

# Allegany College of Maryland

## OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Allegany College of Maryland does not discriminate against students or prospective students for reasons of race, sex, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, veterans' status, conditions of disability, or sexual orientation in admission, educational programs and activities, scholarship and loan programs, or any terms and conditions of enrollment. The College complies with applicable state and federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination.

Adopted by the Diversity Task Force in Spring 2005:

Allegany College of Maryland educates students from all walks of life, and we appreciate the richness that differences in cultures, ideas, backgrounds, and dreams bring to our learning environment.

In 2003-2004, the College created a Diversity Task Force to address the changing demographic of our students. (It was originally called the "New Generation College Student Task Force.") This group has accomplished many goals including conducting surveys, inviting the Southern Poverty Law Center to assess the College's anti-bias and diversity work, bringing "edutainment" programs to the campus, helping to establish an ESL (English as Second Language) course, and defining "diversity" for our campus.

**DIVERSITY IS "OTHERNESS" OR THOSE HUMAN QUALITIES THAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN, (ARE) OUTSIDE THE GROUPS TO WHICH WE BELONG, YET ARE PRESENT IN OTHER INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS.**

Allegany College of Maryland's expanded definition of diversity promotes awareness, appreciation and sensitivity to many demographic types (e.g., gender, age, race, ethnicity, physical abilities/qualities, sexual orientation, educational background, geographic origin, income, marital status, parental status, military status, religious beliefs, work experiences, and more). We do not view our commitment to diversity as lip-service to political correctness or mere touch-feely words empty of real meaning. As an educational institution, we are responsible for helping prepare our students to "live, learn, work, and succeed in a diverse society."

Thanks to the work of the Task Force, Allegany College of Maryland now has a Diversity Center located in the College Center (lower level); beginning in July 2009, Student & Legal Affairs has a staff member whose job responsibilities include managing the Diversity Center. **All** students are urged to (1) use the Center for diversity-oriented activities, (2) befriend students who are different from you, (3) attend Center-sponsored events, and (4) volunteer to help with Center programming. Please contact the Director of Student Life for more information and to get involved.

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