

Intercultural Work in Student Development Working Group

Guidelines and Important Principles

Goal: Provide guidelines for mission and work of a unit devoted to comprehensive co-curricular intercultural programming.

Guidelines and Important Principles

- The intercultural programming work is informed by Kalamazoo College's definition of a sense of belonging.
- The groups of special focus for this work are students of color, international students, LGBTQAI+ students, first-generation students, and low-income students.
- The work is directed toward institutional issues as well as individual students and groups.
- The work will be informed by a student advisory group that represents the groups of special focus.
- This work will include a structure to connect to other departments across campus.
- Key elements of programming will include a coordinating role for existing programs across campus (sharing information, promotion, and the like) with the goal of collaboration, a strong developmental approach so that there are multiple entry points for students with different perspectives and experiences, and attention to national and international issues as well as campus issues.
- Facilitation between and within the student body, faculty, staff, and administration is an important role.

Values that undergird comprehensive co-curricular intercultural programming include appropriately introducing new students into K life, facilitating the creation of a changed culture with a sense of care for one another, and holding all cultures as equals so that each share in a reciprocal relationship and none is held as superior.

Early Priorities

Goal: Identify early priorities for the Director of Intercultural Student Life.

Early Priorities

- Build connections with faculty, staff, and administration in order to begin to build collaboration with these groups and to be able to direct students to the resources available to students on this campus.
- Build connections with students by participating in an event to get to know the student, meeting with student organizations of the groups of special focus, and participating in first-year orientation (if the date of hire allows).
- Build/strengthen connections with others working for interculturalism on other campuses
- At the end of the first year of work, give a presentation to the Kalamazoo College community that states the progress made and the next steps in working for interculturalism.