until you walk a mile...

2011 Inclusive Illinois Impact Report
Welcome to the 2011 Inclusive Illinois Impact Report. Inclusive Illinois, one campus, many voices, is the University’s commitment to cultivating a community at Illinois where everyone is welcomed, celebrated, and respected. Coordinated by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, Inclusive Illinois showcases the ways in which the University demonstrates its commitment; celebrates its achievements; and educates the campus and community about diversity and inclusivity. In addition, it highlights the benefits of respecting and valuing the intersecting identities of faculty, staff, and students on our campus.

With a network of Inclusive Illinois Representatives serving as liaisons in every college and unit, the values of Inclusive Illinois are infused in all that we do. Through our collective efforts in creating programs and events in which to engage the campus community, we are able to sustain a positive campus climate. By sharing our individual and collective voices - through education, active engagement, and outreach - we contribute to excellence, thus enriching the Illinois Experience.

We thank you for your interest and support of Inclusive Illinois!

Menah Pratt-Clarke, JD, PhD
Associate Chancellor and Director
Office of Equal Opportunity and Access

Inclusive Illinois
Commitment Statement
As a member of the University of Illinois community, I commit to supporting Inclusive Illinois. I will encourage the expression of different voices, perspectives, and ideas. I will challenge my own beliefs, opinions, and viewpoints. I will advocate for an accessible, safe, and respectful environment to enhance the living, learning, and working community at Illinois. I will acknowledge and respect the multiple identities represented in each individual. My commitment will be demonstrated by my voice and my conduct.
Inclusive Illinois has a commitment to quality programming. This includes the annual Inclusive Illinois Day, as part of iUnite, a campus wide effort with colleges and units to showcase their commitment to the values of Inclusive Illinois. Nearly 1,000 students, staff, and faculty made their online commitments in support of Inclusive Illinois through the Inclusive Illinois website, inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu.
Community Outreach

The 7th Annual Community MLK Celebration coordinated by the Countywide Celebration Planning Committee, was held on January 16, 2011, at the Foellinger Great Hall at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. The event featured a film, community guest speakers, and educational presentations about the importance of service learning. In the afternoon, students traveled to various service sites for their service projects. That evening, the film The Other America was shown at The Art Theater, which featured a film screening of Roberto Clemente, followed by an interview with the filmmaker. The event was coordinated by subcommittee chair Minnie “Minnie” Miñoso, honored as the Construction Trades Opportunity (CTOP) Program.

The event featured keynote Tyra M. Kennedy, 2005 Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholar, and a performance by the Lincoln Middle School Step Team.

Inclusive Illinois Women’s Leadership Luncheon

As a land grant institution, the University of Illinois understands the value of educating a diverse student body. The University of Illinois understands the value of connecting academic missions with public service. The Office of the Chancellor and Provost’s Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (OEOA) supports and promotes this mission through efforts in the areas of community outreach, and strives to maintain strong community relations through local job fairs and training sessions. As part of its affirmative action and equal employment opportunity responsibilities, OEOA has actively cultivated relationships with the underrepresented populations in Champaign County and the state and community-based organizations, including the MLK and community church organizations. Programs developed by OEOA include the Governance Development Opportunity Program (GODP), the Jump Off Board for Success (JOBS) Program, and the Contractors Trade Opportunities (CTOR) Program.

In addition, the Larice Y. Coleman Make a Difference Award was given to four recipients, nominated by their peers, and selected by a review committee. Dr. James Anderson, Professor of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership; Dr. William Barry, Associate Chancellor; Fernando Pérez, Professor of Psychology; and Mr. Sheri Shaw, I. LEAP Program Director.

During the 2010/2011 academic year, nearly 1,400 students, faculty, and staff participated. These students, faculty, and staff contributed over 1,600 hours of service to 30 different community agencies. Additionally, over 1,000 community members participated as volunteers.

17th Annual Celebration of Diversity

This event highlighted the efforts made by campus community members to create an inclusive campus environment through programs, collaborations, and events. Over 300 campus and community leaders were in attendance, with remarks given by Interim Chancellor and President Robert J. Axelrod, Associate Chancellor Merah Ferrell-Garb, and a keynote by Dr. Apoorva Joshi from the School of Labor and Employment Relations.

