

Marian Spencer Diversity Ambassador Awards



In recognition of the longstanding contributions by UC alumna and activist, Marian Spencer, the UC Diversity Council sponsors the **Marian Spencer Diversity Ambassador Award** to showcase current campus affiliated individuals and groups whose diversity initiatives have positively impacted the university. Students, faculty, and staff can nominate individuals and groups for this award if they meet one or more of the following criteria: shows an awareness for diversity, exhibits sensitivity to people of various cultures, evidence of helping colleagues/peers grow in the area of diversity (race, ethnicity, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, disability status, socio-economic level, etc.), and prepares others to thrive in a diverse, global workforce.

2016

Josie Evans-Phillips, Associate Director, College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services



Josie is no stranger to the University of Cincinnati! She started her career in higher education at UC in 1995 as an admissions counselor and then left to become a college counselor at Oak Hills High School. Upon leaving Oak Hills, she was invited to return to UC to help with a six week "One Stop" program. Those six weeks turned into two years as she assisted the Office of Admissions with a wide variety of projects. During this time she also taught at Southern Ohio College and started her own business. She again answered the call to return to UC on a part-time basis, again within the Office of Admissions, and was offered an opportunity to work with I Know I Can, a non-profit organization in Columbus that works with Columbus City school students. She worked with IKIC for six years serving as a retention advisor to students at UC, Central State and Wright State Universities. Josie currently works in the College of Education, Criminal Justice & Human Services and is the D&I Liaison for the College. In the past two years with CECH, she has created the Dean's Diversity Board, developed creative ways to engage the college and alumni in diversity & inclusion efforts, and was the 2014-15 recipient of the Outstanding Service Award for the College. "It is an honor and privilege to move the inclusive efforts of this University forward - from the foundation of those who paved the way before us while linking arms with those who are here at this time, in this very important moment."

Greer Glazer, Dean, College of Nursing & Associate Vice President for Health Affairs



Greer Glazer, RN, CNP, PhD, FAAN is dean of the College of Nursing and associate vice president for Health Affairs. A nationally recognized leader in nursing education, Dr. Glazer has spearheaded the development and implementation of a strategic map aimed to position UC as a leader in the transformation of health care. She has a strong history of developing community, national and international partnerships and securing federal funding for nursing research, scholarship and program implementation. Dr. Glazer has an established history of commitment to diversity and inclusion which resulted in her being named one of Ohio's 2013 Most Powerful and Influential Women by the National Diversity Council. Dr. Glazer offers an

open-door policy to ensure that students, faculty, and staff are able to approach her with concerns. She established and supports the Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) at the UC College of Nursing. The mission of the DAC is to be the change catalyst for a culture of inclusive excellence. The vision of this council is to inspire, influence, recommend, and challenge the college and the university community to serve as a sustainable model that embraces and reflects the diversity of Greater Cincinnati. She has been extremely involved in the Urban Universities for Health project to understand barriers for diverse populations to enter the healthcare workforce and develop pipeline initiatives and partnerships that overcome this. Throughout her career, Dr. Glazer has secured over \$11 million in funding for program/research grants. These projects have progressed from research in her original area of expertise, women's health, to funding for initiatives that advance nursing education and create opportunity for underrepresented individuals in the health care profession.

Elizabeth Nguyen, Student, Lindner College of Business



Liz Nguyen is a 4th year student pursuing a BBA concentrated in finance and a minor in psychology. She is heavily involved with various organizations, including the Vietnamese Student Association and Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. She is always seeking opportunities to better herself and the world around her. Her passions include professional development, working with the AAPI community and its issues, and continually learning about the multifaceted world.

Giao Q. Tran, Associate Professor, McMicken College of Arts & Sciences



Dr. Giao Q. Tran is a tenured Associate Professor of the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and an Ohio-licensed psychologist. Dr. Tran currently teaches courses that promote knowledge and understanding of interracial relationships, childhood sexual violence and gender issues in health. She has advised and mentored many individuals from diverse gender, racial and cultural backgrounds, ranging from undergraduate and graduate students to post-doctoral fellows and junior faculty. Dr. Tran is a Vietnamese-born US citizen who completed her doctoral education at American University

and served as Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator and Co-Mentor of several intervention grants funded by the National Institutes of Health.

