

University of St. Francis

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL DIVERSITY

August 2018

CONTACT US

Allison Heard

Director of Institutional Diversity and Title IX Coordinator
815-740-5025
aheard@stfrancis.edu

Lisa Johnson

Secretary, Office of Institutional Diversity/
Title IX
815-768-8322
ljohnson1@stfrancis.edu

USF Portal Groups:

- ⇒ **Institutional Diversity**
- ⇒ **University Success Scholars**
- ⇒ **Department of Justice (DOJ/ OVW) Grant**

Please register under groups in the portal in order to view updates and announcements!

USF Employees, please remember to take your mandatory Title IX Training! See page 4 for more details.

Welcome to Diversity News!



Greetings from the Office of Institutional Diversity and Title IX at the University of St. Francis. We are so excited to introduce you to this first edition of **Diversity News!**

This publication will be distributed electronically to your email box twice per semester. The main goal is to keep you updated about programs and services in the office.

We want to strengthen our current relationships and build new collaborative partnerships. We also want to provide a Calendar of Events so that we aren't clogging your Outlook account with miscellaneous fliers and announcements. This email will be our main method of communication but we will also utilize the USF Portal and Website to post announcements and events.

What are we doing? The Office of Institutional Diversity/Title IX is working collaboratively with other departments and community organizations in order to maintain and/or create programs and services. **What's New?** We are really excited about the New HOT TOPICS Program and our New Book Discussion Series featuring the book, *Witnesses to Racism*. We are excited about moving into the second year of our grant through the Department of Justice to enhance our efforts to build healthy relationships and discuss concepts of consent. On the flip side, we are excited about providing additional training resources to our community for recognizing and eliminating sexual misconduct. All of these efforts align with the University's mission and continued commitment to our Franciscan values of Respect, Integrity, Compassion, and Service. Our grant provides USF with an opportunity to bring this commitment to life.

We have various openings for people who would like to get more involved in Institutional Diversity and Title IX on campus. Let us give you an idea of openings and please contact us for additional information and details:

- Diversity Council Members
- Multicultural Celebration and Education Planning Committee Members (MCEP)
- FrankChat Hosts/Collaborative Partners for Fall and/Spring Semesters

Thanks for your interest in **Diversity News** and we look forward to seeing you in-person!



University Success Scholars at the University of St. Francis is a student program that serves as a resource and support for first generation college students. University Success Scholars (USS) focuses on the particular needs of first generation college students and best ways to serve as a resource and guide. First generation college students can be defined in many different ways but we use the term to refer to students whose parents have not earned a four-year college degree.

University of St. Francis has many offices and departments that are key resources for all students. USS can best be described as an added resource for first-generation students. Students who join USS participate in a network of programs including monthly meetings, mentoring and leadership opportunities, cultural field experiences and volunteer service projects, activities to engage with faculty outside the classroom, and some textbook assistance. The student meetings are held on a monthly basis, and special topics are discussed at each meeting. Group participants are encouraged to recommend topics of discussion and guest speakers so that the meetings are both informative and interactive.

Sample topics include:

- Financial Aid, Scholarships, Grants, Loans, and useful Databases
- Money Management and Budgeting
- Career Planning
- Academic Advising and Tutoring at University of St. Francis
- Employment and Internships



University Success Scholars sponsors one cultural field experience/volunteer service project each semester. These volunteer opportunities allow students to interact with people in Joliet and neighboring communities and gives students an opportunity to work with others similar to and different from them, thus broadening their understanding and appreciation for the diverse society in which we live.



Additional programs include:

- USS Spring Luncheon and Achievement Ceremony
- Annual Field Trip

Through participation in this group, students can earn incentive gift cards. Incentive cards are awarded to students each semester and are used as a way to defray the cost of books and class materials. University of St. Francis knows many students lack important financial resources, and this is one way we try to help ease the financial gap for some students.

If you are a student and would like to attend an upcoming meeting or program, we welcome you. For more information and direct support, please email aheard@stfrancis.edu or call 815-740-5025. We have a schedule of meetings that can be accessed on the portal. We can also send calendars directly to your email box.

If you are faculty, staff, or an administrator at USF and you would like to be a guest speaker at one of our monthly meetings, please email aheard@stfrancis.edu or call 815-740-5025.

