ABOUT THE CENTER FOR MULTICULTURAL ENRICHMENT

The purpose of the Center for Multicultural Enrichment is to unify the various cultural and ethnic populations on the Liberty University campus. The Center serves as an advocate to minority students and seeks to celebrate cultural diversity by offering experiential learning opportunities to all students.

The Center4ME — as the office is known on campus — was founded in 1992 to respond to student requests for an office that would: (1) facilitate the specific needs of minority and international students and (2) plan culturally-diverse programs for Liberty. The center had humble beginnings, with one full-time staff member and a few student workers. Their first projects were organizing a peer mentoring program, hosting Black History events and planning an annual international food festival. Today, the office is a thriving campus resource.
Greetings,

It is standing on God’s great provisions that I am writing to you to share what He has done in 2009-2010! In my fourteen years with Liberty University’s Center for Multicultural Enrichment, I have seen not only tremendous growth and outreach of the university as a whole, but have experienced incredible and positive changes within our division of Student Affairs. There have been simple, logistical changes such as office space to human resource changes that have increased full-time personnel and added two graduate assistants over the past several years. But the most rewarding change is seeing personal growth in students – whether it is helping a student with time management or witnessing his/her development in awareness, knowledge and skills of cross-cultural interactions.

I am pleased to report that with all of the administrative work in addition to connecting with the students and facilitating numerous events each week, my team and I have never lost sight of the primary motivation and inspiration for everything we do here at the Center for Multicultural Enrichment; which is to “train young Champions for Christ,” in the words of our founder, the late Dr. Jerry Falwell. Serving as an advocate for students has both tangible and intangible rewards that will last a lifetime. Giving students a platform to share their culture and what God has laid on their hearts is a wonderful responsibility.

Liberty University has the unique distinction of literally having the world at its doorstep. We are essential and diverse members of one campus, one human race and one body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:12-20). As a campus community, we must be intentional about our individual efforts to explore, appreciate and understand our complex differences; while actively connecting with our similarities. The Center for Multicultural Enrichment acts as the catalyst.

Moving Forward,

Melany A. Pearl, Director
Center for Multicultural Enrichment
As a member of the Daniel’s Program Multicultural Team, I have come to realize the effect of cultural differences on individuals’ lives. I hope to continue learning and researching ways to better help others.”

JESSICA LUCAS
Senior
Hainesport, NJ
Psychology
enter4ME aims to be at the forefront of the discussion and implementation of assessment measures at Liberty University. Results from three major assessment tools have been conducted this year that include:

A national survey — National Survey of Student Engagement
A campus-wide benchmarking — Liberty University Multicultural Assessment
An interoffice event analysis — Center4ME Project Planning and Evaluation Form

National Survey of Student Engagement
In its ninth year of national implementation, the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is a survey designed to evaluate freshmen’s and seniors’ college undergraduate experience. In the Spring 2009 semester, the survey was administered to freshmen and seniors at Liberty University and 643 other universities. Nearly 5,000 Liberty students were presented with the survey — approximately 1,454, 58 percent of the freshmen class, and 1,489, 60 percent of the senior class responded by completing it. The survey is divided into five scales used for benchmarking purposes: Level of Academic Challenge, Active and Collaborative Learning, Student-Faculty Interaction, Enriching Educational Experiences and Supportive Campus Environment. The instrument consists of curricular and co-curricular items, totaling 85 questions. Only the 33 co-curricular items have been analyzed and reported herein.

FINDING #1 - MULTICULTURAL UNDERSTANDING:
To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills and personal development in understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds? Residential students’ understanding of other racial and ethnic backgrounds fostered by the university increased from 2006 to 2009 among Liberty students. Liberty students also claim the school experience had a greater impact on their understanding than the benchmark. Liberty University Online students report slightly lower understanding of people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds through the university than Liberty residential students. Responses for Liberty and the benchmark are fairly similar.

FINDING #2 - MULTICULTURAL INTERACTION:
In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own? Residential Liberty students have more meaningful conversations with students of other races or ethnicities than the average college student. There is no difference in the level of interactions between freshmen and seniors. Liberty students claimed to have greater interaction in 2009 than in 2006. Students who were freshmen in 2006 and seniors in 2009 reported more conversations with others in their senior year.
Residential students correspond with students of different ethnicities more than their online peers. Liberty University Online students have fewer interactions than the online benchmark.

**FINDING #3 – EMPHASIS ON INTERACTION:**
To what extent does your institution emphasize encouraging contact among students from different economic, social and racial or ethnic backgrounds?

Residential students rated emphasis on contact with students of different backgrounds greater in 2009 than in 2006. Liberty freshmen reported greater emphasis on meeting people from different backgrounds than Liberty seniors. Many more Liberty students selected “Very Much” for this question than the benchmark. Liberty University Online students noted greater emphasis on meeting people with different backgrounds than the benchmark. There is little difference in the responses between Liberty online and residential students.

**Action Item:** The following summarizes past actions that may have contributed to the reported items as well as future actions that have been planned by the respective departments. It must be noted that the items below are a response to an indirect measurement (SSI); consequently the action items implicitly possess a moderate amount of inference. For the Center for Multicultural Enrichment, results pertaining to diversity in culture and belief corroborate other departmental assessment findings conducted in the past two years. The possibility of expanding cultural programming and strategic curriculum to online students warrants further review by the department.

**Liberty University Multicultural Assessment**
The Psychology Department in collaboration with the Center4ME conducted a survey to benchmark cultural perceptions of the Liberty campus community. The survey was an anonymous web-based survey with 55 five-point Likert scale questions. The instrument was administered in Spring 2009, Fall 2009 and Spring 2010. The most recent survey administered (Spring 2010) was given to a sample of more than 918 general campus students, of which 158 (17.2 percent) were minority students and 15 Center4ME student workers. The survey was given to both groups to help identify the student’s perceptions of multicultural matters and assess if there were racial or ethnic differences in these perceptions.

**FINDING #1:** The survey indicated that the student workers in the Center for Multicultural Enrichment did not significantly differ from the rest of the Liberty University students on how they viewed multiculturalism on the campus and how they viewed their personal perception of their own multiculturalism. Since student leaders of the Center for Multicultural Enrichment are exposed to a more intense multicultural learning environment than the general student body, the results from the survey yields concern that warrants further review.