***The Center for Race, Gender and Social Justice, Organization Recipient
The College of Law***



Building upon a groundbreaking academic program in law and women's, gender, and sexuality studies, the Center for Race, Gender, and Social Justice provides experiential learning, research, and other opportunities for interdisciplinary inquiry that enhance the vibrant intellectual life at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. The Center seeks to bridge theory and practice, forge relationships with local, national, and global communities, and prepare students to take the lead in advancing justice. Our primary programs are the Joint Degree Program in Law and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS), the Freedom Center Journal, the Domestic Violence and Civil Protection Order Clinic, and Community-Based Research. The Center is co-directed by Professors Emily Houh, Kristin Kalsem, and Verna Williams.

2015

Kathleen Burlew, Professor of Psychology, McMicken College of Arts & Sciences

Kathleen obtained her PhD from the University of Michigan and later retrained in clinical psychology at Miami University. She received the UC Excellence in Mentoring Award and the Kenneth and Mamie Clark Award from the American Psychological Association for her mentoring which includes over 30 ethnic minority doctoral students. Her work includes four books on ethnic minority psychology and numerous research publications on developing more effective substance abuse and HIV prevention interventions for ethnic minorities. She also served as editor of the Journal of Black Psychology and associate editor of the Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse.



Sarah Martynowski, Student, McMicken College of Arts & Sciences

Sarah graduated from UC in December 2014 with honors and degrees in Political Science and Environmental Studies. She also holds certificates in Deaf Studies and Security Studies. As an undergraduate, Sarah served as the American Sign Language Club President and co-founded a new student organization, Alliance for Abilities. During her college career, Sarah spent three summers interning in Washington D.C. with Congressional Representatives and the EPA, and also completed four mission trips, three internships, and two UC forward courses. Sarah hopes to never cease exploration of the world around her and wants to make a lasting impact, starting at UC.



Corrine "CJ" Witherspoon, Program Coordinator for Multicultural Programs, UC Blue Ash



Receiving her bachelor's degree from Miami University in English and Black World Studies and her master's degree in College Student Personnel from Ohio University, CJ is a second generation student affairs practitioner with over 10 years of experience at five different institutions. She is dedicated to helping others with their holistic development journeys which is why CJ was honored at the University of Dayton in 2013 with the Miryam Award for her work in founding *Sister Circle*, an organization she has continued at UC that is dedicated to connecting women of color on campus through service, scholarship and support.

Business Law & Technology (BLT) Department, UC Clermont

The effort to promote awareness for diversity and inclusion has been a long, continuous and successful effort for this unit. In 2011- 2012, the BLT Department, led by Department Chair Jeff Bauer, made the decision to make a concerted effort to increase diversity and inclusion throughout the department. It has continued with numerous activities and accomplishments. The level of involvement and activity is inclusive across the entire department, and therefore, the entire BLT Department is included in this honor. This department is made up of a number of disciplines providing quality education to prepare students with the knowledge, competencies, and experience necessary to successfully compete in today's economy and offers services to address the business training and consulting needs of the community.



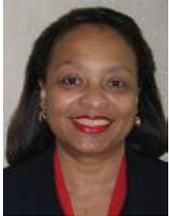
2014

Amara Agomuo, Student, McMicken College of Arts & Sciences



As a first generation Nigeria-American, she has demonstrated a personal interest in and support for diversity by devoted herself to working with Nigerian immigrants as they transition to life in the US. She also volunteers with a variety of organizations such as the Ndukwe Foundation, Keep Cincinnati Beautiful Foundation and the Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools. An advocate for student issues on race and social justice, Amara has been a member of UC's Student Government addressing many important issues. Amara is the recipient of the Darwin T. Turner Scholarship and the 2013 McMicken College UC Spirit of Community Award. She has recently interned with NBC in Washington, DC and with former Mayor Mark Mallory.

