

**STANDING UP FOR DIVERSITY CURRENT STATUS AND  
FUTURE PLANS - AN OPEN FORUM**

AHEAD 2009

*Members of the AHEAD Diversity Initiative*

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**Session Objectives**

To report back on the status of the objectives  
in the DI strategic plan

To refine and revise the plan according to  
feedback obtained at the session and through  
other means.



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**Introduction to the Diversity Initiative**

*The Diversity Initiative was established as a project of  
AHEAD to address diversity within the Association, our  
profession and within our institutions as a part of  
disability services' on-going work.*

*Focus group sessions were held at the 2008 AHEAD  
conference at which time priorities for future action were  
identified. These reflections helped to shape the  
Diversity Initiatives Strategic Plan, along with input from  
the AHEAD board of directors.*



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**DI Objectives Aligned with AHEAD Objectives**

*Governance and infrastructure*

*Resource development*

*Professional development and services for members*

*Leadership in higher education*



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**DIVERSITY INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES 2008-09**

*Conduct a needs assessment to gather baseline data about different constituent groups with respect to diversity.*

- Focus groups

*Develop recruitment and recognition strategies.*

- Establish an award for recognition for diversity initiatives as part of the annual AHEAD awards.



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**DIVERSITY INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES 2008-09**

*Enhance diversity on the AHEAD website and in marketing and publication materials.*

- Designated website presence
- Listserv
- Produce a diversity publication.

*Communicate the Diversity Strategic Plan and other issues pertinent to diversity in post-secondary education through the AHEAD AGM, business meeting and various communications.*

- Sessions and workshops



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**DIVERSITY INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES 2008-09**

*Educate members on the challenges and barriers unique to students from underrepresented groups (e.g. resource and instruments used for psycho-educational assessment).*

- *Journal special issue proposal*
- *Workshops and brochure*

*Identify disability and diversity training resources that are available within postsecondary education environment. Make such resources available to the membership, students, parents and educators.*

- *Website*



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**DIVERSITY INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES 2008-09**

*Identify and sponsor model transition, internship, and mentorship programs. Publish findings with best practice models.*

- *Research being conducted of NASPA and other intern models*



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**DIVERSITY INITIATIVE FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

*Open Discussion*



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