

Diversity Book Reading Group Marks Anniversary

The Office of Human Resources-Multicultural Affairs and Inclusion has completed its one-year pilot of a diversity reading group. The Group's goal is to provide opportunities to explore and discuss diverse cultural, racial, ethnic, religious, life-style and other dimensions of diversity in order to increase our understanding and enhance our inclusive behaviors at work and in our personal lives. Reading fiction, non-fiction, that may include historical or biographical accounts of individual struggles, challenges and successes, is an exciting and interesting way to learn about other groups.

Last year the Reading Group read the following books: *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison; *Rabbit-Proof Fence: The Story of One of the Greatest Escapes of All Times* (Australian Aborigines) by Doris Pilkington; *Lost Daughters of China: Abandoned Girls, Their Journey to America and the Search for a Missing Past* by Karin Evans; *Call It Sleep* (Jewish Family) by Henry Roth; *Torn Between Two Cultures: An Afghan-American Woman Speaks Out* by Maryam Qudrat Aseel; *Why Are All The Black Children Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* by Beverly Daniel Tatum, Ph. D.; and *Growing Up Chicana/o* by Tiffany Ana Lopez.

In recognition of February as Black History Month we are currently reading *Race Matters* by Cornel West. Dates have been scheduled throughout the month for discussion groups.

The following books were chosen by committee for 2009-2010: *Farewell to Manzanar* (Japanese) by Jeanne Wakatuki Houston; *Black Indian: A Hidden Identity* by William Loren Katz; *I Have Spoken: American History Through the Voices of the Indians* by Virginia I. Armstrong; *White Like Me: Reflections of Race From a Privileged Son* by Tim Wise; *Infidel* (Muslim) by Ayaan Hirsi Ali; *Kindred* (African-American) by Octavia E. Butler.

March is National Women's History Month. We will read, *Farewell to Manzanar* (Japanese) by Jeanne Wakatuki Houston for March 2009; with discussion groups scheduled for early April.

If you want to be added to the list of potential attendees please contact: stanley.byrd@rochester.edu. You will be sent information about the books and the schedule for the discussion groups,