Velta Kelly-Foster, Associate Director, Career Development Center



She is a member of CDC's management team and currently teaches professional development classes in the College of Engineering and Applied Science. Demonstrating her exemplary commitment in practice for over 30 years, Velta has purposefully engaged diverse staff, student workers and graduate assistants in order to create highly effective work teams, addressing the needs of UC's diverse student population. In 1992, Velta designed and implemented the university's first Managing Diversity in the Workplace Institute. In 2006, she designed and implemented UC's bi-annual Diversity Recruitment Training Symposium (DRTS), formerly the Diversity Recruitment Training Institute. As a 2009 Just Community Award recipient, Velta exhibits sensitivity to students of various cultures during individual career coaching sessions. She helps to prepare students to thrive in a diverse, global workforce through the instructional design of the Professional Development II curriculum.

Sean Rugless, Adjunct Instructor, Lindner College of Business



As President and CEO for the Greater Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky African American Chamber of Commerce, he is responsible for cultivating strategic partnerships for the purpose of strengthening minority businesses and growing the business community as a whole. Sean is an accomplished executive that seeks balance between his passion for strategic business building with his commitment to the community by serving as an adjunct instructor at UC.

UCIT Diversity Committee

In 2012, UCIT answered the call to move to the head of the class—to be a leader in higher education technology. This transformation inspired the formation of internal, staff-led committees to address staff-identified organizational priorities. UC Information Technologies is the university’s centralized IT services provider partnering with students, faculty and staff to deliver innovative and efficient real-world solutions that support the academic and research priorities of the university. They operate as an interdependent organization aligned to partner with our IT colleagues across campus, and with students, faculty and staff to propel UC into its third century with strategic areas of focus on Business Operations, eLearning Technologies, Enterprise Shared Services, and IT Innovations & Partnerships.



2013

***Mackenzie Austin, Student, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences,
Political Science and Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies***

Mackenzie is an outstanding student pursuing a double major. She has shown great awareness for diversity and inclusion and exhibits sensitivity to people of various cultures. Mackenzie represents qualities needed to prepare others to thrive in a diverse, global workforce and has proven herself as an assertive leader and a true diversity ambassador on campus.



Jody Ballah, Assistant Professor, UC Blue Ash, Foreign Languages

Jody has evolved as a champion for diversity and inclusion by providing students the opportunity of local and international service learning experiences, alternative spring break programs and study abroad programs. Students have been exposed to working with diverse populations in a variety of means thereby increasing their awareness of diversity in a global world.



Kimberly McGinnis, Associate Director for Student Engagement, Lindner College of Business



Kimberly brings her passion for diversity to the Business Fellows, First Year Experience and Study Abroad connecting underrepresented students of color to a supportive academic, social and professional environment. In order to prepare all students in the college to thrive in a diverse, global workforce, Kimberly stresses the importance of study abroad and getting involved on campus. Kimberly works tirelessly around diversity and inclusion and is a great role model for students, faculty and staff at the university.

Gen-1 Theme House

Bob Suess



Judy Mause



Christina Black



As the very first living-learning community to focus on first-generation, Pell-eligible students, the Gen-1 Theme House is a groundbreaking diversity initiative for both the University of Cincinnati and the nation. Since its inception in 2008, Gen-1 has served over one hundred students, 80% of whom are students of color. By providing academic, financial, and social support, the program positively influences the success and retention of this historically underserved population. The Gen-1 Theme House also prepares its students for life after college by encouraging them to take advantage of opportunities for networking, career development, and leadership on-campus.

2012

Joel Chanvisanuruk, Director of Academic Success, College of Law

Joel works tirelessly with faculty, staff and students in the College of Law to create a more efficient and comfortable work atmosphere for all persons to enrich relationships and foster inclusion and community. From race and ethnicity to gender, Joel believes that all of these areas are equally important when creating an environment for all to feel comfortable. As chair of the UC Law Diversity Committee, he works individually with law students to help them adapt to law school curriculum, prepare for exams and improve their academic performance in order to achieve their full academic potential as a law student.



Julie Marzec, Student, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences, Political Science



Julie Marzec is the epitome a diversity leader through her extraordinary work in Cincinnati and abroad in Ecuador. As a student with academic excellence and intellectual curiosity, Julie has been successful at applying classroom theory to real life.