Additional information and meeting dates can be found under the USF Portal.

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

Come and Enjoy: The "Brew"

On Monday, August 27 or Tuesday, August 28 from 9:30 to 11 a.m., join us for coffee, tea, and light refreshments in the Cultural Center, Motherhouse C164. This is an Interactive Meet & Greet because, "**Together we make the perfect Blend!**"

Anti-Racism Committee of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate

Workshop: Living the Reality of Race and Culture in Today's World



- Tuesday, September 25, 2018
- 4 to 6 p.m.
- Executive Conference Room, Motherhouse Third Floor, C316

This workshop is designed for students, faculty, staff, and administrators who have never taken the USF Anti-Racism Workshop. Email Lisa Johnson at ljohnson1@stfrancis.edu to register.

Movie & Discussion: Black Panther

- Tuesday, October 23, 2018
- 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Outdoors on the USF Quad!

Diversity Reception

- Wednesday, September 12, 2018
- 4 to 6 p.m.
- Cultural Center, Motherhouse First Floor, C164

Join us in the USF Cultural Center on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 to meet new and returning students, faculty, staff, and administrators, advisors and students active in Multicultural and International Student Organizations and Honor Societies. Gain information on upcoming campus and community programs; learn about scholarships.



Celebrate Latin American Awareness Month!

September 15 –October 15

Please look on the portal for a calendar of events and additional information.

NEW PROGRAMS 2018 - 2019



- Third Wednesday every Month
- 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
- Cultural Center, Motherhouse First Floor, C164

**A hot topic will be chosen on a monthly basis. This program is discussion-based. Monthly events are facilitated by different Hosts. Please contact us if you would like to serve as a Host. This program is great for people who excel as Hosts and for those who need more coaching to practice their facilitation skills!

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Book: Witnesses to Racism

- Second Thursday of every Month
- 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Cultural Center, Motherhouse First Floor, C164

**This program is perfect for people who are interested in being more knowledgeable about issues and for those who want to take their advocacy for others to the next level.

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USF Awarded Department of Justice (DOJ/OVW) Grant!

The University of St. Francis (USF), in collaboration with Guardian Angel Community Services (GACS) and the Joliet Police Department (JPD), received a grant for \$289,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). The funds awarded support programming that allows the university to take a more proactive approach to issues regarding sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking on college campuses.

"The University of St. Francis has a long, productive history of collaboration with both Guardian Angel Community Services and the Joliet Police Department," said USF President Arvid C. Johnson. "The programming supported by this grant enables us to support and enhance our students' experiences on what is already one of the safest campuses in Illinois."

USF is well into our first year of the grant. This entire **First Year** has been dedicated to **Planning**. **Year Two** of the Grant is dedicated to **Implementation** and **Year Three** is dedicated to **Sustainability**.

To date, USF has accomplished the following with the DOJ/OVW Grant:

- Installed additional Blue Light Towers in pivotal spots to further ensure that our campus remains safe. All equipment and installation costs are absorbed by the grant.
- USF has developed a comprehensive Strategic Plan that covers the first two years of the grant. The strategic plan focuses on five areas: Coordinated Community Response, Prevention, Student Conduct, Law Enforcement, and Victim Services. Within each of the five strategic areas, our grant emphasizes Cultural Competency, Engaging Men, and Clergy Compliance.
- USF has developed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Joliet Police Department and Guardian Angel Community Services to ensure enhanced service coordination between the university and our community partners.
- USF has created some documents in Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese to ensure cross-communication. More multi-lingual documents will be produced over the life of the grant.
- USF is in the process of hiring a new Project Coordinator to provide direction for the grant. All salary and benefits are covered completely by the grant; not USF dollars.

If you want to hear more about this grant, get information on our strategic plan, and meet our grant partners, please join us at an upcoming event!

DOJ/OVW Grant Update
Thursday, September 27, 2018
3 to 4 p.m.
Moes Room, Tower Hall

SPECIAL NOTE: Please remember to take your Title IX training. This training is mandatory for all USF employees and currently highly recommended for students. Please note that in year two of our grant, this training will be required for all students. If you need assistance accessing your training, please contact Allison Heard at aheard@stfrancis.edu or call 815-740-5025. This training is important in ensuring that our campus remains a safe and supportive environment for everyone!!

