

College Diversity Roundtable Meeting Minutes  
09/08/08

1) Announcements

- BSU will host a Caribfest at Wilson Commons Wednesdays- Wednesday 9/10/2008 from 11:30-1:30 in Hirst Lounge and a Caribash on Saturday evening in Douglas Dining
- Leadership Program will be held in Wilson Commons 9/15/08- see Jessica Guzman in OMSA for more details
- Latino Professional Alliance is sponsoring a free cultural fair at the Flaum Atrium in the Med Center on 9/30 from 12-2 pm
- Salsa will hold their 10<sup>th</sup> annual Tropicana 10/11/2008
- The Chinese Student Association will stage "Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival" on 9/13/2008 in Strong Auditorium. \$8.00/\$4.00 for students
- Volleyball tournament and Barbeque to benefit the YMCA Youth Development Organization will be held 9/21 at Genesee Valley Park
- Pride Alliance and Pride will host a screening of "For the Bible Tells Me So" with Marylou Wellner, one of the films actors, on 10/9 at 7pm in Hoyt Auditorium
- Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs has a new publication about hazing they are distributing. They are also seeking faculty and staff members to serve as chapter advocates – the job description is on their website.
- U of R is a co-sponsor of a program at Nazareth where Simi Linton, author of "my Body politic" will speak. 10/2/2008 at 7 pm

2) Meliora Weekend Update- Kelly Clark

- Anderson Cooper and Steven Colbert are sold out
- 40th anniversary of BSU will be celebrated
- Friday evening will have a speed networking event where students and alumni can connect.
- Saturday will have a recognition luncheon with Ron Thomas, BSU president in 1968/69 (EOP, HEOP and OMSA were created as a result of 1968 sit-in at Frederick Douglass Bldg)
- CDR presentation Saturday afternoon will feature current developments in diversity followed by a reception and poster sessions by the students- student participants needed! Contact Kelly Clark for more info.

3) MLK Address- Anthony Plonczynski

- Nikki Giovanni will be the speaker for the MLK Commemorative Address on 1/23/08.

4) Marketing and Communication Subcommittee- Jessica Guzman

- New brochure being created to replace the pamphlet which will be out for Meliora Weekend.

5) Mission of the CDR- Norman Burnett

- CDR founded in 1999 after a tumultuous year that culminated in the MSAB sit-in

- The number of underrepresented minority students was dropping, the FDI had no leadership, admissions were not focused on diversity, and there was a general feeling of discontent on campus regarding issues of diversity and inclusion.
- Dean of the college put CDR together as a way that students, faculty and staff could come together and work on issues.
- While the Roundtable cannot make policies they do meet with people on campus who can make decisions affecting the diversity of the college; the Dean of admissions, the provost, the president, etc.

#### 6) Goals- Richard Feldman

- 2 things lead to examining the purpose of CDR:
  - What are the issues this group should address? Have they changed?
  - Declining student participation- CDR was designed so students could come and share what they are doing with other groups and then take that information back to their groups.
  - CDR is a forum for students to let policy makers know what the problems/issues are so they can be aware of them
  - Students spoke about how to make CDR more relevant to them:
    - a. Less rigid, work focused agenda
    - b. More leadership positions for students
    - c. Create a broader conception of diversity and make more opportunities for students to speak and be listened to
    - d. Work for more support of GLBT students at the institutional level- and make the CDR a place to push for institutional recognition of groups that don't have it
    - e. Increase our visibility: facebook, activities fair, etc.
    - f. Increase participation of groups at CDR
    - g. Partner with other roundtables,
    - h. Get the student senate more involved- a town hall meeting
    - i. Make CDR a place where students can reach out to faculty and staff to help.