Bridgette Peteet, Assistant Professor, McMicken College of Arts & Sciences, Psychology,

Bridgette has played a major role in increasing the awareness of diversity and inclusion in the UC Psychology Department. As Chair of the Diversity Committee, she has successfully planned and executed an annual summer program called Ethnic Minority Enrichment in Research and Graduate Education (E.M.E.R.G.E.). The goal is to provide underrepresented ethnic minorities with outstanding preparation for doctoral level training in Psychology. Her work has created a paradigm shift in the Psychology Department which has allowed for better recruitment and retention of ethnic minority graduate students.



2011

Rachel Berman, Student, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences, Political Science and Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies

Rachel Berman is a phenomenal agent of change and model of the power of strength embodying academic prowess, community engagement, and action to change our community for the better. She is in her third year as a double major. Rachel has done much work to help her peers grow into global citizens and has also done outstanding work to make UC more inclusive around gender and race.

Rebecca Lehman, Program Coordinator, Student Activities & Leadership Development

Rebecca Lehman serves as the Program Coordinator of the Racial Awareness Program. She is a tireless advocate for social justice and through her strong awareness for diversity, works with UC students to educate and inspire them about other cultures and to prepare them to thrive in a diverse, global workforce. She has also been instrumental in the development of a new curriculum for participants and has worked with alumni of the program to maintain their commitment to diversity education and activities.



Hazem Said, Department Head & Associate Professor, College of Engineering & Applied Science

Hazem has truly made an impact at the University of Cincinnati in the recognition and promotion of diversity by engaging the local community and being a lead spokesman on Islam in a post-9/11 world. Through his Center for Information Technology and Community Development (CITCD), the Summer Academy of Information Technology (SAIT) provides outreach to underrepresented high school students, primarily African American, in the form of a two-week immersion program at the university centered on getting these students interested in the STEM field of information technology.



2010

Tad Miller, Student, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences, Communication

As a senior in his program, Tad is currently a RA in the Office of Resident Education and Development and also serves as a Peer Leader in the Racial Awareness Program (RAPP). While serving in these capacities, he has demonstrated an awareness of and commitment to multiculturalism, creating an inclusive and supportive environment for a diverse group of students. Given his facilitation skills in social justice education, he is known as the “go-to-guy” for many residents on campus and members of RAAP, listening with an open mind and helping them find their own solutions to problems, rather than telling them what to do.

Linda Bates Parker, former director, Career Development Center

Linda was dedicated to the field of diversity for many years. She was a pioneer leader of diversity initiatives for the University of Cincinnati. Linda’s effective and inclusive leadership style and her passion and spirit for the field of diversity earned her great respect in a profession where she continued to make remarkable and original contributions. In the community, her leadership of Black Career Women addressed issues of women in the workforce, attracting women both locally and nationally.

Center for Exploratory Studies Advising Team, McMicken College of Arts & Sciences



Top Row Left to Right: Sherry Spokas, Donnie McGovern, John Brolley, Ed Hall, Susan Roth, Yolanda Cooper, Tara Stopfel Warden
Bottom Row Left to Right: Carol Tonge Mack, Doug Kennedy, Barb Bucey, Doe Gavin, Carol Wissman, Renee Rodriguez-Merino

This advising team has set a high priority for reinforcing cultural competence and appreciation for diversity through intensive advisor development, selective hiring and an office culture that actively support and appreciates diversity. As these advisors work with students in individual advising sessions or teaching in the classroom, they are constantly preparing students to thrive in a global workforce.

2009

Darryl Daniels, Assistant Director, College of Engineering & Applied Science

Darryl is known as a strong advocate for students. His primary strength is his ability to form relationships with students from all backgrounds and meet students' needs. Students appreciate Darryl's inspirational character guiding them to achieve their academic goals.

***Theresa Leininger-Miller, Associate Professor, College of Design,
Architecture, Art & Planning***

As the recipient of university-wide awards for advising, service, and diversity, Theresa has been a paragon of leadership, excellence in advising and proactive recruitment effort. She is an exemplary leader who sets high standards for her students, both undergraduate and graduate and provides opportunities for their growth as professionals.

