are most exciting?
  - How do we grow the program?

- How do we best communicate this opportunity?
Questions

- Where does this fit in the regional structure?
- How do we show impact?