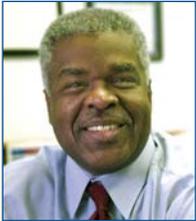


PENNSTATE
Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

Overview

314 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802 / Phone: 814-865-5906 Fax: 814-865-3997 / www.equity.psu.edu / Fall 2008



Dr. W. Terrell Jones,
Vice Provost for
Educational Equity

Educational Equity has been engaged in a number of long-range activities that have recently been unveiled. Amid the uncertainties of the current economic market and the impact on the higher education environment, our forward-thinking approach continues to serve us and our stakeholders well.

The Equal Opportunity Planning Committee conducted a Special One-Time Framework-Priority Funding Opportunity for Campuses, awarding substantial funding to eight campus proposals. A list of these and other 2007-08 EOPC funded programs is available at www.equity.psu.edu/eopc/.

The Commission for Women (CFW) announced publication of the 2007-08 *Report on the Status of Women at Penn State*, a data-driven report prepared by the commission with support from the Office of Educational Equity and the University Budget Office. Through this and subsequent issues of the report, CFW hopes to help the University measure its progress in achieving the goal of gender equity. The report is available at www.equity.psu.edu/cfw/.

The Educational Equity strategic plan is complete and available online at www.equity.psu.edu/pubs.asp. Our directors have collaborated to build a strong plan that will guide our direction through the next five years, strengthening the connection with the University's plan, which will be launched this summer.

Please join me in celebrating these milestones, as well as the many daily successes that make a positive difference for our students and other stakeholders.

Penn State's Framework to Foster Diversity in the Limelight

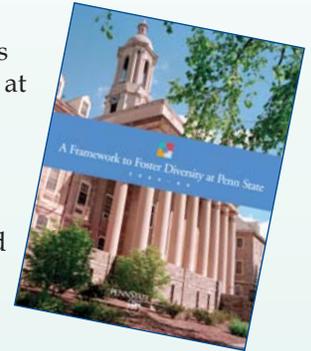
Penn State's *Framework to Foster Diversity* is attracting attention from universities nationwide. "Penn State is pleased that many colleges and universities over the past few years have visited or contacted our office about our successful equity programs, particularly both Framework to Foster Diversity initiatives," said Terrell Jones, vice provost for Educational Equity, in a recent *Penn State Live* article. *A Framework to Foster Diversity at Penn State: 2004-09* is the second five-year cycle of the University's strategic plan for diversity, continuing the 1998-2003 *Framework*.

In November 2008, three administrators from Auburn University, including the chief diversity officer, met with a number of Penn State senior administrators, college multicultural officers, and educational equity analysts and directors during a three-day visit. "This is the second visit for Auburn University, which first came five years ago," Jones, said. "They modeled some of their

approaches after those at Penn State and are returning for a review and update."

Recently, Penn State has also hosted similar visits from Clemson University, University of California at Berkeley, and Louisiana State University, along with a number of additional inquiries by phone and e-mail. "Our visitors inform us that there is no similar model like the *Framework* among U.S. higher education institutions," Jones said. "The *Framework* emphasizes a system of assessment accountability, which is uncommon among colleges and universities nationwide, but found to be important in effective diversity initiatives on campuses."

More information about *A Framework to Foster Diversity at Penn State* can be found at www.equity.psu.edu/Framework



Educational Equity Advisory Board Reviews Program Videos

The Educational Equity Advisory Board chair, Dr. Harold Cheatham '61, met in September in conjunction with the All Volunteer Summit. More than 200 alumni volunteers composed of development board members from each college, campus, and unit met at The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel to kick

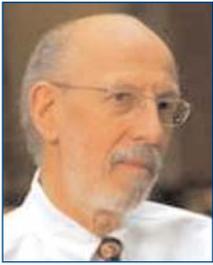
off the leadership phase of *For the Future: The Campaign for Penn State Students*.

