



# Diversity Outlook

TOGETHER, WE CAN ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE

THE NEWSLETTER OF CAMPUS DIVERSITY

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## A WORD FROM THE VICE PROVOST



Fred Rodriguez,  
 Vice Provost for  
 Diversity & Equity

Summer weather arrived a bit earlier this year, but I trust that in spite of the heat, your summer is going well.

The Office of Diversity & Equity continues to work with the staff of Institutional Opportunity and Access (IOA) as the four team members settle into their new positions. The IOA (formerly EO) will also encompass the KU Medical Center campus, and Jane McQueeny, Executive Director of IOA, is working each Thursday from there. Aligning the campuses requires time and patience, but the entire university community should know that the primary point of contact is the IOA office located in Carruth O'Leary Hall on the Lawrence campus.

I am very pleased to report that Blane Harding (formerly of Colorado State University) has accepted our offer to serve as the Director of the Office for Multicultural Affairs. Blane will begin on July 2, 2012.

Following on the Memorandum of Understanding between Haskell Indian Nations University and KU that was signed in spring 2012, an advisory committee is being established. Regularly scheduled meetings between the two institutions are being planned for the 2012-13 academic year. If there are matters that you would like to bring to the attention of this new advisory council, please contact me at any time via [fredrod@ku.edu](mailto:fredrod@ku.edu).

The Executive Accessibility Advisory Council continues to meet monthly to address multiple areas of the campus community. Jamie Simpson, Director of Accessibility and ADA Education, is chair of the council. One change in that sphere is that room 30 Strong is being converted to the designated testing site for use of the entire campus; it will be fully designed to address academic accommodations for students. Before we secured this space, students were assigned to multiple rooms or facilities across campus to accommodate testing needs. Last fall semester, there were nearly 700 requests for these testing accommodations. This will alleviate the mass assignments and complex logistics, but more importantly, there is now a designated room for all instructional staff to utilize. It is coordinated by the Academic Achievement & Access Center--AAAC.

### BEYOND THE HILL



[The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum](#), Kansas City, exhibits "They Were All Stars" through Aug. 31. It

features African-American and Hispanic ball players who, in the years 1947-59, transitioned to Major League teams and later became All-Stars.

**See** • Colleague Graham in the Spotlight  
**page 2** • Scholarship of Diversity  
**for** • Coming events & more

### SPENCER PRESENTS DIVERSE ART

**The Ray of Hope: Aaron Douglas Inspired Quilts/Murals 7/15-9/16**

**Mary Sibande & Sophie Ntombikayise Take Central Court 8/10**

Nationally known quilt artist Marla Jackson, of Lawrence, worked with area school children to produce painted and quilted works inspired by Aaron Douglas and the Harlem Renaissance. Two large paintings by Lawrence 8th graders and 18 quilts by Topeka 4th graders go on display in KU's Spencer Museum of Art Lobby July 15.

Emerging artist Mary Sibande lives and works in Johannesburg, South Africa. In a first for a U.S. museum, the Spencer will show the culmination of Sibande's series of sculptural installations inspired by four generations of women in her family who all worked as domestic servants. Through this figure, Sibande addresses the "traditional" role of black women in South Africa and other countries with a history of black servitude. [Click headline for more info.](#)

### HEAR SPRING SYMPOSIUM FEATURED SPEAKERS

Videos of the two keynote speakers at the 2nd Annual Spring Symposium on the Scholarship of Diversity are now on the D&E website. Don't miss this chance to hear Sylvia Hurtado (UCLA) and Shaun Harper (Penn) again or for the first time. [Click here to view the videos.](#)

### THE SCHOLARSHIP OF DIVERSITY: A SYNOPSIS

Over the past twenty years, the number of bachelor's degrees awarded to students from underrepresented groups has increased substantially. More than three times as many racial/ethnic minorities (445,000) received a bachelor's degree in 2010-11 than in 1990-91 (147,000). In addition, minorities now represent 25% of bachelor's degree recipients, compared to only 13% twenty years ago.

Hispanics experienced the largest rate of growth in both decades. Native Americans experienced the second-largest growth in bachelor's degree attainment but with a slow down over the two decades. Among African American students, bachelor's degree attainment increased by 64% in the 1990s and 51% during the 2000s.

Another aspect of bachelor's degree attainment that has changed among the three underrepresented minority groups is the type of institution from which degrees are obtained: public, private nonprofit, and proprietary institutions. Over the past decade, proprietary institutions have notably increased their market share for all students, but especially for the three groups cited.

With the recent increased attention by federal and state policymakers to degree completion, it is arguable that these changes in market share do not bode well for attaining enhanced completion goals. The private nonprofit sector, which has lost the largest proportional share of students, has the highest overall completion rate, 66%. Public sector institutions, which have experienced a small loss of market share, have a completion rate of 56%, while the proprietary sector has a notably lower completion rate of 30%. Given the larger shift, particularly of the underrepresented minorities, to this low completion rate sector, it is not likely we will see any narrowing of the educational attainment gap in the years ahead.

Reference: The full findings are available and online at <http://diverseeducation.com/top100/>; from *Diverse - Issues in Higher Education*, June 7, 2012, vol.29: no. .9, 19-20.. 2003.

**PLAN NOW TO ATTEND MICHAEL TILFORD CONFERENCE**  
 Kansas State University hosts this year's conference. "Creating a Culturally Competent Campus" is October 29-30 on the Manhattan campus.



The third annual Hispanic Alumni Banquet, May 5 at the Adams Alumni Center, honoring graduating students, was hosted by the Hispanic Alumni Chapter of the KU Alumni Association and attended by KU officials, family, friends and Big Jay.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### SUMMER

7/15 **Ray of Hope: Aaron Douglas Inspired Art** opens  
 Spencer Museum of Art

7/19 & 20 **McNair Scholars Research Symposium**  
 Call 864-3412 for information / R.S.V.P.

#### LOOKING AHEAD

9/6 Office of Diversity & Equity Reception  
 3:30, Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union

10/17 Diversity Talks  
 3:30, Kansas Room, Kansas Union

10/29 Michael Tilford Conference on Diversity & Multiculturalism K-State

### A COLLEAGUE IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Recently named a University Distinguished Professor, Maryemma Graham comes from a family of educators

who were also storytellers. Dr. Graham has been with the KU Department of English since 1998, where her teaching includes the autobiography course *Writing the Self*. Her passion for recovering and promoting the history of literacy and literature has led her to create The Project on the History of Black Writing (established 1983) and numerous public programs. In 2014, Oxford University Press will release her long-awaited biography, *The House Where My Soul Lives: the Life of Margaret Walker*.

### A PROGRAM IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Academic Programs for Excellence - **APEX** - is in rm 7 Strong Hall and houses the successful academic support programs:

SES - TRIO, which works with first-generation, limited-income students and those with disabilities to enable them to succeed and to graduate.

GEAR UP is a U.S. Dept of Ed-funded program to increase the number of low-income students who enter and succeed in postsecondary education.