

## **Diversity Education Project**

### **Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**

#### **Minutes Planning Group Meeting October 13, 2008, 1pm**

Participants Susan Breck, Denise Degarmo, Craig Miner, Laurie Puchner, Bill Searcy, Ann Taylor, Peter Theodore, Melissa Thomeczek

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from September 3, 2008: approved
3. Laurie provided a brief overview of the DEP
4. Religious diversity workshop
  - a. DEP will organize and put on a lunch workshop titled Religious Diversity: Implications for Teacher Education. Time and date are Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 12:15-1:30pm. Peter will facilitate it along with one other person, to be determined. Focus of the workshop will be: “What are the examined and unexamined consequences that arise from teaching in public schools from the lens of one’s own religious beliefs? How can we be conscious and aware of these?” Susan has a good article related to this.
  - b. In order to maximize attendance at the workshop, we would like to provide lunch. Bill will ask Dean Bergeron if the Dean’s office could provide \$50-100 to fund pizza or some other food. Participants will bring their own drinks.
  - c. Also to maximize attendance, representatives from different departments will ask their chairs to endorse it, and will personally announce the event to their colleagues. All SOE teacher educators will be invited, as will the CAS teacher education faculty. We will also ask Mary Weishaar to announce the event at JCTP.
5. Activity on socio-economic status: participants discussed the possibility of an activity on socio-economic status and schools. However, it turns out that the theme of this year’s inquiry conference is poverty. Also, the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders will be holding an event focused on Ruby Payne. So decided DEP does not need a separate event, but could be a resource for the other events if needed.
6. 2009 Inquiry Conference: Bill reported that the conference committee would like DEP help in finding speakers for Breakout Sessions. Laurie can help with that, and we may

be able to get several of last year's speakers if desired. Bill reported that although the theme will be Poverty, not all the sessions need be or will be about poverty. Denise offered to do a session as well.

7. SOE Standing Committee on diversity. Craig said that the current ad hoc committee wants the standing committee that is being developed to work with us. It was suggested that the Standing Committee have a permanent representative to the DEP. That might be Bill, but there could be an additional representative. Laurie mentioned that the DEP had talked in the past about the relationship between a standing committee on diversity and other diversity projects. She will look for those notes and forward them to Craig and Bill.
8. Our next meeting will be November 10, 2008, 1-2pm, Educational Leadership Conference Room

Minutes submitted by Laurie Puchner, October 13, 2008

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School of Education, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

MISSION STATEMENT

The Diversity Education Project (DEP) evolved from an emerging commitment on the part of SIUE's School of Education to bringing diversity education to the forefront. The goal of the Project is to support access and success for diverse P-20 learners by providing and promoting diversity education for teacher educators. In order to carry out its goal, the DEP organizes and coordinates diversity education activities. It also creates and develops linkages with other groups and institutions in order to foster the growth of diversity understandings among educators and learners.