

Cultural Connections



We are strongest when joined together

2010

4th Annual Berks Multicultural Student Conference

Nov. 13, 2010



BERKS
MULTICULTURAL
CONSORTIUM

Conference Welcome

Welcome to the fourth annual Berks Multicultural Student Conference.

On November 10, 2007, the Berks Multicultural Consortium (BMC), a committee comprised of professionals working in multicultural affairs, hosted its first Multicultural Conference for students.

Our goal for the conference is to address two major issues:

- Improving overall retention of students
- Enhancing their college experience

About BMC

The Berks Multicultural Consortium consists of faculty and staff from Albright College, Alvernia University, Kutztown University, Penn State Berks, Penn State Schuylkill and Reading Area Community College. The consortium was created to share data and create a best practices model for multicultural professionals from the six colleges; our mission is:

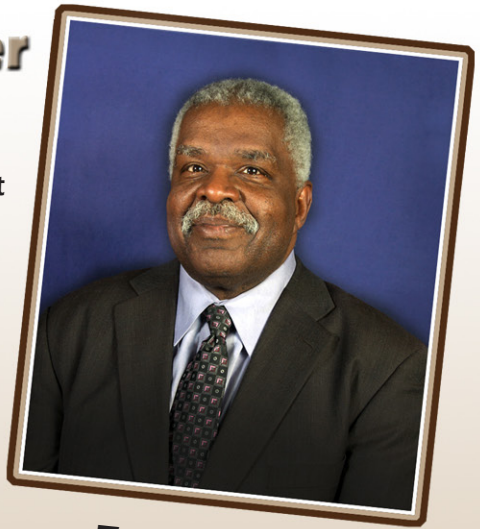
- To foster cultural unity with the surrounding community.
- To serve as a resource bank for best practices in the development of workshops and selection of lecturers and presenters within our institutions.
- To enhance multicultural awareness among our students, faculty and staff.
- To promote student success by developing and supporting retention initiatives.

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Keynote Speaker

Terrell Jones

Dr. W. Terrell Jones is the Vice Provost for Educational Equity at Penn State where he is responsible for leading the implementation of the University's strategic plan that embraces and supports diversity. Dr. Jones is a highly requested speaker on diversity issues and is known in higher education for his unique agenda and knack for teaching people how to appreciate diversity. He has authored numerous publications on the subject of cultural diversity.



Terrell Jones
Vice Provost for Educational Equity
Pennsylvania State University

Terrell earned both his master's and doctoral degrees in Student Personnel Services from Penn State and a bachelor's degree from Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Jones also served as president of the Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education, Inc., from March 2008 through February 2010.

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Program Schedule

12:30—1:30 p.m. Registration in Berks Hall at RACC

1:30—1:45 p.m. Welcome by Charles Coleman, Assistant Director of Student Affairs,
Penn State Berks/BMC Representative

1:45—2:30 p.m. Ice Breakers & selection of workshops in Berks Hall

2:30—2:45 p.m. Transition to 1st workshop session in the
Schmidt Training & Technology Center

2:45—3:45 p.m. 1st Session

“Culture Theatre”

Carl S. Moore

Room T118

Culture informs the ways in which we interact with the world. In this workshop we will unpack this notion of culture and explore the factors that keep cultural norms in place. This workshop will allow participants to explore factors that have influenced them as a cultural actor through theater games and role playing.

“Where are the men?”

David Surratt

Room T120

Developing the ‘Ideal’ Black Male: This interactive presentation is about perception and open dialogue on how we see the world and ourselves. With a focus on the Black male experience, this session hopes to be both educational and empowering to leaders navigating a complex and diverse world.

“Advice for Job Seekers and Future Graduates”

Nelson DeLeon

Room T121

We all know that having the best written resume and being the candidate with the best qualifications for the position is not a guarantee that you will get the job offer. During this session we will share with you tips for preparing for the interview.

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Program Schedule

“Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor, Your Huddled Masses: Immigration in the 21st Century”

Dr. Tiffenia “Tiff” Archie

Room T119

The United States is a country of immigrants but the various groups immigrating to the U.S. have had vastly different experiences depending on their historical entry point. At times they were welcomed and other times told to “go home.” Current issues have reinvigorated the immigration debate. This workshop explores immigration to the United States and the connections between racism, xenophobia, and globalization. This workshop will also provide strategies for those interested in being allies for immigrant peoples.

3:45—3:55 p.m. Transition to 2nd workshop session

3:55—4:55 p.m. 2nd Session

“Unleash the Power of Your Leadership”

Rochelle Peterson

Room T118

Building on the strength of your club and organization leadership does not have to be hard, time consuming or stressful anymore. Unleash your power of leadership by making cultural connections through coalition building. This workshop will engage participants in an exploration of the value of coalition building. The participants will focus on utilizing the strengths of individual leaders and of organizations to move multiculturalism to the forefront of student programming while minimizing the demands on individual leaders.

“The Intersections of Social Inequality: What is your matrix and what does it mean for you?”

Danelle Bower

Room T120

Is it harder to be a woman over sixty-five from a dominant race but low socioeconomic status or a twenty-two year old man from a non-dominant race but high socioeconomic status? The theory of intersectionality teaches us that social inequality such as classism does not happen in a vacuum but rather by the relationship among various categories such as class, race and gender. Discussions of the “isms” are best understood when the crossover among them is explored. Workshop participants will explore their individual identities, how they interact and what this means to them.

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Program Schedule

"Multiracial Dating and Marriage: No Longer Taboo?"

Dr. Kelley Kenney and Mark Kenney

Room T119

This program will examine trends and perceptions of multiracial dating and marriage from a historical and contemporary context. The presenters will discuss the implications of increased multiracial dating on college campuses. It will also discuss the increasing numbers of "multiracial" students (children of interracial couples) arriving on college campuses.

"BaFá BaFá"

Jeff Fazio and John Gallagher

Room T214/T217

Experience an interactive, cross-culture simulation where participants endeavor to explore their "new" culture while trying to interact with another "new" culture. Learn first-hand the troubles that can arise when cultures mix and learn some strategies for minimizing conflict during cross-cultural integration.

4:55—5:10 p.m. Transition to 3rd workshop session

5:10—6:05 p.m. 3rd Session

"African Drumming"

Earth Rhythms

SUB

Join the drum circle. No experience needed. Listen and play rhythms found around the world.

"Salsa"

Maritza Rodriguez

Café

Learn traditional, yet time transcending, popular Latin moves of Salsa.

"Belly Dancing"

Flavia DePaula

Berks Room

Learn basic moves in this ancient form of dance, also known as Middle Eastern dance.

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Program Schedule

"Mask Making Workshop"

Ed Terrell

Schuylkill Room

The goal of this workshop is to bring out the richness and creative concepts of working with pre-made paper mache masks to form something out of nothing. Students will be able to paint and personalize their own mask and take it home with them at the end of the workshop.

"Sing a Rainbow"

Terrell Jones

Penn Room

This high energy, interactive session gives participants an understanding of the importance of diversity in team performance and the rewards of working with diversity.

6:05—6:15 p.m. Break

6:15—7:00 p.m. Dinner & Music

7:00—8:00 p.m. **Keynote Speaker:** Terrell Jones
Un-learning how to not see differences: Developing new ways to see, appreciate and respect diversity.

8:00—8:10 p.m. Conference Evaluation

8:10—9:30 p.m. Campus performances

Sincere Appreciation

Caterers House of Good Food
Old San Juan Cafe

Vendors Statement Apparel
The Water Guy

Graphic Designer Jeffrey Fazio

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