



**Visionering Wichita
College Mecca
Close the Education Gap Task Force
Notes from January 11, 2008**

Attendees: Alicia Newell, Carolyn Parson, Anna Villarreal, Criss Palacioz, Margaret Harris, Tony Myers, Bobby Gandu, Tom Borrego, Adrienne Churchill, Tom Borrego

Purposes for Today:

What can we do collaboratively (but doesn't make us more competitive) and particularly community based.

Visionering Updates:

- Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony perception survey will run from January 21 – February 22. More student participation is needed. Diane will email information along with the link. Everyone is encouraged to forward this to their networks. The survey was 1st done in 2006. That was the benchmarking survey. We hope to see improvements in perceptions with the 2008 survey.

Review of Work Done

The PowerPoint presentation reviewing work done to date is at the following link:

<http://www.visioneringwichita.com/minutes/college/Task%20Force%20PP%20011118.pdf>

Best Practices

A summary of Best Practices showing success in recruiting students of color was reviewed. It is on the Visionering website at the following link:

<http://www.visioneringwichita.com/minutes/college/Handout%20-%20Best%20Practices.pdf>

Funding Opportunities

A handout with examples of grants given in the past was reviewed. Some of the grants are more specific, some are more general and some represent collaboration opportunities.

Funding doesn't have to be a barrier to what we want to do. The handout is found at the following link:

<http://www.visioneringwichita.com/minutes/college/Handout%20-%20Possible%20Funding%20Opportunities.pdf>

Vision to Action- Action Steps

- 1) Provide more support and involvement with current USD259 Parent University
 - Include rep/student from same background
 - 6-8 week program and different universities host parent meetings

How College Mecca might help

- When students see someone they identify with, they start to see themselves following the same path

- Can we help get some of the “right faces” there
 - Start early with parents- help them get past perception that they can’t afford or other barriers
 - For 1st gen. students program that helps break down fear and takes them to different universities (include parents)
 - A program that provides links/ orientation
 - Build personal relationships and then link them to programs like parents university or continue relationship after parents university
 - For alumni and current students this would be a good opportunity to give back
 - 1st step- reach out to Jackie Lugrand to learn more
 - Include Others at the right time
 - Catholic Diocese- Hispanic and Asian Churches
 - Jan Davis, BGC
 - Urban League
 - BB/BS
 - Others??
- 2) Have a Specific contact/representative at each institution that is the link our efforts to increase enrollment of local youth of color
- Master list of contacts for each institution
 - Make sure other institutions know who contacts are
 - Web based and paper list for distribution
 - Requests from target area elementary & middle schools go to these contacts
 - Combined referral and contact possible?
- 3) List of companies that are involved in these kind of efforts or who would potentially support our collaborative efforts (i.e. Koch has helped in the past)
- 4) Better understand what happened to USD259 Gear-Up Program and see if other Gear-Up possibilities exist especially those that would encourage collaborative approaches

Next steps

Who	Who Else	What	When
CCSR		Check into Gear-Up RFP	by next meeting
CCSR & Diane	Alicia, Anne, Margaret, Suzie	Meet with Jackie Lugrand	by next meeting
CCSR		Master list of Institutions of HE & contact persons	by next meeting
CCSR	Suzie	Ask Suzie about list of companies who might support efforts	by next meeting
Diane	All	Find regular time late/end of day	02/01/08