The program was highlighted with performances by Sandunga, the University of Illinois community choir, campus and community speakers, and MLK scholarship winners.

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Identify Illinois

In its fifth year, Identify Illinois is the diversity initiative of the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics (DIA). It encourages more students of color to become involved in campus opportunities to support Illinois athletics. Over the past year, the DIA’s Committee on Diversity has made significant impact on opening the lines of communication between the athletic department and the campus and community.

www.fightingillini.com

Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences

National Science Foundation grant to mentor Latino students

LATINO NEW BIOLOGY FELLOWS PROGRAM

Latino students face many barriers, including the need to provide for their families financially, parents who lack understanding of the value of a college education, US citizenship, and lack of knowledge and activity emphasizing culturally-tailored elements (e.g., folk-dancing), and shared meals featuring family storytelling and songwriting. In the 2010/2011 academic year, participants included more than 40 Latino families with elementary school children from communities in and surrounding Champaign County. Preliminary program evaluation indicates that not only do families enjoy Abriendo Caminos, but the program helps increase the consumption of fruits and vegetables and reduce the number of sweetened soda servings per week.

Abriendo Caminos, a pilot program sponsored by the Family Resiliency Center, the Department of Human and Community Development, and University Extension, is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Salud Americas’ initiative. The goal is to build positive connections between Latino children and their parents. The six-week curriculum requires building on existing family strengths. The program seeks to build positive connections between healthy habits and family life to promote healthy eating, and physical activity to preserve family traditions and to build stronger relationships between Latino children and their parents.

www.aces.uiuc.edu/news/stories

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Mr. Andrew Imparato addressed the campus on public policy concerning people with disabilities. The talk, titled “The Big Thing for People with Disabilities: Moving from Civil Rights to Economic Well-Being,” examined the legal and economic factors currently affecting the ability of people with disabilities to achieve a more complete integration into all aspects of American life and culture. Mr. Imparato also met with the Chancellor’s Committee on Access with disabilities to achieve a more complete integration into all aspects of American life and culture. Mr. Imparato also met with the Chancellor’s Committee on Access with disabilities to achieve a more complete integration into all aspects of American life and culture.

**College of Education**

The College of Education is a leader in diversity on the campus. Nearly 25% of the College’s students are from underrepresented populations and 58% are female. The College has a mission to foster a more diverse work environment and solutions to fostering a more diverse work environment and solutions to fostering a more diverse work environment and solutions to fostering a more diverse work environment and solutions to fostering a more diverse work environment and solutions to fostering a more diverse work environment.

**MEP Program**

**Minority Association of Future Educators (MAFE)**

**Online Masters of Education (EdM) Program**


**Women in Science and Engineering (WISE)**

**IntelliWheels®**

**A FashionABLE Fundraiser for DSO**

**Business Diversity Exchange (BDE)**

**College of Engineering**

**Student blogger Luis Alanis noted, “Diversity is much more than skin color or ethnicity. It involves experiences, educational backgrounds, and values.”**

**Diversity is central to the College of Education’s core mission statement:**

“Building on a heritage of excellence and diversity to forge breakthrough thinking and practice.”

**InclusiveIllinois.illinois.edu**

**Incorporated in 1973, the Minority Engineering Program (MEP) was developed to attract and retain minority engineering students from underrepresented groups in engineering. These include African Americans, Native Americans, Latinos, women of all ethnicities, people with disabilities, and low-income individuals. The MEP approach is broad, encompassing pedagogy, college, and graduate students.”

**Ms. Jurney Djarin, a senior at the University of Illinois School of Medicine, presented a poster on the diversity of undergraduate premedical students at the College of Medicine.**

**Women of all ethnicities, people with disabilities, and low-income individuals.**

“In conjunction with the College of Education, the Office of Online and Continuing Education (OCCE) administers the EdM in Educational Policy Studies with an Emphasis in Equity and Diversity online. This is a collaborative effort of the six departments within the College of Education: Educational Leadership, Educational Policy Studies, Curriculum & Instruction, Educational Psychology, and Human Resource Education. Master’s of Education Program is designed to provide educators with a holistic approach to issues related to diversity and equity in the learning environment and to develop teachers and administrators who are knowledgeable in learning theories, leadership in a diverse environment, race, gender and sexual orientation issues, and issues of social class and poverty.”

