School of Nursing Dean’s Advisory Council for Diversity and Inclusiveness

The mission of the Dean's Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusiveness in the School of Nursing is to “create a welcoming environment that reflects and values increasing diversity of the faculty, staff, and students at the School of Nursing.”

The Dean's Council held a Winter Celebration on Valentine's Day that featured an afternoon of music, games, food (much of it made by the faculty and staff), and dance to promote an appreciation of diversity and inclusiveness. Recordings of love songs from a variety of different cultures were played. A special dance performance featured Rochester's Bharata School of Indian Dance & Music (www.bharataschoolofarts.com). Parvatha Chidambaram, artistic director of the school, performed with two of her advanced students. Dance movements were interpreted for the audience to encourage an appreciation of how the body, spirituality, and wholeness are integrated in Bharatanatyam, one of the oldest classical dance forms of India.

The Dean's Council is inaugurating a book club on diversity and inclusiveness during the month of March. The featured reading is Kathryn Stockett’s The Help. This controversial book examines race, culture, and class relationships among black maids and their white female employers during the 1960s civil rights era in Jackson, Mississippi. There will be a discussion of the book led by Mary Dombeck, RN, PhD, DMin, on Monday, March 21, from noon–1 p.m. in room 3W-301, Helen Wood Hall. Members of the University community are invited to participate.

During the month of April, the Dean's Council will begin a Movie Night showcasing a film that provides a glimpse into other cultures and perspectives, followed by a discussion. The University community is welcome to participate. Details will be posted at www.son.rochester.edu/diversity/about-us.html as they are available.