

Institutional Equity and Diversity

The University of North Texas is one of the largest universities in Texas and one of only nine in the United States enrolling more than 4,000 Hispanic students and more than 4,000 African-American students. In fall 2009, UNT led Texas in the number of Native American students. *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* magazine ranked UNT 46th in the nation in the number of degrees awarded to minority students.

In fact, of the more than 36,000 attending UNT, more than 2,000 are international students who represent more than 125 countries.

This blend of cultures and beliefs provides the setting for an education that transcends textbooks and practical curricula. An open-minded, worldly perspective becomes increasingly important as technology makes communication between people, organizations and nations more instantaneous and seamless.

To nurture different cultures, interests and perspectives, UNT staff advises and assists approximately 400 registered student organizations on campus.

UNT's exceptional faculty also represents a broad diversity of backgrounds; one in four is an ethnic minority, and 38 percent are women. Like our students, the faculty brings a rich variety of experiences and perspectives to UNT, providing the components of a truly comprehensive education.



"The University of North Texas introduced me to the rigor of academia and its rewards. My professors and other caring people at UNT understood my background as a transfer and first-generation college student. They provided me with nurturing advice, consejos, for navigating the university system while at the same time pushing me to achieve more than I imagined. They empowered me with their teachings and mentorship."

- McNair Scholar, Jannell Robles

UNT is committed to providing students, faculty and staff with curricular, professional development and experiential opportunities to acquire perspectives and understanding about diverse cultures. To achieve this, we establish and enhance learning opportunities that provide a greater understanding of the unique history and multiple perspectives of domestic and traditionally underrepresented groups, and global cultures.

To learn how you can help, please contact the Division of Institutional Equity and Diversity.

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"... Your magic binds together again that which custom has rigidly divided: all human beings become brothers ..."

- Excerpt from Friedrich von Schiller's "An die Freude" – Ode to Joy, the basis for Beethoven's famed Ninth Symphony



We all live
with the
objective
of being



happy; our lives are
all different and yet
the same.



- Anne Frank

INSTITUTIONAL EQUITY AND DIVERSITY is available to all groups on campus. It provides assistance to those with sometimes unique perspectives and advocates an environment where different viewpoints are expressed respectfully. For example:

CAFÉ DIVERSITY is a monthly campus dialogue event, open to everyone, in which diversity is discussed in a setting that honors all opinions. Topics focus on a wide range of issues and often are sparked by current events. This forum engages students in an interactive learning experience.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT is a longstanding tradition at UNT. Equity and Diversity is committed to promoting strong partnerships with the Denton community and North Texas region, and to exploring similar opportunities around the world. Equity and Diversity aims to link faculty, staff and students to communities, thereby enhancing student learning and promoting civic engagement.



Nearly two decades ago I arrived to discover this rare place on the plains of North Texas where students were quite eager to participate in the collaborative quest for knowledge and truth. Amid the very many were the very few who were quite different in some observable way. Over the years, I learned of their aspirations and their visions for a future world and the changes they wanted to help create in it. That diversity caused changes in me as I reflected upon the possible benefits of being alive in their new world, and I began to see the possibility of life that is free of fear, free of prejudice, without oppression.



- Dr. Keith Turner



Our programs continue to grow and reach out to our expanding campus community. On behalf of the university, Equity and Diversity gratefully and proudly acknowledges those who share its vision and

contribute time, treasure and talent to its mission: providing a spark and a comprehensive education for those who will shape our world. These are some of the divisions current initiatives that will benefit from private support:

THE UNT MULTICULTURAL CENTER serves as a place where students and community members celebrate the variety and distinctiveness of the diversity on campus and throughout the geographical region. It is a place where we can learn from each other in an environment that welcomes all. We focus on five aspects of diversity: ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation and disabilities.

SCHOLARSHIPS are more than financial assistance to our students who, along with their families, have made substantial sacrifices to earn a college education. Scholarships also provide incentive for success and show that others believe in their abilities and dreams. Equity and Diversity houses three scholarships open to all students, and all honoring diversity champions:

The A. Tennyson Miller and Joe L. Atkins 50th Anniversary of Desegregation Scholarship, named for two of the university's pioneering African-American students.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Ally Scholarship in Honor of Mary Finley and Dan Emenheiser recognizes two UNT staff members who co-founded UNT's Ally program.

The Legacy Scholarship was initiated by several African-American UNT alumni. The Legacy Scholarship will be made available to students when the fund reaches endowment level.

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS promoting inclusion continue to grow at UNT, providing learning opportunities for our campus and community. These include speakers such as Maya Angelou, Lisa Ling and Dolores Huerta. Equity and Diversity also is increasing opportunities for dialogue and peer mentoring. In 2011, we are bringing back the UNT Equity and Diversity Conference, the premier conference of its kind in the North Texas region.