“On February 10, 2011, MAFE hosted President David W. Beaudine, chair of the Office of Policy, Outreach, Corporate Partners, and Signature Activities and brought together students and staff in the College of Education to talk about diversity initiatives with him.”

“Building on a heritage of excellence and diversity to forge breakthrough thinking and practice.”

In programs include Academics, Professional Preparation, Outreach, Corporate Partners, and Signature Activities.

Girls in Mathematics, Engineering, and Science (G.A.M.E.S) is an annual week-long camp, designed to give academically talented girls, in grades 6 through 12, an opportunity to explore exciting engineering and scientific fields through demonstrations, classroom presentations, hands-on activities, and contacts with women in these technical fields.

An advanced curriculum is offered, covering each area as a science laboratory, with an emphasis on structure, robots and computer technology, and chemical engineering; electrical engineering; and energy materials and technology. The world-class instructional facilities at Illinois provide an incomparable “hands-on” experience as one of the best engineering schools in the country.

The College of Education is a leader in diversity on the campus. Nearly 25% of the faculty are from underrepresented populations and 58% are female. The College has endeavored to ensure that diversity permeates across all levels, including leadership roles. Conducting research on relevant areas, such as social justice, leadership, academic achievement, and learning disabilities and special needs, the College’s faculty strives to improve academic and understanding of diversity.

At the event, the keynote speaker was Daryl Cheeks, ’06, managing partner for Black Rhino Financial Group.

Darryl Cheeks

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Study abroad programs and courses, such as those this academic year in Munich, develop social sensitivity and cultural understanding in College of Education students. As one student wrote, Professor Mark Dressner’s courses “made me realize the importance of understanding different cultures. I worked on projects that allowed me to see and experience different views.”

**Business Diversity Exchange (BDE)**

On November 6, 2010, two hundred and fifty students joined representatives from leaders to participate in the annual College of Business, Business Diversity Exchange (BDE). Through a series of workshops conducted by CarePedia, Ernst & Young, and Morgan Stanley, students explored solutions to fostering a more diverse work environment and crafted their personal definitions of diversity.

**A FashionABLE Fundraiser for DSO**


**Perspectives on Improving Accessibility**

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Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

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Krinton Center for the Performing Arts
Through its multiple roles as classroom, laboratory, and public space, the Krinton Center for the Performing Arts (KCPA) is a touchstone for the exploration and appreciation of artistic experiences. With support from director Mike Rose, and senior associate director Rebecca McIlhenny, the Center’s programs connect audience members with relationships with local schools, universities, organizations, and diverse campus units.

In partnership, multiple groups continue to promote the exploration of cultural arts in local and international contexts. One example is the Center for African Studies, a partner in the Sister City International program, which connects the school to Global Education in Small Urban Schools. This partnership develops a broad base of students and prepares graduates for future international experiences. One reason for KCPA’s success in promoting cultural arts is its strong relationships with local schools.

In the spring of 2011, a three-month exhibit of some of the state’s first female appointed government officials of Illinois’ College of Law. The exhibit, developed by the Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission, told the stories of women who passed the way and the goals they sought. It is to help the public understand similar issues today. The exhibit included the story of Mary Bradwell, the first woman to be admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1892; Ada of Myra Bradwell, the first woman to be admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1870; Catherine McCulloch, who received a public engagement award given by a public library to honor contributions of outstanding American Indian authors.

The Mascot Opera, A Minuet in Four Parts, directed by Menah Pratt-Clarke, who co-produced her award-winning film, won the Oklahoma Book Award, and Denmark.

