

Webinar #5, Spring Semester 2018:

Developing Trusting & Effective Inter-Cultural partnerships across the Diversity-International Programs Grand Canyon

Kris Acheson-Clair, Zenephia Evans, Renee Thomas, Annette Watters, Katherine Yngve

Wednesday May 23, 2018 2:00 – 3:00 pm Eastern time

Registration page: <http://bit.ly/2CPIcQn>

Despite many common objectives and strong interest in improving access to global competency opportunities for students of every creed, nationality, ability and color, many campuses harbor an organizational –and in some cases, philosophical – divide between those educational professionals who are charged with intercultural (often read international) responsibilities and those charged with leading diversity (equated to domestic minorities) initiatives. How then can we breach walls, build trust, share resources, and collaborate together effectively?

Led by a team of facilitators who have been actively working to bridge the diversity/intercultural divide at Purdue University, this webinar will guide participants towards a productive understanding of their own organizational contexts. In this webinar the presenters understand “inter” &/or “multi” –cultural education as a developmental process which stretches across the four-year continuum of an undergraduate degree. In other words, diversifying study abroad, although critically important, is also too little, too late for best student & institutional outcomes.

Learning outcomes include:

- building comfort with healing the divide,
- acknowledging the multi-year nature of student development,
- identifying gaps and opportunities for collaboration, and
- discovering resources for action-planning for organizational change.

About the Presenters

Dr. Kris Acheson-Clair is Associate Director of Intercultural Pedagogy & Scholarship at Purdue. With 17 years in front of classrooms and extensive publications on intercultural communication, she has brought many innovations and the capacity to scale up impact to CILMAR, Purdue’s new Center for Intercultural Learning, Mentorship, Assessment, and Research.



Dr. Zenephia Evans is Purdue's Director of the Science Diversity Office and former Associate Director and Director of Multi-cultural Programs. An experienced diversity professional, Dr. Evans has used her experience as a Purdue alum and former Biological Sciences faculty lecturer to guide the professional development of students, faculty, and staff.



Renee Thomas serves as Director of Purdue University's nationally acclaimed Black Cultural Center. Renee has more than 20 years of experience in higher education administration and is committed to promoting a campus climate that ensures the inclusion of diverse students, faculty, and staff in all aspects of the institution.



Annette Watters, a seasoned Diversity and Inclusion and Student Affairs practitioner, has spent 25 years in higher education and 12 years at Purdue. Focusing on embracing difference, fostering inclusion and strengthening community, she endeavors to change culture and climate and to make Purdue a welcoming and inclusive campus for all.



Katherine Yngve, a veteran international educator, joined Purdue in 2014 to create a culture of best-practice in intercultural learning. She has institutionalized intercultural mentoring courses for semester-abroad participants, co-founded a new Center, mentored over 100 faculty in intercultural pedagogy techniques, and persuaded STEM professors that reflective essays constitute publishable data.

