



# OFFICE OF EQUITY AND INCLUSION

## THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

**UNIVERSITY OF LYNCHBURG**

April 2022



## Affinity Organizations

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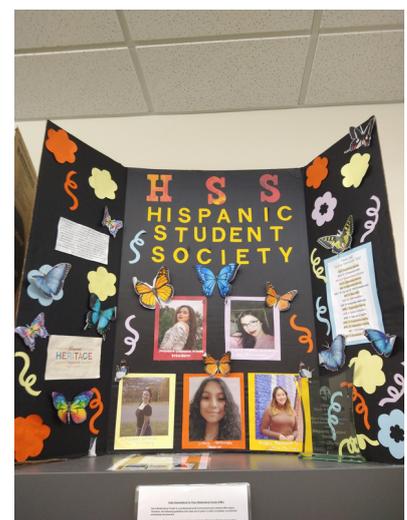
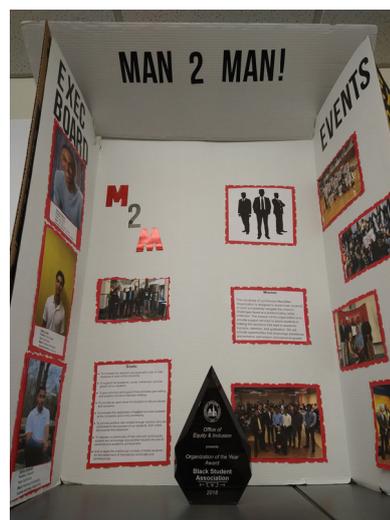
# MEET THE AFFINITY ORGANIZATIONS



On April 13 affinity organizations on campus had a meet and greet in Drysdale. Students got to learn about the different organizations and what they stood for. The active affinity organizations on campus are:

- Alpha Psi Lambda: a co-ed, Latino oriented fraternity
- African-Caribbean Union: a group for African or Caribbean students
- Black Student Association: a group to support black students on campus
- Gender and Sexuality Alliance: a safe space for the LGBTQ+ community on campus
- Hispanic Student Society: a group that aims to bring the University community together through education of Hispanic and Latin culture

- Man2Man: organization to help men of color on campus
- Woman2Woman: organization to help women of color thrive on campus
- Student Diversity Council: A group of student advocates and allies who work to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus



# COPA ONE NATION

On April 14 the Hispanic Student Society hosted their spring soccer tournament Copa One Nation. Nine teams participated in the tournament, representing Hispanic and Latino countries. This was the second annual event and one they hope to do every spring.

Clara Cedillo '23, representing Peru said, "I really enjoyed the tournament. I thought it was a lot of fun. I enjoy soccer and going out and playing with my friends so I thought it was great."

The winning team received a trophy, t-shirts and gift cards for ice cream. There was also a lot of community support for the event. Nyccol Contreras '23, Vice President of the Hispanic Student Society, believes that the soccer tournament provides community and awareness of the organization.



# LA FIESTA



On April 23, Alpha Psi Lambda hosted La Fiesta, a party celebrating their newest members. The night started off with a presentation about the organization by the six the new members. Before intermission, the new members performed a dance they choreographed. The members presenting on behalf of the organization is a part of their leadership development process and represents one of their values of familia. The night ended with food prepared by the members that represented their cultures, and gift presentations.

Alpha Psi Lambda encourages anyone interested to apply to their organization. If interested, email [apsialphaxi@gmail.com](mailto:apsialphaxi@gmail.com) or visit their website [alphapsilambda.net](http://alphapsilambda.net).

# TO WOMEN, FROM WOMEN

On April 28 Woman2Woman, along with the Offices of Multicultural Services, Equity and Inclusion and Alpha Psi Lambda, hosted the panel *To Women, From Women: Lessons for Success*. The event included a video of a motivational speech by Carla Harris, a black woman who worked on wall street over 30 years. Her lessons included:

- own your power
- be comfortable taking risks
- don't ask for permission
- do not dim your own light for somebody else's convenience
- celebrate your victories often
- make mistakes
- enjoy every moment
- just go for it
- when you empower other people, you magnify and amplify your impact

The panel talked about their experiences and how people can learn from the lessons Harris presented.



# THE MULTICULTURAL GALA



On April 30th the Multicultural Gala celebrated the accomplishments of students, staff, and faculty in their efforts towards diversity, equity, and inclusion. The theme, *The Legacy Continues*, centered on what a legacy means and how students can make their impact on campus. Keynote speaker, Mr. Nathaniel Marshall '83, presented a humorous speech about his legacy and gave advice to students. His pieces of advice were: know yourself, know your audience and always be prepared.

After the speech, awards were presented. The list is as follows:

## **Patience and Fortitude Award**

*Donzailya Berg*

Presented to someone who is always strong and supportive and who has patience and fortitude.

## **Always Becoming Award**

*Josiah Randles*

Presented to a first year student who demonstrates the values of the office of equity and inclusion.