The event included a keynote address by Emma Ketteringham, the new Dean of Chicago. Menah Pratt-Clarke spoke on Racial Equality. Sponsored by the Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission, the exhibit, which features the stories of women who passed the test and the goals they sought, is to help the public understand similar issues today. The exhibit included the story of Mary Bradwell, the first woman to be admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1892; Ada of Myra Bradwell, the first woman to be admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1870; Catherine McCulloch, who received a public engagement award given by a public library to honor contributions of outstanding American Indian authors.

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Asian American Studies Program

Over the past decade, a mass migration and re-migration between Asia and the Americas. The program seeks to help students learn about and keep in touch with families abroad, and as virtual world games become more popular on a global scale, digital media has become a virtual touchstone. 

The conference, held at the University, brings together experts on the topics in digital labor, domestic labor, media practices, and texts between Asia and America. The technologies that enable cultural exchange distribute Asian bodies and representations of Asia all around the world. This conference examines the perceptions of Asian Americans in the media, and current events related to culture. The conference is co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Program and the National Asian Journalism Awards (NAJA). The conference's theme is "Asian Americans in the News: Race, Representation, and Reconstruction." The conference aims to encourage enlightened public choice-making with respect to diversity issues. 

The College of Media continues to be a leader in journalism and mass communication education in the areas of diversity and inclusivity. Students, staff, and faculty have impacted issues of diversity, on the perceptions of Asian Americans in the media, and current events related to culture. The conference is co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Program and the National Asian Journalism Awards (NAJA). The conference's theme is "Asian Americans in the News: Race, Representation, and Reconstruction." The conference aims to encourage enlightened public choice-making with respect to diversity issues. 

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New Interim Dean Appointed

Since April 2011, Dr. Oliphant has served as the College of Medicine’s Interim Dean. He has been a leader in chairing and promoting the Play It Safe event at the annual Family Safety Fair in Champaign. He has dedicated his career to community organizations and current events related to the College’s mission and objectives. He has served as a source of inspiration to journalism students of color, and a source of validation for the majority community of the ability of journalists of color to contribute to professional standards.

In 2011, Dr. Oliphant was awarded the Physician’s Champion Award for Education for his leadership in chairing and promoting the Play It Safe event at the annual Family Safety Fair in Champaign. He has dedicated his career to community organizations and current events related to the College’s mission and objectives. He has served as a source of inspiration to journalism students of color, and a source of validation for the majority community of the ability of journalists of color to contribute to professional standards.

The College of Medicine continues its strong commitment to training a diverse physician workforce, including individuals from underrepresented minority groups, with grants that highlight community service.

The University Language Academy for Children is an initiative that offers a quality after-school second language program as Spanish-serving children from the Champaign-Urbana communities. The program promotes early second-language acquisition by children who want to learn Spanish and do not come from Spanish-speaking families, as well as language maintenance for children of Spanish-speaking families. Dr. Ureta Montalvo serves as director of the Academy, as well as director of the Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education (SLATE) Program, head of the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese, professor in the Department of Linguistics, and director of the Second Language Acquisition and Bilingualism Lab.

The College of Media and Communication continues its strong commitment to training a diverse physician workforce, including individuals from underrepresented minority groups, with grants that highlight community service.
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Embracing diversity takes many forms at the College of Veterinary Medicine. For the students in training to become veterinarians, opportunities to explore "multicultural competency" improve their future effectiveness in client communications and practice management.

Working at the outer end of the educational pathway, a Chicago-based faculty member, Dr. Tracey Hlede, spends some of her time visiting urban elementary and high schools to introduce students and their teachers to the rich career opportunities available for professionals with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree.

Dr. Tracey Hlede has spearheaded a unique after-school program that reaches into Chicago's inner-city neighborhoods. The Veterinary Outreach Program (VSOP) provides tours and other educational programs for over ten years, offering nearly 100 high school students hands-on activities that illustrate the science and medicine involved in the veterinary field. Students are exposed to a cohort of other Chicago veterinarians and other college faculty. The Chicago State University Summer College for Middle School and High School Students comes to visit the College of Veterinary Medicine during the summer. The Veterinary Student Outreach Program (VSOP) provides tours of the College's small animal clinic, Furnetic. Shadow Day Chicago high school students include vetmed.illinois.edu/asa/vsop and some of the brightest science students into their workforce. The teens received a six-week long holistic institute of leadership training and mentorship in grades 5 to 12, and seeks to empower youth through leadership, cultural awareness, literacy, and service-learning projects.

