

Diversity Education Project
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Minutes
Planning Group Meeting Concerning the Inquiry Conference
April 30, 2008, 10:00-11:30am

Participants: Jenny Bolander, Tammy Burt, Susan Breck, Nicole Klein, Barbara O'Donnell, Laurie Puchner, Bill Searcy

During this meeting participants discussed the recent Inquiry Conference. The meeting focused on strengths and weaknesses of the conference as well as plans for next year. The following points were discussed and decisions made:

1. Posters: Students need to be taught how to write an abstract, and on some posters students had research questions were not answered or addressed on the poster.
2. Tammy will work with Dave Cluphf and Cynthia Schroeder to involve PETE students next year.
3. We need to book the Meridian ballroom and the entire rest of the MUC for next year's conference.
4. A decision was made to hold the conference on a Saturday. Two possible dates are April 18 and April 25, depending on MUC availability.
5. The conference will go from approximately 9am to 2pm. For lunch people will be on their own.
6. If possible, the conference day should coincide with Celebrating Abilities Day.
7. For the undergraduates, attendance at the conference will be a requirement as part of a course they are taking.
8. Nicole will evaluate the perceptions of the four community health students who attended this year to decide whether the conference is appropriate for that program.
9. A potential idea for next year or some other future year would be to have an International Buffet in the University Restaurant during the conference. (The Restaurant is normally closed on Saturdays).
10. Bill Searcy's Office of Diversity and Faculty Development, in collaboration with the Dean's Office, the DEP, and C&I, will coordinate the conference for 2009, with the help of subcommittees as listed on the Inquiry Conference Notes and Ideas. (This handout was distributed at the meeting by Jenny and Barbara).
11. As part of this coordination, Bill will ask the Assistant Provost for Faculty Development and Diversity for some monetary assistance for the 2009 conference.
12. A display of resources would be nice – perhaps coordinated with the Bookstore.
13. Participants brainstormed ideas for speakers/topics:
 - Will have 1 keynote address only, in Meridian Ballroom
 - Tammy Burt will do a session on Adaptive PE
 - A session on dealing with special education issues in the regular classroom would be good
 - Local superintendent could come and do a session on hiring, jobs, etc., for undergrads
 - A graduate student could do a session on their first year of teaching, for undergrads
 - The new multicultural psychology hire could perhaps do a session
 - One of the behavior modification clinic psychology faculty members could do a session
 - Adam Garrett, alumnus who works at YMCA with children with disabilities could do a session
 - A session on socio-economic status or poverty would be good
 - Paul Burden might do a session on religious diversity
 - Nicole and Susan should do their session again
 - Need a sexual orientation session again, perhaps with a new focus
 - Need a race session again– look at evaluations of Flo Maatita
 - A diversity-focused video followed by discussion session could be done
 - Need a gender session again. Look at Linda Markowitz evaluations
 - Perhaps a session on “dialects” instead of “language diversity.”

Minutes submitted by Laurie Puchner, April 30, 2008