**Action Item:** Dr. Dennis Jennings, chair of Psychology department, and Amy Teer, associate director for Center4ME, will administer the assessment in the Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 semesters to the new student leaders in the Center for Multicultural Enrichment. This will help determine how effective the multicultural learning environment impacts the student workers within the Center for Multicultural Enrichment.
**Action Item:** Further in-depth assessment will be conducted during the Fall 2010 semester by Amy Teer and Daveta Saunders who will lead a student leader focus group, comprised of Center for Multicultural Enrichment student leaders who have served for at least one semester prior to the Fall 2010 semester. The purpose will be to inquire whether the Center for Multicultural Enrichment student leadership training better equips the student leaders in multicultural perceptions within the campus community, as well as to investigate their multicultural perceptions.

**Center4ME Project Planning and Evaluation Form**
The Center4ME Project Planning and Evaluation Form (PPEF) is a vital tool used to standardize planning and evaluating programs/services by individually assessing projects and events. The findings in this assessment do not include the meetings and workshops designed specifically for our student leaders/volunteers. This assessment is compiled of 71 events coordinated during the 2009-10 academic year. The form includes details of the event, such as date, name, percentages of cultural attendance, purpose of the event and money spent. These details provide a record of each event and also help determine its success.

**FINDING #1:** Though the Center4ME recorded 71 events, 46 of those events were attended predominantly by black students and a total amount of $4,874.90 was spent. A total of three events were attended predominantly by Asian or Hispanic students with a total of $490. The events should better reflect the percentages of cultural groups on campus. According to the Fall 2009 demographics African American students represented 9 percent of the population, while both Hispanic and Asian students each reflected 3 percent.

**Action Item:** The director of the Center for Multicultural Enrichment has indicated that beginning with the Fall 2010 semester, each associate director will be responsible to host one event that focuses on the Hispanic or Asian cultures in the 2010-11 school year. These events may either be entertaining, spiritual or educational in purpose.

**FINDING #2:** After analyzing the PPEF data, it was repeatedly discovered that the success of an event is subjectively determined by the point person in charge who completes the PPEF with fluctuating accuracy, at times. Additionally, it was discovered that though the events were categorized, they lacked a specified purpose for which to determine their overall success.

**Action Item:** The director of the Center for Multicultural Enrichment and staff will create two goals for each event category and will create a place on the PPEF form to record how these goals were met at the event. It is suspected that by creating standard goals and objectives in each category (spiritual, entertainment, public relations and education) the department will have better objectivity in the event analysis.

**ASSESSMENT TOOLS:**

**LU administered the following national surveys during the past several years:**

**NATIONAL STUDIES**

- **National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)** - administered during the 2006-2007 and 2008-2009 academic years.
  - The “2006 NSSE” included 9.1% online students.
  - The “2009 NSSE” included 43.3% online students.

- **Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE)** - expected to be administered during the 2009-2010 academic year.

  - 2006 Undergrad Survey
  - 2009 Undergrad Survey

- **Noel-Levitz Priorities Survey for Online Learners (PSOL)** - administered during the 2009-2010 academic year.
  - National PSOL Report
  - 2009 LU PSOL Summary Report
  - Sample PSOL Survey
  - Noel-Levitz Home Site
CULTURAL AWARENESS
knowledge | partnership | celebration

BRITTNEY SHELTON
Graduate Student
Counseling
Laurens, SC
“This program has a tremendous opportunity to educate and promote knowledge among the students at Liberty University and to disintegrate ignorance and fear.”
In an effort to foster an appreciation of other cultures, this initiative involves a multitude of events that include, but are not limited to, the nationally-celebrated heritage months. Projects support Liberty University’s aims to contribute to a knowledge and understanding of other cultures and of international events, and promote an understanding of the Western tradition and the diverse elements of American cultural history. In supporting Center4ME’s purpose of providing experiential learning opportunities, this program provides opportunity to expand their horizons without ever having to leave the campus of Liberty University. These events evidently provide two-fold benefits for the campus community as the events are an opportunity for information about/celebration of a particular culture, and fellowship and/or reunion time for participants from that culture.

New customs and traditions were introduced to students in the form of heritage month celebrations. Students were encouraged to re-discover the African American Renaissance and the paradigm shift that occurred in the areas of art, literature and politics during a full calendar of Black History Month events in addition to exploring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at an event called “The Journey of MLK.” “Viva la Noche” showcased the depth of Hispanic culture. The university also had celebrations for Native American, Irish American and Asian/Pacific Islander heritage months.

Outside of heritage months, Liberty also celebrated “Christmas in the Caribbean,” a late night activity that gave a different interpretation of “White Christmas.” Instead of the traditional cold and snowy holiday, Center4ME facilitated an event that was reminiscent of white sandy beaches. About 100 students participated in the evening. In giving thanks for the season, heart strings were pulled when the realities of the poverty in certain islands represented was recognized. Collaborating with the Association of Students of African Descent included an evening filled with African traditions — music, poetry and a fashion show. Nearly 200 students enjoyed the festivities with a buffet of African food, with rice dishes, chicken and sweet desserts. The flavors, sights and sounds were unforgettable. In February, the Center4ME ensured that our Chinese students celebrated their New Year with an afternoon of games, food and fellowship.

Students were able to interact and learn about the cultural aspects that make all ethnic groups unique while acknowledging that we have many, many similarities to build upon. Through the experiential learning that these events provide, students are being equipped to thrive professionally in a world that is truly becoming smaller. These events allow students to step outside their cultural norms and challenge their perceptions of who they are and how they perceive the people they interact with.

Using the information gathered from the assessment reports, Cultural Awareness is able to focus on areas of high interest to students. Cultural Awareness is wholly dedicated to providing interactive opportunities for current Liberty students and a connection to some of the cultural norms that will help students from other cultures feel at home at Liberty, which will likewise aid in the university’s retention efforts.

Cultural Awareness’ focus has been to locate students who have strong affiliation to a culture and have them assist us in the planning and implementation of these events. The invaluable input from these students helps the events convey a greater sense of authenticity and also helps to raise the profile of the event amongst the student body through positive word of mouth.

We strive for even greater student involvement moving forward and to provoke further thought and delve deeper into the myriad of cultures that make up the Liberty student body. When coupled with the academic pursuits of higher education, experiences such as these help create a well-rounded and balanced person, better equipped to compete in a global marketplace.
Upcoming events are publicized with eye-catching graphics and student-written articles. 

Readers can get to know the Center4ME staff via our “Meet the Staff” section. 