The program has aimed to increase educational relevance within our community. TAP In's presence fills a key need among local youth of color in grades 7 through 12. With increased grant support and local partnerships, TAP In will continue to mentor youth in small groups, a key factor in the success of this program.”

— Sharon Irish, Interim Director, Community Information Initiative

Students and faculty of GSLIS have recently partnered with a local community organization working with youth from marginalized populations through after-school and summer enrichment programs. The goal of the program is to provide two-way communications for faculty with insights relevant to the Council, as well bringing back to the students and appreciation for the breadth of expertise at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

The TAP In Leadership Academy (www.tapinacademy.org), founded by community member Bally K. Carter, is dedicated to offering higher educational learning opportunities to students in grades 5 to 12, and seeks to empower youth through leadership, cultural awareness, literacy, and service-learning projects. The GSLIS Youth Community Information (YCI) initiative, which helps local community and low-income youth explore higher education through hands-on learning, has been involved with the program since its launch in June 2010. TAP In partners youth with high school mentor leaders for a six-week long civic learning institute of leadership, service, force, and academic enrichment. The TAP In leadership training and mentorship throughout the summer with trained teachers and volunteers from YCI, as well as various other community and University partners.

Dr. Tracey Hlede also oversees the monthly Sisters 4 Science after-school programs, offered in conjunction with the Anti-Violence Coalition, Society and Chicago Public High Schools. The program, which the College has led for over ten years, gives nearly 300 high school students hands-on activities that illustrate the science and medicine involved in the veterinary field. Students are exposed to a cohort of other Chicago veterinarians and other college faculty. The Chicago State University Summer College for Middle School and High School Students comes to visit the College of Veterinary Medicine during the summer. The Veterinary Student Outreach Program (VSOP) provides tours of the College's small animal clinic, Furnetic.
The day I forgave the Nazis, privately I forgave my parents, whom I hated all my life for not having saved me from Auschwitz. Children expect their parents to protect them; mine knew the Nazis existed.

One of the NCSA’s cyber-education’s longest-running programs is the Girls Engaged in Mathematics and Science (GEMS) program for middle school girls who have been active in the local community since 2004 through a partnership of the Chamber of Commerce District 94 and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA). GEMS was created to encourage girls to develop an act of self-confidence as a career-oriented course, to gain confidence in doing math and science, and to take advanced-level mathematics and science courses in high school. The GEMS program promotes participants’ visits to research laboratories, guest speakers, after-school activities, a network of female role models, opportunities to work side-by-side with a mentor in laboratories across the community. The Girls on the Grid component of GEMS utilizes Access Grid technology to link children and their families in science and mathematics education worldwide. Since its inception, the GEMS program has provided over 1,300 middle school girls with access to leading-edge research on female role models and to computational tools. The first GEMS website was created by a team of eighth-grade girls using NCSA Minerva® GEMS went public in 2004. GEMS connects girls with researchers and other girls in countries around the world.

Fraunhofer Institute

Fraunhofer Institute

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The Naturally Illinois Expo

The Naturally Illinois Expo is a unique opportunity for students of all backgrounds to meet and interact with practicing scientists whose specialties include biology, geology, hydrology, meteorology, environmental, and sustainable technology. Parents, teachers, and students find that the Expo is a fun way to learn how science, math, and technology are used in a wide range of applications, helping aspiring scientists to pursue careers in STEM.

The day I forgave the Nazis, privately I forgave my parents, whom I hated all my life for not having saved me from Auschwitz. Children expect their parents to protect them; mine knew the Nazis existed.

Eva Mozes Kor

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This conference focused on the unique multicultural issues facing college counseling centers, and provided a forum to address the needs, concerns, and implications for counselors working with culturally diverse students on campus. The conference goal was to foster multicultural competence in a changing world: an ethical imperative.

Dr. Melba Vásquez, President of the National Latino Psychological Association, on Latino Clients in Both Individual and Group Contexts: A Systemic/Collectivistic Approach.

