

A Seat at the Table

Updates from the Diversity and Inclusion Office
September 2014

- ✚ *Beyond: Diversity...*, co-sponsored by the Diversity and Inclusion Office and the Office of International Education, has begun! *Beyond: Diversity...* will include events, presentations, lectures, panel discussions, book groups, and many other activities. Faculty can find different ways to include *Beyond* content in their classrooms. For more information contact Katie Davidson at Davidsk8@ferris.edu.
- ✚ The first *Beyond: Diversity...* event was a middle-of-campus musical event: more than 100 Ferris students and employees learned to play the Indonesian instrument, the angklung. Special thanks to Tricia Sumarijanto, from the Indonesian Embassy in Washington D.C., who patiently taught the participants how to play the instruments.
- ✚ Speaking of good music, did you see the *Happy* video produced by Hassan Altkroni and Murtadha Alwail? If you did not, please see, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HzcmcyrxgY>. As you watch the Ferris employees dance please remember that they are having fun.
- ✚ Herman Boone, the real-life high school football coach depicted by actor Denzel Washington in the movie “Remember the Titans,” spoke at Ferris on Wednesday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in Williams Auditorium. The event was organized by the Ferris Social Work Association with the help of the Diversity and Inclusion Office, the Office of Multicultural Student Services, and Entertainment Unlimited. Hundreds of people attended the event, most of whom did not expect to see Denzel Washington.
- ✚ Thank you to all the Divisions and Colleges that sent their diversity reports to the Office. *Diversity at Ferris 2013-2014* will be presented to the Board of Trustees on October 10, 2014. See http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/president/DiversityOffice/pdf/DiversityatFerris2013_14DraftFinal.pdf for the current draft of the document.
- ✚ The Diversity and Inclusion Office supported faculty member Professor Gloria Barnett (2014 MLK Social Justice Award recipient) and her church with their Fill-A-Basket program in Muskegon, see, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCYBiLmW2U>.
- ✚ Big shout out to the many Ferris students who demonstrated kindness and a commitment to building an ethical community by helping new students move into the residential halls.
- ✚ When you see Tyrone Collins, an Admissions Officer, shake his hand: he was selected as a 2014 YMCA Detroit Achiever for his efforts to improve the lives of Detroit area youth.

- ✚ This Fall's enrollment has been tabulated and the University's student population is increasingly diverse: enrollment by African American students is up about one percent, Hispanic enrollment is up 9.7 percent, international students by 8.7 percent, and students of two or more races up 10.7 percent.

- ✚ The Achievement Gaps Task Force finished its report over the summer. See http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/president/DiversityOffice/pdf/AchievementGapsTaskforceFinalReport_091714.pdf for a copy of the report, recommendations, and progress.

- ✚ The University's much-anticipated diversity audit is about to begin. The auditors, Myra Hindus (Creative Diversity Solutions) and Shilpa Pherwani (Ibis Consulting) are busy examining Ferris reports and publications. They will arrive on campus to facilitate a discussion on Oct.7, 2014. The meeting will be from 9:00am-1:00pm. This is a planning meeting to prepare the University for the audit.

- ✚ This issue's Recommended Video is "I'm A Foreigner?" Here is the link, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDhkmZktLRg&sns=em>.