Each Edition of the Newsletter features a weekly devotional for students.
Get Connected. Get Informed. Become Enriched” is the slogan for Connections Weekly (CW), Center4ME’s electronic newsletter that is sent via e-mail and also posted on the Liberty University student announcements page. This e-newsletter has the most current information about the center’s programs and services. CW also features devotionals, scholarship opportunities and highlights Center4ME staff. This year, CW saw innovations with a new design and new recipients — in the Spring 2010 Liberty University’s enrollment hit an all-time high of 57,371 (residential and online) of which all have access to our newsletter. Although there are no professional journalists in the office, the Center4ME keeps in mind the basic elements of producing a reader-friendly, informative e-newsletter.

The Center received more consistent feedback from our readers this year more than any other production year of CW. Feedback varies from Liberty departments inquiring how to produce their own e-newsletter, to accolades of praise on the great work being produced in the Center4ME, to sentiments that celebrating diversity is actually divisive. This form of mass media provides a cost effective advantage for the Center4ME to reach out to the student population, thus providing us with a marketable advantage for our programs/services. One innovation made this year was to offer a link to invite people to our Facebook page. Another significant draw to the CW is our “Scholarships and Grants” section, where students can get information and apply for scholarships ranging from $500 to more than $10,000.

This past semester, CW assessed how many people were actually opening the link to read the e-newsletters. One of the action items is to make CW more interactive. Although there is a weekly trivia question and prize section of the e-newsletter, it has proved to not be a huge motivator for increased readers as when first implemented two years ago. Next year, CW will be reformatted to include link “Read More Here” and articles will be greatly condensed. The new direction of CW will include a blog section that will allow readers to participate in candid conversations on edgy/controversial concepts, pop culture, and/or breaking news in the area of multicultural matters.
“The events reminded me of my culture. It almost brought me back home.”

JACQUELINE MSHAMMA
Sophomore Nursing
Daressalaam, Tanzania

“At the Center4ME there are a lot of events which blessed and changed my life as a student. Through events like the worship nights and the African Diaspora, I learned unity in Christ will remove all the difference between all the students and as a body of Christ.”

SUNGGUK “ALEX” KIM
2010 Community Service Award Winner

“It was such a wonder to receive the honor that was given me at the Achievement Awards; this night was so so special to me and my wife, so nice for us.” - Sungguk Kim

Sungguk “Alex” Kim is from South Korea. He is a transfer student from Word of Life Bible Institute in Schroon Lake, N.Y. He wants to support missionaries and pastors with the knowledge he acquires at Liberty. It has been three years since he came to the United States, and he is very excited to see God working wherever he goes. Being at Liberty is a great honor and opportunity for which he wants to give God the glory.
This program initiates and organizes various events for the entire university community. These activities acknowledge the university’s diversity and promote unity on campus. The most prominent special project of the year is the annual Achievement Awards.

This year celebrated the 15th year that the Center4ME has hosted the Achievement Awards. In 1996, Liberty University instituted the event, a banquet honoring outstanding international and minority students. At the event’s inception, it was the grand finale of Liberty University’s Black History Month observance, but has since been moved to an end of the year banquet to encourage broader participation from all of our ethnic minority students. This formal evening consists of entertainment, a four-course dinner and an awards ceremony. Like most televised awards shows, no one will know the winner until the night of the Achievement Awards. In addition, the Center4ME bestowed Shani Roberts for Staff/Faculty of the Year; Shalondé Hutchins received Freshman of the Year; Sungguk Kim the Community Service Award; Yamileé Paultre, Achievement Award; and the Dr. Allen R. McFarland Award of Excellence went to Dr. André Sims. The banquet is a great motivator for students to maintain good GPAs and to be involved in their campus community. The location this year was a first for the Center4ME at the Lynchburg Academy of Fine Arts, where 178 people attended, including administration, faculty, staff, students and their families, who enjoyed the eclectic sounds of the band Plunky & Oneness.

Participation on the Athletics Multicultural Committee falls under special projects. Center4ME participates in the Liberty Athletics Multicultural Committee, which was formed out of the NCAA Athletics Certification Self-Study. The NCAA has delineated minority issues as one of its three equity and student welfare operating items. It is a principle of the Association to promote respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person, and to refrain from discrimination prohibited by federal and state law. This committee seeks opportunities to support minority student-athletes and athletics personnel. Each year, the Center4ME partners with Athletics on various projects, the most consistent venture being facilitating two workshops for incoming student athletes in the Summer Bridge Program. In addition, Center4ME hosts a meet and greet dinner at the end of July or early August where the Center4ME administrative staff has an opportunity to meet and bond with incoming minority student-athletes, coaching staff and athletics administration.
JT LOGAN
Freshman
Mass Communications
Richmond, VA
“BSI has equipped me to be a leader on campus through the emphasis of spiritual discipleship, fellowship and leadership training. BSI helps fill the void for African American students.”
he Black Student Initiative (BSI) provides an environment of unity, advancement and success for African American students at Liberty University, equipping them with administrative, academic and spiritual leadership. This initiative addresses the concerns specific to African Americans and provides accountability, encouragement and reassurance toward being successful Liberty students.

This year, BSI has worked with students to build a community to learn, be encouraged and grow in Christ, offering weekly meetings to further this effort. Student’s lives were enriched with leadership training, student-led Bible study, prayer, experiential learning activity and relationship building. An open forum discussion time is offered which gives students the opportunity to talk about issues that are specific to the African American community as it relates to residential life at Liberty.

BSI hosts fun activities for the student body. Liberty Idol was a talent competition in which students from various backgrounds and cultures competed. The event was a success, with hundreds of students in attendance. The winner received a Wal-Mart gift card and an opportunity to share their talent in next year’s convocation. The Black History Month activity, the third Annual Journey to the Throne Room, was also a successful BSI event. This corporate fellowship time brought together a diverse range of music and worship styles.
CAMPUS RELATIONS
representation | visibility | synergy

PHILLIP SUTTON
Graduate Student Counseling
Virginia Beach, VA
“Campus Relations helps to give the university and outsiders a look at the programs and happenings of the Center4ME.”
Campus Relations reaches out and connects Center4ME with the rest of the campus. This initiative supports and/or collaborates with Liberty University departments and other colleges/universities in mutually beneficial partnerships for advancement of multicultural matters. Through Campus Relations, the university has a chance to get a glimpse of Center4ME and all of its programs.