President-Elect of the American Psychological Association (APA), who provided the keynote address, titled Multicultural Competence in a Changing World: An Ethical Imperative.

This year’s conference was held September 20-21, 2010, featuring Difficult Conversations hosted debates and discussions.

In 2010/2011, the Illini Union launched a new monthly program, Difficult Conversations to provide opportunities for student engagement that increase understanding and appreciation for the diversity of Illinois. Through this program, students, staff, and faculty are able to add their personal views on difficult topics while learning and listening from people of various ages, races, and experience. Through the use of an unbiased, standardized, and qualified-moderated facilitated/ facilitated, Difficult Conversations host debates and discussions.

Counseling Centers

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GENDER
FOR the LGBT Resource Center at Illinois. collaboration and sponsorship, including and featured campus and community held at Lincoln Square Village in Urbana, UNIVERSITY HOUSING and an inclusive environment, and were inclusive community looks like? The Residential Life hosted a diversity poster on December 6, 2010. showcased in the Housing Leadership unitingpride.org with guests from diverse backgrounds. students opportunities to engage in papermaking workshops, conversations Guests-in-Residence Program broadens the traditional veterans reconcile their effects of warfare. The Guests-in-Residence Program utilized art as a means to help veterans. Favianna Rodríguez is an artist who is the subject of the upcoming presents the Guide to Building Robots the Media, and The Absolute Beginner’s editor of over twelve books, including the Combat Paper Project, a global initiative whose work focuses on DIY social change. Named among the Provost’s Gender Equity Council, the College is able to promote its women faculty, and create a regular mechanism for their representation. The materials on display are on digital screens, photographs, and narratives of the accomplishments of women at Illinois. Testimonials combining research, interviews, and new media design, this interactive digital project women in faculty, academic professional, strategies that improve representation of women faculty. The Provost’s Gender Equity Council promotes gender equality by implementing initiatives and strategies that improve representation of women in faculty, academic professional, graduate student, and leadership roles at Illinois. The Council also works to promote local and global gender equality issues around the world, in order to improve efforts and mobilize programs toward campus goals in the area of gender. A student diversity poster contest was held at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts on March 10, 2011. For the 2010/2011 academic year, the following projects received funding from the Council:

OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PROJECTS
GENDER EQUITY COUNCIL

TheProvost’s Gender Equity Council provides gender equality and diversity training, support, and funding to help faculty, staff, and students improve equity and diversity on campus. The Council aims to foster an inclusive campus environment where all students, faculty, and staff feel welcomed and valued.

Inclusive Illinois Celebrates Women Project

As an interdisciplinary partnership between the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, faculty and staff of the Department of Theatre, and students from the College of Media, the project offers an interactive web-based portal on the Inclusive Illinois website with video, photographs, and narratives of the experiences and achievements of women at Illinois. Curator in residence of the Provost’s Gender Equity Council, the Inclusive Illinois Celebrates Women Project centers on the complexity of women’s identities, their experiences at Illinois, their voices, and their contributions. inclusiveillinois.edu/ilc/objectocom.html

Digital Dialogues: Gender Equity on the University of Illinois Campus

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Brad Ward, co-chair, Gender Equity Council/ Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, is a professor of psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is the director of the Laboratory for Gender Equity Studies and a frequent contributor to This American Life. He writes regularly for The New York Times, Gourmet, O Magazine, and other publications. His most recent book is My Heart Is an Idiot: How to Be a Man Without Losing Your Mind or the Love of the Woman You Love. A project showcase was held at the A project showcase was held at the A project showcase was held at the A project showcase was held at the A project showcase was held at the A project showcase was held at the
Although these women silently and the discipline known as kinesiology. and growing organized athletics/sport ology have played in organizing, defining, faculty in the Departments of Physical the 1800s through the 1980s, that women material display and interactive website of many people. This project offers a imaginations, and consumer behaviors are ubiquitous and central to the lives, At Illinois and globally, sport/athletics accomplishments great things that continue to influence sport/physical culture, they to rebuild public institutions, yet can also connect and build relations with present generations of the campus this disconnection, that students— and creates a public intervention to bridge project addresses this lack of continuity, their educational goals. In response, this social and economic challenges pursuing people who studied here, especially those Illinois, less is known about the actual the historical legacy of the University of buildings stand as mute monuments to promising future graduates.

