

ASU Newport

Diversity & Inclusion Newsletter—Spring 2020 Edition Newsletter

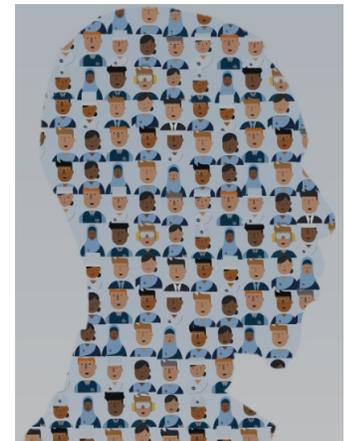
Why Should We Embrace Diversity?

D&I Learning Tools:

- [AACC's Presentation: "Address Unconscious Bias to Create an Inclusive Campus Community"](#)
- [VisionSpring is ASUNs access to a Certified D&I Consulting Firm!](#)
- [Diverse Publication—Issues in Higher Education](#)

If you have ever asked this question about Diversity and Inclusion at ASUN, this article is for you. Advantages of diversity can bring about the following:

1. Differences can be valuable.
2. Getting to know other cultures.
3. Diversity is good for the image of ASUN.
4. It brings a wide array of skills and talent.
5. It limits the risk of lawsuits.
6. It is legally and morally right.
7. The world is changing quickly; ASUN does not want to be left behind.
8. It dispels negative stereotypes and personal biases.
9. It inspires creativity.
10. It drives innovation.
11. It makes ASUN more competitive and profitable.
12. It provides an opportunity for personal growth and development.
13. Diverse teams are more productive.
14. It displays a greater retention rate.
15. It drives community growth.
16. It's the **RIGHT** thing to do.



Local Partnerships

ASU-Newport donated items to Cornerstone Transition Home on Valentine's Day. Click below to visit Cornerstone's website and learn more about this local organization. Thank you to everyone who contributed. We are on the move—making a difference in our communities!



Spring has Sprung!

[Click Here](#)



Anna Westman & Candace Gross participated in the *Finish Line Game* on the Newport campus last Fall.

The Finish Line Game—Coming Your Way

ASUN faculty and staff kicked off participation in the first round of *The Finish Line* game. This game allows us to take a closer look into the everyday experiences of community college students.

The purpose of the activity is to recognize that every student is different and faces unique challenges in their college experiences. Pictured here is the first winner (graduate) of the game,

Candace Gross, who played the role of a student named Bahira. The Finish Line Game will be rolled out to faculty and staff on a regular basis. It was recently held on the Jonesboro campus with standing room only.

This activity could be used as a professional development opportunity for 2020. So don't miss out on a time to closely examine various student scenarios and discuss

ways to better support student needs.

Contact Sheila McNeal if your department would like to participate in this fun and engaging journey into the lives of students.



Inaugural D&I Award—Don't Miss Out!

This year ASUN will be presenting its FIRST D&I award. The recipient must possess the following criteria:

- ◇ Demonstrate & promote D&I core values & behavior.
- ◇ Go over and beyond basic D&I competencies.
- ◇ Working in partnership with multiple teams.

- ◇ Use of innovative approaches.
- ◇ Sustainability—Has made a lasting impact.

If you know of someone to nominate for this prestigious award, please email Sheila McNeal to obtain a copy of the nomination form. The winner will be announced during the annual D&I holiday party this Fall/Winter.



ASU-Newport's Council on Inclusion & Diversity is making a difference!

Extraordinary Conference Room



Have you seen ASU-Newport's new conference room! If not, it's designed with an awesome Diversity and Inclusion theme! It is surrounded by encouraging words such as, integrity, unity, and innovation! This amazing room is located in the dining area, just outside of The Hanger. The Hanger is also another

amazing, new, and innovative place where students can experience a "one-stop-shopping" adventure. The Hanger provides everything from student IDs to financial aid, to paying for classes. If you have not visited The Hanger or seen the new conference room, please do so!

Employee Spotlight—Anna Westman

- Where is your favorite place to be? *My favorite place to be is [Värmland in Sweden](#). It is the place where both of my parents are from and I used to spend all of my summers there as a child and teen.*
- What is your favorite movie? *One of my favorite type of movies is the heist movie, so I enjoy watching the Ocean's movies.*
- Tell us something that might surprise us about you? *When I lived back home (Sweden), I was an avid soccer fan. As a child and teen, I played soccer for the club in the suburb where I lived. After I stopped playing soccer, I continued to show support for my club but I also began to support our city's soccer club, Landskrona BOIS. It was exciting to be a part of the BOIS support club and see the team advance to the highest league.*
- What are three words you'd use to describe yourself? *Supportive, Dedicated, and Honest*
- What is something you've learned in the last month? *I have learned how to keep three kids from "killing each other" while attending Go-To meetings from home. This is why I'm so quiet during Go-To meetings. If I would unmute myself, nobody would be able to hear me over the shouts of distress and mayhem going on in the background.*
- What is the oddest job you've ever had? *In Sweden, most teens do not work. To get a summer job is difficult, so I considered myself very lucky when my dad helped me get a summer job working for the city where we lived. My job was*

to keep the city beautiful by taking care of plants, flowers and do yard work. The city left this job in the hands of a group of teenagers (supervised by professionals) who could barely keep themselves alive, so adding hundreds of plants and flowers to the list was indeed both challenging and odd.

- What chore do you absolutely hate doing? *Ironing clothes, which is why I mostly buy clothes that do not need to be ironed and I have also invested in a steamer.*
- How do you balance your career and your family? *I give my full attention to the task at hand, so when I'm at work, I work. When I am at home, it is family and "me" time.*



Anna Westman
Associate Dean of
General Education



New Hires!

Just a reminder to reach out to our newly hired staff to welcome them to ASUN! We look forward to working with them and getting to know them. Their email addresses are below. Welcome to the ASUN family!



Altonius_Peterson@asun.edu



Anita_Towne@asun.edu



Marcus_Woodson@asun.edu

*“If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude.”
—Maya Angelou*