During this last year, Campus Relations had the opportunity for public relations off-campus by representing Center4ME at Lynchburg’s Juneteenth festival and attending the University of Virginia’s Diversity Career Day, in addition to on campus activities such as hosting five convocation speakers.

Juneteenth is a celebration commemorating the end of slavery in the United States, dating back to June 19, 1865. Lynchburg’s Juneteenth festival provided exposure for Liberty and the programs/services of Center4ME. Center4ME provides administrative support and transportation for Liberty students to attend UVA’s Diversity Career Day each fall, offering attendants a competitive edge in the career market.

Each year, Center4ME requests to host select convocation speakers for luncheons with students. Usually 15 guests are in attendance for an up close and personal time with the day’s convocation speaker. Hosted in the Executive Dining Room of the Reber Thomas Dining Hall, guests are treated to a catered meal and great conversation. Regular attendees from administration include Dr. Mark Hine, vice president for Student Affairs; Keith Anderson, director for Offices of Care and Conduct; and a Student Government Association representative.

Center4ME is represented at a booth for each College for a Weekend, Early Orientation and Alumni Weekend events. The informational tables showcase all programs and services of the Center4ME. The Center4ME also supports other departmental events such as the All Night of Prayer, for which Center4ME volunteers to serve coffee, tea, and water.
"Urban Affairs has been a vital part of my experience at Liberty. I have been challenged to grow spiritually, mentally and physically in a way I would never have expected while growing close to a group of people I consider to be a second family."
Urban Affairs strives to educate, equip, encourage and empower Liberty students who desire to use their God given talents to impact the local and global urban culture by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ through hip-hop.

Urban Affairs has challenged and helped prepare Liberty students to become more effective in their ability to evangelize to an ever expanding culture. Students have gained valuable experiences through the program that have generated a faith-building evangelistic passion to expand the Kingdom of God. Students were engaged and empowered through workshops, Bible studies, outreach initiatives and peer accountability.

The program provided hands on practical approaches and entrepreneurial thinking to Center4ME initiatives, teaching students to coordinate, manage and lead projects that will enhance resumes and improve a student’s life at Liberty.

Urban Affairs’ success has been seen through demonstrated increased value for students, educators and partners. Through our focus on disciplined processes and quality program implementation, the program has increased campus and community impact tremendously. The Peacemakers B-Boy Crew, an Urban Affairs group, ministered to more than 7,000 people through performances held over the past school year. Through the Peacemakers, Urban Affairs has expanded its cross-cultural appeal to various audiences at youth/community centers, schools, churches and public facilities on and off campus.

The Alpha Nu Psi Brotherhood and Zeta Alpha Nu Sisterhood combined efforts with Urban Affairs in an initiative for leadership and mentorship, providing an authentic network with strong accountability. The brotherhood and sisterhood encouraged stronger school spirit and pride among each participating student.

Urban Affairs’ initiatives are having a positive impact on Liberty University students. The goal is to continue to grow and impact those at Liberty and the community. The “Vision Express Transformation” initiative is a capacity-building student incubator that serves as a tool to build greater relationships with students of vision and assist them in endeavors that augment their classroom learning. This experiential learning process is equipping students with real life hands-on experience while expanding their portfolios.

The Urban Affairs Division of Performing Arts launched a new project called Urban Affairs Music Group (UAMG). UAMG’s identifies and supports the development of musically gifted Liberty student artists who display skills in the area of singing, rapping, song writing and/or music production. The first student artist to participate, Freddie “Trinity” Collins, is a singer/songwriter/producer and former member of the traveling singing group, Living Proof. UAMG with Express Media is currently recording and preparing Collins’ album for distribution.
COMMUNITY RELATIONS
outreach | exposure | connection

MIKE CHIJOKE
Sophomore
Baltimore, MD
Philosophy/Religious Studies
“...I am being equipped to use Christ’s influence to cultivate tomorrow’s leaders.”
enter4ME’s Community Relations program collaborates with the city of Lynchburg, local businesses and other universities in mutual partnerships for advancement of multicultural matters. Among other goals, the program seeks to build bridges of goodwill and mutual understanding in the local community through the avenue of shared interest.

Community Relations has created a strong foundation with an infrastructure that will allow optimized efficiency, a greater number of students impacted and continued increased value for key constituents, alumni and the university as it relates to potential student recruitment and retention.

Community Relations kicked off the 2009-10 school year with the “Get Downtown” event, partnering with Lynch’s Landing, city of Lynchburg, area colleges and various businesses to provide a street festival in Lynchburg’s historic downtown area. In addition, the program expanded to Central Virginia’s Region 2000 local colleges and universities through Project ONE. Project ONE, the program’s latest initiative exists to provide positive and innovative social diversity and civic awareness to area college students who desire to enhance the quality of life for the local community.

Community Relations established a formal affiliation with Express Media’s Young Entrepreneurial Spirits (Y.E.S.). This entrepreneurial program is specifically designed to reach Lynchburg area students ages 11 to 19. The Y.E.S. program instills confidence and empowers young people to achieve hands on experience in the field of technical production and business management through marketing, advertising, graphic design, photography, audio and visual productions, strategic planning, leadership development and spiritual growth.

Gospel Explosion 2010, a collaborative effort with Y.E.S. provided the community with a platform to showcase their musical talents and also raised scholarship funds for Y.E.S. participants. This event offered a unique opportunity to collaborate with a local non-profit in mutual partnerships for advancement of multicultural matters with more than 300 in attendance.

In an effort to address issues pertinent to Lynchburg’s African-American community, a group of distinguished black leaders fostered “Coalition Cares,” derived to institute a strategic plan of action to build a stronger network system whereby African-Americans can work together to identify resources and to solve problems. Liberty University’s Center4ME will serve as a resource for the group’s efforts and plan to assist in the development of an African-American business and resource guide and organize an Empowerment Conference.
This program has educated and impacted quite a few students here on campus. Bridging the gap between different cultures and races will not only unify us as students but as Christians that are aiming for the same goal at LU to become Champions for Christ.”

ROBERT CLEMENTS
Senior
Family & Child Development
Washington D.C.
The E.Q.U.A.L.I.T.Y. Factor Movement (TEFM) is a leadership development program educating Liberty students to promote and maintain an appreciation for multicultural diversity on campus. Under the umbrella of TEFM, the Bridging Our Life’s Divisions initiative (BOLD) was created to assess one’s cultural competency. BOLD is a six week cultural challenge program that takes you out of your cultural comfort zone in order to build and strengthen relationships. BOLD members participated in a workshop led by Leslie King of the city of Lynchburg’s Community Dialogue on Race and Racism that addressed privilege in America.

