

PENNSTATE  
Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

# Overview

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

Educational Equity is pleased to announce new directors in two of its programs. First, we welcome Raysun Goergen as the new director of the Women in the Sciences and Engineering Institute (WISE), as of December 3, 2007.

Raysun was previously the program coordinator for the Outreach office. She holds an M.S. in conservation ecology and sustainable development from the University of Georgia in Athens.

We also welcome Tahirah Abdullah, who became the new director of the TRiO Educational Opportunity Center in Southwestern Pennsylvania on March 1, 2008. Prior to joining Educational Equity, Tahirah served as director of the TRiO Student Support Services Program at the Greater Allegheny campus (called ACE at that campus).

Spring featured a number of year-end celebration opportunities in Educational Equity:

- **February 20:** Comprehensive Studies Program 2008 Spring Celebration for Faculty, Staff, and Students
- **March 28:** College Assistance Migrant Program Spring Graduation Celebration
- **April 10:** Multicultural Resource Center Senior Awards and Diversity Recognition Reception
- **April 11:** Commission for Women Annual Luncheon for presentation of the Achieving Women Awards
- **April 15:** Student Support Services Program Student Achievement Reception
- **April 18:** Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Equity Rainbow Awards Ceremony

Additionally, both our Educational Equity Advisory Board and the WISE Institute's Advisory Board met on April 18, with the two groups collaborating through a joint luncheon discussion.

I hope you will share my pride in the many accomplishments of Educational Equity, particularly of our students.

## Raytheon Gift Supports WISE Camp

The Raytheon Company has committed \$75,000 over three years to Penn State to sponsor the Women in the Sciences and Engineering (WISE) Camp program. WISE Camp, in its twelfth year at Penn State, is a one-week residential science and engineering career exploration program for eleventh and twelfth grade girls. The program encourages girls to pursue careers in science, engineering, technology, and mathematics

(STEM) fields and supports Raytheon's efforts to create an inclusive work force.

"Raytheon is a strong advocate of women in the sciences and technology fields, offering our young women early exposure to these disciplines," said Mike Keebaugh '67 Math '71g, Comp Sci, president for Raytheon's Intelligence and Information Systems. "We are pleased to have the opportunity to

*continued on back page*



Left - Right: B. J. Hale, site executive, Raytheon, State College; W. Terrell Jones, vice provost, Educational Equity; and Katie Rung, interim director, WISE Institute

## Penn State University Park Talent Search Program Chosen for U.S. Department of Education GEM Profile

Penn State's Talent Search Program has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education to be profiled as part of the Department's GEM project. GEM highlights education programs that offer innovative solutions to some of the problems complicat-

ing the practice of education today.

Talent Search was chosen for our postsecondary enrollment verification and reporting process. An example of how we package this information to showcase program accomplishments can be seen in our

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## 2008 Achievement Conference, "Inspiring Greatness: To the Summit and Beyond"

The 2008 Achievement Conference was held February 8 and 9, 2008, at The Nittany Lion Inn, University Park campus. The conference fosters relationships among juniors, seniors, and graduate students of color, along with faculty and administrators; promotes professional and academic development; and encourages networking among faculty and students of color. All faculty, administrators, graduate students, and prospective graduate students of color are encouraged to attend.

This year's keynote address was presented by John Sanchez, associate professor of journalism/ethics in Penn State's College of Communications. The conference agenda included professional development workshops and a research exhibition of student work.

The eighth annual event was presented by the Black Graduate Student Association and co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity; the Office of Graduate Educational Equity Programs; the Office of the Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education; the Commission on Racial/Ethnic Diversity; the Africana Research Center; The Alliance for Earth Sciences, Engineering, and Development in Africa; and the Department of African and African American Studies. 

### Talent Search Program Chosen for U.S. Department of Education GEM Profile

*continued from front page*

most recent newsletter, which can be accessed through the following URL: [www.equity.psu.edu/ts/pdf/newsletter\\_07.pdf](http://www.equity.psu.edu/ts/pdf/newsletter_07.pdf)

"Our staff has been developing this process for a long time and it is exciting to have these efforts recognized in this way," said Stephen Holoviak, Talent Search director. 

## Educational Equity Future Fund Provides Flexibility to Meet Unexpected Needs

Unrestricted gifts to the *Educational Equity Future Fund* provide the vice provost flexible resources to help create opportunities for students served by the fourteen program areas in Educational Equity. Whether to assist a student by providing additional resources to the Office for Disability Services, or help a low-income high school student attend the Upward Bound Math and Science Center program, the

Educational Equity Future Fund provides flexible support to meet unexpected needs during the school year, making an unrestricted gift the most important contribution you can make to Penn State. Gifts to the Future Fund count toward President's Club membership. Visit [www.PresidentsClub.psu.edu](http://www.PresidentsClub.psu.edu) to make a gift. For more information, contact Ed Thompson at [edthompson@psu.edu](mailto:edthompson@psu.edu) or 814-865-7698. 

## CORED Hosts Promotion and Tenure Symposium

The Commission on Racial/Ethnic Diversity presented its third annual Promotion and Tenure Symposium, "What's Diversity Got To Do With It?" on Tuesday, April 1, 2008. The event featured plenary and breakout sessions on topics including second-, fourth-, and sixth-year tenure review, promotion from associate to full professor, post-tenure review, and career advancement, all with a focus on the needs and concerns of diverse faculty members.



The symposium featured a plenary address by Dr. Blannie Bowen, vice provost for Academic Affairs. Panelists included Dr. Bowen, Dr. James Stewart, senior faculty mentor and professor of labor studies and employment relations and African and African American Studies; and Dr. Grace Hampton, department head, African and African American Studies, and professor of integrative arts. 

### Raytheon Gift Supports WISE Camp

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support WISE Camp as it is one of the key elements in obtaining that early exposure to math and science."

B. J. Hale '80 Comp Sci, site executive, Raytheon Company, State College, presented the check to WISE on behalf of Raytheon.

Penn State's WISE Institute administers the WISE Camp. Raytheon Intelligence and Information Systems, based in

Garland, Texas, is a leading provider of information and intelligence solutions to the government and employs more than 8,000 engineering and technical professionals worldwide.

In addition, Vice Provost Jones has been asked to be the spring 2008 diversity day speaker at Raytheon. His next presentation is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, when he will speak on "Understanding Generation NeXt Staff." 