While many architecturally significant buildings stand as mute monuments to the historical legacy of the University of Illinois, less is known about the actual people who studied here, especially those who, out of necessity, faced numerous social and economic challenges pursuing their educational goals. In response, the project addresses this lack of continuity, and creates a public intervention to bridge this disconnection, that students— particularly women and other underrepresented groups— might experience. Attending to the absence of public spaces is not only highlighting the important contributions of its members, yet can also connect and build relations with present generations of the campus community. This project endeavors and endeavors that part by redressing a lack of visual presence through an interactive media installation documenting the University of Illinois’ longstanding tradition in the education of minorities. It also seeks to help reconnect female and minority alumni with the University’s important alumni and increasing awareness about the significant contributions of African American students and their accomplishments in the Arts and Sciences. As a tribute to the Program’s 30th anniversary, many events were held throughout the year. The University Main Library hosted an exhibit, celebrating the Program’s 30th anniversary. In addition, guest speakers addressed various topics: Empowering Women in Subsistence Marketplaces, Teaching International Competence through Spanish Community Service Learning, Women’s Activism in the Civil Rights Movement in the Cames of Salo and Chair, the Impact of Economic Migration on Child Development, and Rights and Rights in Today’s Global Setting, Differences in Food Inequality Between Adults and Children in Zimbabwe; Unpacking Gender Effects in Science and Engineering; Women’s Roles in Agricultural Development Strategies; and Empowering Women in Subsistence Marketplaces. Additionally, the Program is currently developing a new initiative, the Gender Equity in Research and Practice Program (GERP), which will focus on building gender equity in research and practice through a series of biennial symposia and conferences on relevant issues, and collaboration with other organizations. The program continues to develop a diverse focus on gender and human security through research, teaching, and public engagement on land rights and food security, transnational migration, and the impacts of a changing global market. With director Carla Sommerfeld at the helm, WGGP continues to hold various events, including symposiums, workshops, and conferences. Additionally, WGGP is working to establish new partnerships and collaborations with other organizations to advance gender equity in research and practice.
On February 24, 2011, artist Jason Patterson opened 23 Portraits at the Murphy Gallery at the University YMCA. These new works portrayed influential African American women with roots in the Champaign-Urbana and University of Illinois communities. The portraits acknowledged the adversities and triumphs seen by both African Americans and women. The project honored the African American women of this area who have bettered themselves, set new precedents, and inspired future generations.

Patterson’s focus moves from the grandiosity of that era to the component parts of our community, specifically some of the local African American women who have, over time, helped make us who we are. In departing from the legacies of his Civil Rights Project, Patterson embarked on something much bigger. This show explores the importance of collective individualism while recognizing the common cultural attributes that connect Patterson’s subjects to one another. All of his subjects are Black women, tied to Champaign-Urbana in some way, allowing us to see them as individuals and as people to whom we are connected by simple virtue of our locale.

African American Women and Feminist Activism

The African American Women and Feminist Activism lecture, featuring Beverly Guy-Sheftall, was held on March 17, 2011, in conjunction with Jason Patterson’s 23 Portraits. Guy-Sheftall is a founding director of the Women’s Research and Resource Center, an Anna Julia Cooper Professor of Women’s Studies at Spelman College, and an adjunct professor at Emory University’s Institute for Women’s Studies, in Atlanta, Georgia. She has been involved with the national women’s studies movement since its inception and provided leadership for the establishment of the first women’s studies program at a historically black college. As director of Spelman’s Women’s Center, she has also been involved with the development of student activism around misogynist images of Black women in hip hop, as well as a broad range of social justice issues, including reproductive rights and violence against women.
Get involved with Inclusive Illinois!

- Invite friends to attend an Inclusive Illinois event
  inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu
- Speak out for social change

Join us at the following events:

- November 10, 2011: 26th Annual Celebration of Diversity
- January 13–28, 2012: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Campus and Community Events