TEFM partnered with Dr. Clive McClelland in a two-part diversity education project featuring African-American culture in politics, economics and religion. The project involved a facilitated panel discussion that comprised a mixture of graduate and undergraduate African American students at Liberty University. “It was well-presented, interesting and eye-opening. It appeared to me that a ‘light bulb switched on’ for the class in general,” said McClelland.

TEFM assisted with several events to promote unity and celebrate cultural diversity, such as True Worshippers. True Worshipers involved students from various ethnic backgrounds and cultures who came together to worship through song, spoken word and liturgical movement. TEFM held a panel discussion on interracial dating called “Getting to I Do.” The panel was comprised of two interracial couples whom had experienced the challenges and rewards of interracial relationships. In addition, the campus community was creatively unified during Mix-It-Up Speed Dating Night.

During Black History Month, TEFM created awareness on campus with events, “Being Black in 2010” and “The Great Debate, Should Black History Month Exist?” Both events were developed to provoke thought and conversation on the cultural climate of our country and campus. In the debate regarding Black History Month, two students from the Black Student Initiative program debated the issue comparatively with two BOLD students. After the debate, the audience was able to ask questions and share opinions.

The E.Q.U.A.L.I.T.Y. Factor Movement participated in the national endeavor with the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)’s Enough is Enough Campaign to stem societal violence during the month of April. Enough is Enough is designed to create a new paradigm for peace and safety on the nation’s campuses by addressing the societal violence that has contributed to unprecedented violence on school grounds. Liberty participated through the medium of informative posters that brought awareness to campus violence and a peace rally held in the Courtyard featuring the Peacemakers. At this rally, students signed non-violence pledges.

For the second year, a children’s camp was facilitated by TEFM called Camp Continents. This is an initiative seeking to increase exposure to campus by expanding summer and between-semester activities. The objectives of Camp Continents are to provide an exciting learning environment to celebrate cultural diversity, to promote respect and appreciation for cultural differences, and to establish a relationship between the youth of Lynchburg and Liberty in relation to diversity.

Camp Continents was held for one-week in June 2010 in the office areas of Global Ministries and the Center4ME. The camp saw tremendous growth from four campers in its inaugural year to nearly six times of campers this year. Out-of-state campers traveled from Maryland, Indiana and Georgia. Local schools represented were Holy Cross, Liberty Christian Academy, Forest Middle, Linkhorne Elementary, RS Payne GO Center, Boonsboro Elementary, Brookville Middle, Heritage Elementary, Forest Elementary and homeschooled students.
ASSIST PROGRAM
holistic | accountability | relationship

SHALONDA HUTCHINS
Freshman
Pre-Med/Biology
Washington D.C.
“What a great opportunity for people who have the passion to help others grow both academically and spiritually to do so! I highly recommend this program as a great way to share the love of Christ with others and possibly change someone’s life.”
The ASSIST Program (Active Students Serving, Instructing and Socializing Together) is a voluntary, peer mentoring initiative and leadership development program that pairs new students with upperclassmen to assist in the transition to university living. In the ASSIST program, peer mentors and new students receive leadership development training through an intense series of workshops, practical training and community service projects. The ASSIST Program workshops focus on four key areas — social, spiritual, academic and leadership. Mentors and mentees were able to experience workshops led by faculty or staff and sometimes peer-facilitated lessons. The workshops covered topics such as goal-setting, scholarships, time management, identity, study skills, values and taking responsibility. The participants also had the opportunity for gaining guidance through taking the Career Direct test followed by a one-on-one career counseling sessions which were paid for by the Center4ME.

Another highlight of the ASSIST Program was the diversity of the 24 students that were involved as mentors within the program. The mentors ranged from sophomores to doctoral students of various ethnic backgrounds. In addition, the program awarded two $250 book scholarships for mentees who have turned to the program as mentors. When asked about two ways the ASSIST Program influenced them over the past year, one of our female mentors said, “The program allowed me to meet and network with more people than I probably would have met on my own. I always like to meet new people, and I have gotten the opportunity to do so throughout my time with ASSIST. I was also able to (hopefully) influence my mentee for the short time that we did have together.” One of our male mentors when asked the same questions said, “This program allowed me to make important connections which I can use in the future. This program allowed me to sharpen my skills as a leader and also in communications.”

The ASSIST program made history this year with being the first student group to tour the National Civil War Chaplain’s Museum as noted in an e-mail to Chancellor Jerry Falwell, Jr. from museum curator, Kenny Rowlette. This visit was a part of a spiritual and leadership development workshop that addressed spiritual and leadership confidence in the midst of adversity.

A wonderful accolade for the ASSIST Program this year was that two participants in the ASSIST Program were finalists at the Center4ME Achievement Awards. Brittany Clemmons was recognized as a finalist for the Community Service Award as she gave of her time effortlessly to the student she mentored. And Shalonda Hutchins was a finalist and also named the 2010 Freshman of the Year. Overall, the participants within the program truly became a family this semester providing one another with accountability, guidance and motivation to succeed. This is an important aspect of becoming acclimated to the university lifestyle for freshmen and the building of unity through community at Liberty University.
THE BOARD

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Jerry Gibson — Lynchburg, Va.

Student Initiatives Committee
Marion Mann — Aberdeen, Md. *
Rev. Dr. Larry Covington — Graham, N.C.
Trachide Greene—Lynchburg, Va.

Campus Involvement Committee
Pamela King — Roanoke, Va. *
Merisa Davis — Lilburn, Ga.
Tracy King — Roanoke, Va.

Dr. Allen McFarland Award of Excellence Committee
Lakecia King — Waverly, Va. *
Jackie Ortiz — Elmont, N.Y.

Center4ME Representatives
Melany Pearl — Director
Adedamola Onafowokan — Administrative Assistant

Student Representatives
Chris Wong (Senior) — Brooklyn, N.Y.
Tanar Wright-Sackey (Sophomore) — Manassas, Va.

* Committee Leader
In 2007, the Liberty University Multicultural Advisory Board (MAB) was formed as a vehicle for alumni and friends to specifically support multicultural programs by raising the awareness and visibility of the services of the Center for Multicultural Enrichment. The board is made up of dedicated supporters of Liberty University who commit their energies to aid the Center for Multicultural Enrichment in its mission to promote unity and celebrate cultural diversity. In the fall of 2009, the MAB formed committees to better facilitate its purpose.

