





ELON UNIVERSITY

TO: MarQuita Barker Assistant Director of Residence Life
Joy Baxter Class of 2009
Kathleen Edwards Former Assistant Director of the Kernodle Center for Service Learning
Danny Glassmann Former Assistant Director of Residence Life and the Multicultural Center
Charles Irons Assistant Professor of History
Kim Johnson Associate Director of Admissions and Director of Multicultural Recruitment
Prudence Layne Assistant Professor of English & Coordinator, African/African-American
Studies (Committee Co-Chair)

Darris Means Assistant Director of Student Life and Leadership Development for Elon Academy
Sylvia Munoz Director of El Centro
Keadrick Peters Class of 2010
Kristine Silvestri Class of 2010
Phil Smith Associate Chaplain (Committee Co-Chair)
Jeff Stein Associate Dean of Students
Jalonda Thompson Assistant Director of Multicultural Affairs & Leadership
George Troxler Professor Emeritus of History/Former Dean of Cultural & Special Programs
Leon Williams Director of the Multicultural Center
Michael Williams Director of Moseley Campus Center Operations and Conferences

FROM:  Smith Jackson, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students
Steven House, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs


DATE: August 16, 2009

RE: Report from the Committee on Expanding the Role of the Multicultural Center

We have carefully reviewed the report of the Committee on Expanding the Role of the Multicultural Center, and write to thank you for your excellent work. The Provost and Vice President for Student Life appointed this committee in February of 2008 in recognition of the university's role in preparing our students for citizenship in an increasingly diverse and multicultural society and world. Toward this end, we endorse the committee's overall recommendations that the Multicultural Center serve as consultant to the campus in furthering multicultural education programs by pursuing the following five goals for the center which are presented in the report:

1. Provide students from diverse populations a welcoming environment and connections to campus resources.
2. Help all students explore/define identity, and increase cultural awareness and knowledge of self.
3. Advance students' multicultural understanding for success in the professional world by infusing diversity and diverse perspectives into curricular/co-curricular programming.
4. Provide training and resources to address discrimination, bias, misconceptions, and stereotypes.
5. Increase awareness of social issues and taking action in under-served communities.

The report provides numerous concrete action strategies that will help the Multicultural Center and campus achieve these goals. We support the spirit of these strategies and the objectives presented in

the report; these will be considered in the annual budget process. We charge the Director of the Multicultural Center and the Associate Dean of Students with presenting these requests in the budget process, and working with the internal constituents presented in the report to obtain external funding for the center's programs as well.

While the work of the Committee is complete, we ask that you stay involved in discussions and efforts to diversify the student body, faculty and staff of the university and to expand and deepen curricular and co-curricular multicultural programs at Elon. The report will serve as a blueprint and important discussion tool for these efforts. We have already had significant discussions of this document with the senior staff and at the Student Government/Senior Staff retreat this past week. It will be on the agenda this fall for the Joint Deans (Academic Affairs and Student Life Deans), and be the subject of numerous forums and meetings throughout this year. We have also forwarded the report to the Strategic Planning Committee.

We ask that you seek out ways to engage others in these discussions. We will also ask that you participate in forums and discussions as we build momentum for expanding multicultural education at Elon throughout the year.

Again, thank you for your fine work. You have produced a valuable report for the campus.