The advice and financial support that our board members provide is exceedingly valuable. They plan to expand their reach in 2009 by increasing contacts with other

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Dr. William E. Cross Visits Penn State



Dr. William E. Cross

Educational Equity staff had the opportunity for lunch and conversation with eminent scholar, provocative thinker, and former Penn State professor William E. Cross. Dr. Cross, who is

currently head of Social-Personality Psychology at City University of New York, visited Penn State to deliver the 2008 Africana Research Center Scholar address, "Transacting Black Identity in Everyday Life," on April 17, as well as the Educational Equity luncheon conversation.

Cross, a scholar of the psychology of African American identity development in the United States, authored the 1991 groundbreaking book, *Shades of Black: Diversity in African American Identity*, which is one of the most frequently referenced texts on Black identity. His model conceptualizing the states of Black identity development has generated an ever-expanding number of essays, commentaries, and empirical studies, and has stimulated the growth of identity-development models for application to a wide range of additional groups.

Meet the New Members of WISE

Raysun Goergen, director of Women in the Sciences and Engineering Institute (WISE), is proud to welcome on board Jessica Hoyt, assistant director, and Kim Siggins, administrative support assistant. We are excited for the opportunity to advance the vision of WISE at Penn State, both nationally and internationally. Our positive attitudes, team spirit, and vibrant personalities will enable us to continue to move WISE into the new millennium. Stop by 319 Boucke to meet the dynamic trio!

Educational Equity Advisory Board Reviews Program Videos continued from front page



Photo caption: Educational Equity Advisory Board, April 2008. Front Row: Joyce Shorts; Ralphine Gentzler; Renee Carter; Bill Carter; Victoria Sanchez, assistant vice provost for Educational Equity; Arlene Cheatham; Harold Cheatham, Chair. Back Row: W. Terrell Jones, vice provost for Educational Equity; Ed Thompson, director of Development, Educational Equity; Gary Gentzler; Jerry Grossman; Tom Hogan; Bruce Rush; Troy Thornton; Marcus Whitehurst, assistant vice provost for Educational Equity.

alumni in their respective communities, deepening their familiarity with Educational Equity priorities, and supporting the priorities of *For the Future: The Campaign for Penn State Students*. The Educational Equity Advisory Board meeting featured a preview of two short videos that make the case for supporting Educational Equity. "Opportunity, Diversity, Equity," a two-minute video, and "Investing in Futures," an eleven-minute video, highlight Educational Equity students and advisory board members and illustrate the positive impact of giving to Educational Equity.

The Advisory Board members are helping to expand Educational

Equity's base of support by leading the way with substantial gifts. Educational Equity's top priorities include scholarships that support low-income, first-generation students, and scholarships for veterans. We also have a strong commitment to support precollege outreach programs aimed at keeping at-risk high school students on track for college through gifts to the Educational Equity Future Fund.

Both the "Opportunity, Diversity, Equity" and "Investing in Futures" videos can be found at www.equity.psu.edu. To make a gift, please go to www.givenow.psu.edu or contact Ed Thompson at ent4@psu.edu or 814-865-7698.

News of Note:

- Geri Weilacher, assistant to the vice provost, retired on October 31, with twenty years of service to the University. Geri was instrumental in establishing the full complement of TRIO programs at Penn State, as well as other grants. We wish her all the best.
- Ron Williams has been named the new director of the Student Support Services Program. Previously, Ron served as director of the Comprehensive Studies Program.
- Tina Thomas, advising program

- coordinator in the Student Support Services Program, had a baby girl on September 9, Lydia Elizabeth Thomas.
- Raysun Goergen, director of the Women in the Sciences and Engineering Institute, had a baby boy on October 23, Patrick Meryll Goergen-Frost.
- Terry Johnson, counselor/certifying official in the Office of Veterans Programs, celebrated twenty-five years with the University this fall, with most of them spent in the Vets office.