

Notes
NWS Diversity Council Call
February 17, 2010 – 2:00 ET

Members Present:

Elaine Wilbur	James Su
Charly Wells	Sabrina Cook
Brian Sadler	Carolyn Willis
Erik Pytlak	Debra Blondin
Cheryl Latif	Ella Lichtenberg
Patricia Taylor	Todd Hall
Margi Garner	Hope Hasberry
Jennifer Kent	Joanne Lewis
Rebecca Schwab	Nydria Humphifes

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm followed by a roll call and welcome.

Elaine encouraged all to submit agenda items for the Diversity calls. The council was briefed on the status of each Marketing Team's initiative.

1. Administer Diversity Management Poster Design Contest
Team Leaders: Hope Hasberry, and Carolyn Willis:
Announcement is out and entries will be accepted through March 5, 2010. There have been 3 submissions thus far. There was a discussion on sending an ALL HANDS reminder of the contest. Each council member was encouraged to send an email to employees within their FMC to remind them of the poster contest.
2. Develop Web-Based Diversity Clearing House Toolbox
Team Leaders: Cheryl Latif, and Elaine Wilbur:
Draft email was submitted to Charly for review and dissemination, but IT gremlins destroyed it before it reached Charly. Elaine will resend draft to Charly for review and hopefully email to ALL HANDS.
3. Develop Commerce E-Learning Diversity Management Curriculum

Team Leaders: Ella Lichtenberg, Todd Hall, Jim Su:
Continuing to select courses but will push deadline back due to the winter storm.
Progress is being made.

4. Develop “NWS Diversity Management” Power-Point Presentation
Team Leaders: Jose Garcia, Steve Kuhl, and Gena Morrison:
The PowerPoint is in development and the team will meet in March to further this effort.
5. Create Regional Level Excellence Diversity Award
Team Lead Steve Drillette:
Elaine indicated that the team had met, but no additional updates were provided.
Elaine will follow up with Steve.

Erik Pytlak shared his experience at the National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce Conference. He would like to pursue establishing an Employee Resource Group (ERG) and announce in June for pride month. Charly, Elaine and Erik will meet offline to discuss and get OGC involved.

Everyone should review the tool Charly sent out on Friday, January 22, 2010. Elaine will send to all in the event you did not receive the initial email. Provide comments PRIOR to the next call. In addition, rethink diversity reporting requirements if the tool doesn't fulfill the needs of the field.

Roundtable:

Charly indicated that the next Black History Month activity will be on 2/24/2010, and the Women's History Month observance program will be held on March 4, 2010. Charly also acknowledged that he would like to recognize Carol Mearns for her contributions to the DC since her departure in January by sending her a plaque.

Eastern Region – Cheryl Latif - Offices are enjoying Byron's presentation.

Western Region – Todd Hall - Distributed the Regional Diversity Newsletter which can be located at http://ww2.wrh.noaa.gov/main/diversity/Feb15_2010.pdf

OHD - Jennifer Kent – Celebrated Chinese New Year and that OHD was partaking in the Graduate Scientist Program.

Central Region – Elaine Wilbur – Making preparations for the LEAD Experience in 2010. Good feedback on Byron's presentation.

Please Note. Elaine and Gina's term as Chair and Co-Chair are expiring. If you were interested in being the chair/co-chair, an email should be sent to Elaine, Gena and Charly so a vote can be taken.

The next call is March 17 at 2pm Eastern Time.