The Identification of Prospects Committee researches and implements plans to assist the Center4ME in identifying individuals and/or businesses that could move projects forward. This committee also serves as the membership recruitment arm of the MAB. Currently in the works is a proposal to launch a MAB Scholars Program.

The Student Initiatives Committee serves as a think-tank for initiatives that would directly benefit students in a practical way with broad based actions to boost campus morale. In the spring of 2010, The Rainy Day Project came to fruition as a means of blessing any student who is caught in the rain without an umbrella. More than 400 umbrellas were purchased by the MAB and tagged with the Psalm 84:11, “For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.” Not only are these umbrellas made available in the office, but the Center4ME director goes out during downpours seeking out students who have no umbrella.

The Campus Involvement Committee is made of individuals who would like to be an active part of the campus community by developing and providing mentoring/role modeling, special speakers for events and internship/ministry/networking opportunities. This committee has partnered with the Center4ME to bring John Stokes — one of the original litigants in the landmark case, Brown v. Board of Education — to speak on campus and for a book signing at the campus Barnes & Noble for Black History Month. In addition, the two board members have partnered with Thomas Road Baptist Church to offer weekly ministering opportunities to Liberty students.

The Dr. Allen McFarland Award of Excellence Committee facilitates the nomination process to honor a minority alumnus who demonstrates McFarland’s commitment to leading a life of Biblical integrity, professionalism, spiritual leadership and service to his family, church and community. Dr. André Sims was named the 2010 recipient of this distinguished award. Sims is the senior pastor of Christ the King Fellowship Bible Fellowship in Federal Way, Wash., and received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Liberty University and Doctorate of Ministry from Dallas Theological Seminary.
In honor of those who fought for the freedom of African Americans in our country, Liberty University’s Center for Multicultural Enrichment (Center4ME) is holding a series of events throughout the month of February.

One highlight was a lecture by John Stokes, a national figure in the legendary Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court trial. The lecture was held on Feb. 13 and was based on his well-known book, “Students on Strike: Jim Crow, Civil Rights, Brown and Me.”

“Liberty University as an institution of higher education is thrilled to have a national icon that has so dramatically shaped the fabric of the American educational system,” said Melany Pearl, director of the Center4ME.

Stokes was one of the original litigants in the case on May 17, 1954, when the U.S. Supreme Court announced its decision that, “separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.” The decision effectively denied the legal basis for segregation in Kansas and 20 other states with segregated classrooms. His presentation will be filled with stories from his experiences surrounding the case. He will be signing copies of his book at the Liberty University Barnes and Noble Bookstore following his lecture.

Stokes’ visit was only one of 10 unique events being sponsored by the Center4ME, including a Harlem Nights Ball, a “Being Black in 2010” discussion, a gospel concert and many more.
Q/ WHY DID YOU JOIN THE MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD?

A/ “To keep connections with the University, particularly with the minority community, and have an impact on students.” — The Rev. Dr. Larry Covington, Liberty’s first African-American resident assistant

A/ “I love Liberty! My experience at LU birthed a new beginning in my life both spiritually and naturally. I feel compelled to stay connected to the vision of LU.” — Jackie Ortiz

A/ “I would like to give back to Liberty because I believe in the potential greatness of every student.” — Michael Goss

A/ “My desire in joining the MAB stems from my past experiences and spiritual growth as an LU student and graduate, coupled with serving five years as an Admissions Counselor at Liberty. I truly believe in the foundational truths, spiritual direction and social guidelines LU has established and, after all Liberty has done for me, I am led to give back as much as possible in assisting in the training of Champions for Jesus Christ.” — The Rev. Ambrose Harris

A/ “I want to enhance the lives of current and future students at LU.” — Lakeica King

A/ “To impact the lives of students as they become champions for Christ.” — Tracy King

A/ “I was very blessed to be ministered to as an undergraduate by the programs of Center4ME — it is where I found my niche, made lifelong sisters and brothers in Christ and was personally discipled. It is for these reasons that I will invest my time, efforts and prayers to help this ministry continue on.” — Trachide Greene

The Multicultural Advisory Board electronic newsletter is sent bi-weekly to board members to keep them abreast of events at the Liberty campus and to let them know how they can participate in supporting Liberty University and the Center4ME.
2009 —2010 HIGHLIGHTS

July 2009
More than 60 incoming student-athletes attended an informational daytime meeting about our programs and enjoyed a barbecue dinner, games and fellowship, and music featuring DJ PDOGG from 90.9 The Light.

Began training for WEAVE online assessment program that would involve the Daniel’s Program-Multicultural Team, a program from the department of Psychology.

Administrative team attended day workshops at Lynchburg College entitled “Quest for Personal and Professional Development as a Student Affairs Professional”.

Participated in Programming for Pennies Webinar, sponsored by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA).

Developed 2009-2010 campus theme sponsored by Chancellor Falwell, “Working toward One Goal: UNITY” and office slogan, “Unique in Function, United in Purpose”.

August 2009
Presented information about services to 252 resident assistants and resident directors during a daylong scavenger hunt coordinated by the Office of Student Leadership.

Center4ME introduced services to incoming freshmen and their families at the Community Welcome Fair sponsored by CASAS.

Participated in NASPA webinar entitled, “Best Practices for Academic and Student Affairs Practice”.

Campus Relations attended the LU Block Party to sign up students for e-newsletter and provided general information about Center4ME programs.

Center4ME recruited several student volunteers at the Christian Community Service Fair.

Provided refreshments and coffee for the All-Night of Prayer sponsored by the Office of Student Leadership in which more than 3,000 students participated.

Grind It Out! kicked off the school year with more than 250 students in attendance — 24 committed to participate in the Urban Affairs division of Center4ME.

September 2009
The EQUALITY Factor Movement launched BOLD — participants, called Bridgers, participated in a six-week project.

Urban Affairs’ Grind it Out — Battlegrounds attracted hundreds of students interested in the hip-hop culture.

Melany Pearl attended a campus-wide webinar purchased by Resident Enrollment, called STAMATS TeenTALK, which deals with research related to the admissions and recruiting process.

Black Student Initiative handed out custom-designed prayer cards for See You at the Pole, a nationally observed event hosted by the Office of Student Leadership.

Participated in dial-in conference, “Maintaining and Thriving — Supporting Students in Recovery,” sponsored by NASPA.

Co-hosted an off-campus welcome for Liberty African students at Peak’s View Park in conjunction with the Association of Students of African Descent (ASAD).