## **Altruistic Hero Award**

*Nyccol Contreras*

*Cynthia Martinez*

Presented to students who works often selflessly behind the scenes with outstanding service to diversity and inclusion.

## **THE BLURB** A spotlight of events during the month

4/19 - Gender and Sexuality Alliance Interest Meeting

4/27 - Bingo with GSA and ACU

## **Community Engagement Award**

*Elijah Harrison*

Presented to a student who specifically focus their efforts to expand the concepts of equity and inclusion to impact the community.

## **Exemplary Mentor Award**

*Rev. Dr. Katrina Brooks*

Presented to a faculty or staff member who empowers students and is a mentor.

## **Voice of Peace and Inclusion**

*Adrianna Vest Turner*

Presented to someone who uses their voice to promote peace and inclusion.

## **Distinguished Diversity Leader Award**

*Claudio Otero III*

This award is presented to a student who is active and committed and ensures that all students are treated in a fair and equitable way.

## **Leaving Your Legacy Award**

*Shadaya Cooper*

Presented to an outstanding senior who has left their mark.

## **Above and Beyond Award**

*Adrianna Vest Turner*

Presented to someone who goes above and beyond and is supportive in and out of the office.

## **Helen Mundy Witt Multicultural Award**

*Jeremy P. Bryant*

Presented to a faculty or staff member who represents perseverance, leadership, scholarship and advocacy for underrepresented populations.

Between the awards there was an intermission by the University of Lynchburg Guitar Ensemble. Food was provided by Dining Services.



# RECOMMENDED READINGS

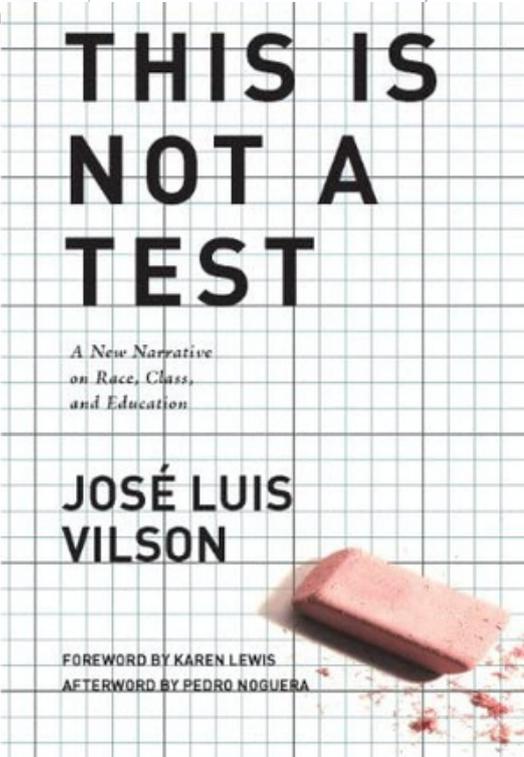
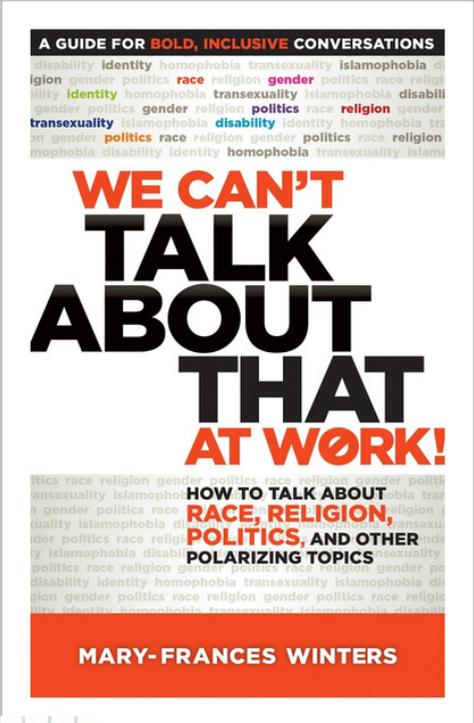


## EXPECT TO WIN

10 PROVEN STRATEGIES FOR THRIVING IN THE WORKPLACE

CARLA A. HARRIS

Chair of the National Women's Business Council



# MEET OUR TEAM



Amanda McGovern, JD.  
Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer



Dr. Robert L. Canida II, PhD.  
Vice President for Inclusive Excellence



Claudio Otero III '20  
Graduate Assistant for Inclusive Excellence.  
Graduate Student Advisor for Man2Man



Annette B. Stadtherr '86  
Director of Multicultural Services



Adrieanna Vest-Turner MPH '22  
Graduate Assistant for the Office of Multicultural Services  
Graduate Student Advisor for Dimensions of Diversity  
Graduate Student Advisor for Affinity Organizations



Nyccol Benitez Contreras '23  
Student Diversity Liaison



Isaiah Hudson '24  
Student Diversity Liaison



Shadaya Cooper '22  
Student Diversity Liaison



Emmanuel Hernandez Mellado '23  
Student Diversity Liaison



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Editor/Writer with Inclusive Excellence for the  
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