

Faculty and Staff Diversity Mini-Grant Final Report

Project title : Out and About: Examining Gay Life in Small Town America

Grant Recipients

Mischelle Stone, Ph.D., Michael Berghoef, MSW, Michelle Richardson, M.A., Brittany Leslie, B.S.

Date Project Started: 12/1/10

Amount of Money Funded by the Mini-Grant: \$2,629.00

1. How was the grant used to address a diversity or inclusion related goal?

This project involved an interdisciplinary film series that presented three films to the FSU community. These films and their accompanying discussions introduced diversity into the broader culture of the University and provided expertise and leadership on diversity related issues. They not only addressed issues of tolerance and discrimination facing members of the LBGTQIA community, they addressed these issues in relation to rural cultures. The film series served as a mechanism for infusing diversity into the broader discussion of prejudice and discrimination.

2. Describe the audience that was impacted by the grant's implementation. Provide quantitative data, if available.

3. This project was aimed at the FSU community of faculty, staff, and students, and the larger Big Rapids community. Participants were provided with an evaluation (see attached) at the conclusion of each film and/or talk back session, where they were asked to rate their level of awareness of issues before and after their viewing of the films. The surveys used a Likert-type scale that assessed levels of awareness and other issues related to the goals of the project as described above. The evaluations provided the following average scores on the measures of outcomes (where 1 = failed to meet the goal, 2= somewhat met the goal, 3= no opinion, 4= mostly met the goal, and 5= completely met the goal):

Small Town Gay Bar

1) Advocating for diversity and inclusion: mean = 4.60

2) Introducing diversity into the culture at FSU: mean = 4.60

- 3) Providing expertise and leadership on diversity: mean = 4.52
- 4) Infusing diversity into the discussion of discrimination/prejudice: mean = 4.43
- 5) Promoting the benefits of diversity at FSU: mean = 4.26
- 6) Preparing students for a diverse world: mean = 4.36

Out In The Silence

- 1) Advocating for diversity and inclusion: mean = 4.67
- 2) Introducing diversity into the culture at FSU: mean = 4.65
- 3) Providing expertise and leadership on diversity: mean = 4.72
- 4) Infusing diversity into the discussion of discrimination/prejudice: mean = 4.55
- 5) Promoting the benefits of diversity at FSU: mean = 4.56
- 6) Preparing students for a diverse world: mean = 4.56

Prayers for Bobby

- 1) Advocating for diversity and inclusion: mean = 4.77
- 2) Introducing diversity into the culture at FSU: mean = 4.72
- 3) Providing expertise and leadership on diversity: mean = 4.63
- 4) Infusing diversity into the discussion of discrimination/prejudice: mean = 4.72
- 5) Promoting the benefits of diversity at FSU: mean = 4.84
- 6) Preparing students for a diverse world: mean = 4.79

4. Grant recipients are required to provide a short narrative that details the specific efforts each of the collaborators made to the implementation of the grant. Dr. Mischelle Stone acted as the coordinator for the three-film series. Michelle Richardson, from the AFE, co-hosted each of the events, arranged for guest lodging, was responsible for ordering food and drinks, and made sure that the Office of Diversity and Inclusion were appropriately billed. She also tallied the assessment results. Mike Berghoef coordinated the efforts of his students to advertise the project, and Brittany Leslie coordinated the informational materials provided by DSAGA at the venue.

5. What is your overall assessment of the project's impact on the Ferris community? How did this impact compare to what you expected?

It was clear from the outcome rankings by the participants, that awareness of issues related to LBGTQIA prejudice and discrimination was raised. In addition, participants also rated the overall goals of the program as being successful. The levels of awareness following the presentation of the films and the subsequent anecdotal feedback from faculty and staff give strong indication that participants gained significant benefit from the event.

6. Present a final budget including all funds received and spent related to the project, with special focus on the funds received via the Diversity Mini-grant.

The total budget spent for the three-film series was \$2,629.00

Primary Grant Recipient's Signature Mischelle T. Stone

Date: 2/10/13