Invited to participate in the Helms School of Government’s academic convocation.

In collaboration with the city and area colleges, the first Get Downtown event was conducted. Our Community Relations area assisted with this event designed to familiarize college students with the various opportunities that downtown Lynchburg provides for leisure and social interaction.

Attended a special “World Wide Welcome” for 200 incoming international students to get more information about our peer mentoring and leadership programs.

October 2009
Hosted the first CFAW open house to meet with prospective students and their families to familiarize them with Center4ME’s resources.

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage, Viva la Noche brought out 223 students and staff for an evening of Latin-inspired performances and food.

Campus Relations manned an informational booth for the Alumni Reception at the Tolsma Indoor Track.

Melany Pearl led a training session for the Student Advocate Office to update their staff on programs, services and resources, in addition to an overview regarding multicultural competency.

Administration, staff, alumni, out-of-town guests, Lynchburg residents and students gathered at the homecoming Center4ME Open House to honor Dr. Yaw Adu-Gyamfi, professor in the School of Communication.

A panel discussion was held for students to converse about the positives and challenges of interracial dating and marriage — discussion was led by author of “Shades of Identity,” Daveta Saunders.

Melany Pearl attended a meet-and-greet for commuter students at the Vistas at Dreaming Creek apartments hosted by the Commuter Student Office.

Multicultural Advisory Board conducted its fall meeting and developed committee responsibilities to streamline participation.

Transportation was provided to the University of Virginia’s Diversity Career Day where more than 150 corporations, non-profit organizations and government agencies were seeking candidates with diverse backgrounds.

Melany Pearl was invited by Student Activities to judge the homecoming parade floats.

MISO Live! — hosted by alumni Larry Davis — brought out more than 300 people for a fundraiser to support Smile for Africa.

Several students and staff attended the National Christian Multicultural Student Leaders Conference at Houghton College, Houghton, N.Y.
November 2009
ASSIST Program (Active Students Serving, Instructing and Socializing Together) mentors and new students gathered for a time of reflection and thankfulness at a Thanksgiving meal

Campus Relations hosted dinner for Michael Franzese, motivational speaker and former mob boss for the Colombo crime family, in collaboration with the Campus Pastor’s Office

Patricia Pearl, executive director of Urban Youth Leadership in Kansas City, Mo., addressed students during the ROSE Conference (Reclaiming Others’ Sacred Existence), sponsored by Student Government Association, which features a showing of Maafa — a documentary on Black genocide

More than 100 people attended True Worshippers, a multicultural service that brought together forms of worship including the spoken word, ballet and song in a variety of languages

Amy Teer participated in the three-day Virginia Assessment Group Conference

Alpha Nu Psi brotherhood and Zeta Nu Psi sisterhood joined forces to conduct a dating forum discussion to identify the best practices in building healthy relationships with the opposite sex

Campus Relations attended a booth at the Family Weekend event sponsored by the Parent and Family Connections Office

Urban Affairs facilitated The Chocolate Lamp at Suite 19 that provided area college students with a creative outlet through the cultural arts — poetry, movement, art and written word

The event, Christmas in the Caribbean partnered with international student group Caribbeans in Action to celebrate the holidays as on the islands with 160 students

The brotherhood of Alpha Nu Psi held a lock-in designed to bring unity to the group, and to evaluate the progress of program initiatives

Community Relations supported the efforts of the Salvation Army by coordinating all Center4ME administrative staff to “ring the bell” at Wal-Mart

Melany Pearl attended the National Symposium on Standards, Self-Assessment and Student Learning Outcomes in Washington, D.C.

The Multicultural Advisory Board conducted a conference call to discuss semester’s progress, meeting participants called in from North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Georgia

December 2009
Melany Pearl and Daveta Saunders attended the Racial Equity Symposium Part II held at Randolph College in Lynchburg, Va., featuring Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, professor of Sociology at Duke University

Attended the launch of (434), a lifestyle magazine that examines the Lynchburg community through an African American lens

An end-of-the-semester Christmas Party was planned for Center4ME staff members, 75% of whom are students

January 2010
Assisted as part of the Liberty delegation to greet 700 freshmen and transfer students in the spring semester

The Black Student Initiative and Community Relations participated in a think tank entitled, “The State of Black Lynchburg: Forging a Direction for a Black Agenda”

The Journey — a celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — brought out students who participated in a balloon release ceremony in which they pledged how they are going to better humanity

In collaboration with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Lynchburg Community Council, Liberty staff and administration joined more than 260 people at the 12th Annual Birthday Breakfast at the Virginia University of Lynchburg

A special meet-and-greet luncheon was held for convocation speaker, Miles McPherson — former San Diego Charger, author, national speaker, and pastor and founder of both the Rock Church and Miles Ahead Ministries

February 2010
A Valentine’s Day event that included games and karaoke was hosted in the Center4ME multipurpose room

About 150 students dressed in period clothing attended the Harlem Renaissance — a celebration of African-American art, literature, music and politics

Chinese New Year drew in students living at the Liberty Residential Annex with a celebration at the site that included fellowship and games

The Harlem Night’s Ball hosted at Suite 19 brought together students involved in Urban Affairs to reflect on a time of new movement and agenda for African-Americans in America

National figure, John Stokes, one of the original litigants in the landmark case Brown vs. Board of Education, gave an interactive lecture on his book, “Students on Strike: Jim Crow, Civil Rights, Brown and Me,” followed by a book signing sponsored by Barnes & Noble, partially funded by the Multicultural Advisory Board and covered by ABC affiliate WSET

The Great Debate gave students an opportunity to delve into the questions such as, “Should Black History Month Still Exist?”

More than 250 people enjoyed an evening of praise and worship at the third annual Journey to the Throne Room held in the Schilling Center

March 2010
African Diaspora brought together 200 students from African and African-oriented countries

Nine members of the Urban Affairs Peacemakers B-Boy Crew took a spring break missions trip to Florida, performing at churches, youth centers and schools

Co-hosted a roundtable discussion about ways to impact families and teenagers in Lynchburg with Family Impact, Inc., an organization committed to empowering families to function independently and overcome barriers that impede them from moving forward and building successful futures
April 2010
The E.Q.U.A.L.I.T.Y. Factor Movement participated in a weekend, NASPA-sponsored campaign called Enough is Enough, a collaboration designed to create a new paradigm for peace and safety on the nation’s campuses by addressing societal violence.

