

**COE Dean's Council on Diversity  
Summary Notes  
August 27, 2008**

Jenny Penney Oliver welcome new and returning members to the first meeting of the semester for the Dean's Council on Diversity (DCOD). Members re-acquainted and acquainted themselves with their colleagues before we reviewed and accepted the proposed agenda which follows:

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**COE Dean's Council on Diversity  
Meeting Agenda - Proposed, August 27, 2008**

- **Welcome new and returning members**
  - Acquaintances and re-acquaintances*
  - Roster*
- **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Focus on Diversity**, Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 3-5, Aderhold Lawn; no rain
  - Features:
    - \* Dean Horne speaking
    - \* Cory Johnson, emcee
    - \* Music:
      - \* Without Pearls
      - \* Hill Chapel Baptist Church Choir
      - \* Salsa performance and dancing
      - \* Ron Braxley eclectic collection
    - \* Resource Tables
    - \* Refreshments
    - \* Diversity 'give-aways'!

NEEDS:

- \*\* Departmental RSVP's
- \*\* Food
  - shopping
  - pick up at Chic-Fil-A
- \*\* Set up & clean up
- \*\* Oversight/replenish refreshment table
- \*\* Spreading the word/attendance
- \*\* Photographer
- \*\* Door prizes ??

WHAT ELSE???

- Review our Centennial Seminar Series schedule, (revised copy); Spring ideas
- Topics for the semester and next meetings:

\*\*update on potential partnerships with HBCU's - Tom Clees and JPO

\*\*Final summary the Action Team recommendations and next steps we want to take, Janette Hill, Corey Johnson, Melissa Freeman & JPO

\*\* College-wide article discussion, Julie Kittleson

- Diversity Dinner Dialogue partnership – Stephanie Jones confirmed
- Girls, social class, and literacy: What teachers can do to make a difference.* (2006) Dates pending
- Meeting schedule for the semester – Best dates?

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Following is a summary of the conversations. Needs/expectations of the DCOD as a whole are noted in **BOLD!**

**Fall Focus on Diversity:** We reviewed the “features” of our 5<sup>th</sup> annual event and got volunteers to sign on to help in several areas.

Features:

Much appreciation to Corey Johnson for agreeing to emcee! We also pleased to have our “anchor” group Without Pearls to play, and the Hill Chapel Choir. DCOD reps were prepared to RSVP and so we have 100% participation this year!

Needs:

- Food: Anneliese Singh and JPO will shop; Yvette will pick up from Chic-Fil-A
- Set up: Melissa Freeman, Bobbie Ray, Kyunghwa Lee, JPO and Empowered Youth will be on the lawn by 2:15 to help with set-up
- Clean-up: Diane Samdahl will explore if a student group can help.
- Replenish food: Melissa Freeman, Regina Meeler and Margaret Turner will help
- Photographer: Tom Clees
- Door Prizes: CLASE offered and we will ask for a donation of a Centennial product; ***WE NEED EVERY DCOD MEMBER TO EXPLORE GETTING DOOR PRIZES; PLEASE LET JPO KNOW AS YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL!***
- Spreading the word: **ALL OF US** are encouraged to bring colleagues and students to the event.

**Centennial Seminar Series:** We discussed briefly the seminars coming up and how important the Council’s help in publicizing them will be. This year the COE is scaling down the COE-MEMO postings; therefore, we cannot rely on COE-MEMO. **JPO asked each DCOD member to re-send her email announcements about seminars to their departmental listservs and to post the flyers in popular places.**

JPO asked that **DCOD members send her suggestions for Spring seminars.** Diane Napier has suggested we invite graduate students as we have in the past and JPO asked that you encourage graduate student proposals.

**Diversity Dinner Dialogue:** There is a commitment from both our College and the Clarke County School District to continue this partnership. Our fall Guest Author will be one of our COE colleagues, Stephanie Jones from the Dept of Elementary and Social Science Education. The book is *Girls, social class, and literacy: What teachers can do to make a difference.* (2006). The dates are to be named soon.

**Topics for the semester:** Participants engaged in a discussion about how we want to focus our time and energy this year. Definites on the list:

- Partnership with HBCU’s: Tom Clees reported that he and JPO had met with Kathleen DeMarrais and Andy Horne and additional work has been done on the partnership grid Tom had begun. We will be presenting this work to the

Administrative Cabinet on September 24<sup>th</sup> as well as to the DCOD at an upcoming meeting.

- Final Report on Action Team Recommendations: Corey Johnson, Janette Hill, Melissa Freeman and JPO will be making the final touches on the Action Team recommendations summary and expect to present this at the NEXT DCOD meeting.
- College Wide Article Discussion: In addition to our seminars we had discussed at the end of last year hosting “Article Discussions” for colleagues. Julie Kittleson has a suggestion of a first reading and we will ask her to continue to work with us toward scheduling a discussion for the fall semester.
- International Issues: Kyunghwa Lee alerted us to a new policy decision through the Center for Teaching and Learning related to minimums for “language and speaking mastery” for our international students. The concern is the various adverse effects this policy could inflict on international students; therefore, the DCOD will work with the COE International Committee via Kyunghwa as liaison to follow and involve ourselves with this issue. Another issue that was raised related to International students involves immigration and SS#’s.
- SRG: We have consensus that we would like for the DCOD to further grow it’s relationship with SRG and encourage more involvement. One area of consideration for following up is through diversity professional development for our COE staff.
- Poverty: Our role with our Athens community related to the poverty initiative was mentioned as an area we need and want to stay focused on. More conversation about how this relationship “can look” and work more cooperatively needs to occur at an upcoming meeting.
- We ran out of time and so will continue this conversation at the next meeting!

### **Announcements**

The Office of Institutional Diversity will host Embracing Diversity, the fall kick-off, on Monday, 9/8 beginning at 1:30 in the Chapel.

Our College has begun a new International Committee and Diane Napier and Kyunghwa Lee from the DCOD are both members. This is in part an outgrowth of needs identified in the Action Team reports.

**NEXT MEETING:** Everyone in attendance are able to meet on **September 24 at 11:00** AM. All are asked to hold that date while JPO sends a query to the DCOD list about other members’ availability.

Great meeting to start off the year! We hope Dean Horne can join us at our next one.