Administration and alumni gathered at the Lynchburg Fine Arts Center for the 15th Annual Achievement Awards to honor the accomplishments of Liberty students and staff.

The message of Jesus Christ was presented to more than 170 at a hip-hop event entitled More Rockin’, a breakdancing battle which drew performers from Virginia and Florida.

In celebration of Asian/Pacific Islander Month, students were treated to a Hawaiian Luau-style late skate.

Kenny Rowlette, professor and museum curator, acknowledged the ASSIST Program for being the first student group to tour the National Civil War Chaplains Museum, located at Campus East.

The Multicultural Advisory Board conducted its spring meeting.

Center4ME’s Community Relations partnered with the YES program to sponsor Gospel Explosion 2010, attended by more than 350 people. Proceeds provided scholarships for technology summer camp to elementary, middle school and high school students.

May 2010
The Heart of Worship: Grace in Movement provided an expressional worship time for 280 students.

Liberty alumna and Multicultural Advisory Board member Merisa Parson Davis hosted a book release party and book signing for her new book “Bill Cosby is Right: But What Should the Church be Doing about It?”

Center4ME staff attended the last on-campus airing of the Rhythm and Praise Party hosted by 90.9 The Light and Liberty alumnus Perry Tankard, AKA DJ PDogg (Perry Depends on God’s Grace), who was the National Religious Broadcaster’s Award Winning Host in 2007.

In an effort to gauge the effectiveness of our programming, Melany Pearl conducted exit interviews with a student participant from every program and service offered by the Center4ME.

June 2010
More than 75 people visited our booth at the 10th Annual Juneteenth Freedom and Community Celebration at the Hunton-Randolph Community Center.

Melany Pearl was invited to attend the Ignite 2010 conference in Chicago. The Christian college conference provided participants with cutting-edge practices for developing, shepherding and fostering a multicultural campus, and provided opportunities for networking and community building.

Amy Teer traveled to Baltimore, Md., for the NASPA Assessment and Retention Conference, designed to strengthen programs for assessment, quality improvement and intentional retention.

John Swann and Daveta Saunders represented Liberty University at the national conference of the Association of Christians in Student Development (ACSD). The conference, entitled “What’s Your Story?” was hosted by Messiah College in Harrisburg, PA.

Albert Jennings participated in the Virginia Board of Education committee meeting; the topic was Charter School Committee and College and University Laboratory School Committee.

Melany Pearl attended the 23rd Annual National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) in Washington, D.C. NCORE constitutes the leading and most comprehensive national forum on issues of race and ethnicity in American higher education.

Camp Continents hosted a fun-filled, educational week for 24 children ages 6-11, teaching them about the rich cultural diversity within the various continents throughout the world. The event included home schoolers, as well as students from several local schools: Holy Cross, Liberty Christian Academy, Forest Middle School, Linkhorne Elementary School, RS Payne GO Center, Boonsboro Elementary School, Brookville Middle School, Heritage Elementary School and Forest Elementary School.
COLLABORATION

Working together toward a common goal is the essence of collaboration and imperative for broad-based support. This year, the Center4ME continues to build upon this concept of establishing viable partnerships in order to provide the best possible services for Liberty students. In 2009-2010 Center4ME has worked with the following departments, student groups and local organizations:

**Campus Collaboration**
- 90.9 The Light
- Admissions/Recruitment
- Alumni Affairs
- Association of Students of African Descent
- Liberty Athletics
- Campus Pastors’ Office
- Career Center
- Caribbeans in Action
- Center for Academic Support and Advising Services
- Commuter Affairs
- Department of Psychology
- Korean Fellowship
- Liberty Champion
- National Civil War Chaplains Museum
- Office of Student Leadership
- Parent and Family Connections
- School of Education
- Smile for Africa
- Spanish Club
- Student Conduct and Care
- Student Government Association

**Local/Regional Collaboration**
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Virginia
- Central Health
- City of Lynchburg
- Commonwealth of Virginia – Commission for the Arts
- Family Impact
- Lynch’s Landing
- Lynchburg City Schools
- Lynchburg College
- Martin Luther King, Jr./Lynchburg Community Council
- Randolph College
- YES Program

**National Memberships**
- American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC)
- Association of Christians in Student Development (ACSD)
- Black African American Christian Counselors (BAACC)
- National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)
MEET OUR TEAM

Melany Pearl
Director
mapearl@liberty.edu
(434) 592 4023

Pearl serves as the department’s budget manager, human resource officer, campus liaison, professional development coordinator and supervisor of all programs and services, and handles many other responsibilities that connect with her passion for cultures and intercultural competence.

Pearl joined the university staff in 1996 and was named Center4ME director in 1998. Originally from Kansas City, Mo., she holds both a B.S. in Business and M.A. in Human Relations. Pearl has served the university in other capacities outside of the Center4ME, including administrative advisor of Alpha Lambda Delta (a national honor society), sub-committee chair on the NCAA Self-Study and SACS committee member and mentor with the Campus Pastors’ Office. Pearl is actively involved with civic organizations, including Lynchburg’s Dialogue on Race and Racism, and is a board member of the Martin Luther King/Lynchburg Community Council and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Virginia. Her professional memberships include: National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, Virginia Association of Student Personnel Administrators, American Association of Christian Counselors and Association for Christians in Student Development.

Daveta Saunders
Associate Director, ASSIST Program and The EQUALITY Factor Movement
djsaunders@liberty.edu
(434) 592-4022


Albert Jennings III
Associate Director, Urban Affairs and Community Relations
aojennings@liberty.edu
(434) 592-4083

Albert is a 1995 graduate of Liberty University where he excelled in both football and track. His goal is to educate, equip, empower and encourage individuals to become change agents and to positively impact the urban culture.

John Swann
Associate Director, Black Student Initiative and Campus Relations
jiswann@liberty.edu
(434) 592-4024

John attended Liberty University from 2000-2004 and received a B.S. in Psychology with a specialization in Counseling and Human Services, and has a Master of Divinity from Payne Theological Seminary. He is dedicated to community service and the success of African American Students at Liberty.

Amy Teer
Associate Director, Cultural Awareness, Special Projects and Assessment
ateer@liberty.edu
(434) 592-4340

A native of British Columbia, Canada, Amy was led to Liberty University in pursuit of an athletic career in track and field and graduated in 2001 with a B.S. in Child Psychology and also has a M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University. She is overjoyed to have the opportunity to serve the multicultural, diverse student body at Liberty.