University of Arkansas Libraries Diversity Committee Meeting – 5/8/2012

Present: Jeff Banks, Mary Gilbertson, Joshua Youngblood, Martha Parker, Luti Salisbury, Matthew Kelly, and Jennifer Rae Hartman

Announcements

- Cedric Kenner has left the University of Arkansas; Brande Flack will be our liaison
- Campus Day—event for 6-8th grade students hosted by Talent Search
  o Jeff Banks, Martha Parker, and Jennifer Rae Hartman volunteered
  o Campus Day used as recruiting tool to encourage diverse / underrepresented students to attend college.
  o Any event where we can work with Campus Day, Upward Bound, etc., gives us an opportunity to build the relationships necessary to partner on projects in the future.
    ▪ Jeff provided as an example his recent visit as a guest speaker to the Race, Class, and Gender (SOCI 3193) class
- Diversity Awards
  o First annual event hosted by the Center for Multicultural and Diversity Education
  o Jeff Banks nominated for staff award
  o Hope to add “Diversity Research Award” to future ceremonies
- Diversity Website
  o Joshua, Mary, and Jennifer Rae will work on this project over the summer
- Human Library
  o The 10th Human Library event was the most successful yet. There were 80 completed appointments, and the Libraries were well-represented as Readers.

Discussion

- Martha Parker
  o Finishing cataloging rotation
  o Will begin work on Diversity LibGuide soon—may seek feedback from Luti Salisbury
  o ALA Diversity Grant submitted—decisions announced at ALA 2012
- Juneteenth
  o Community event on June 9; the theme is African American health
    ▪ Speakers, vendors, entertainment, reading of the Emancipation Proclamation
  o Working with Brande Flack to determine whether there is a role for the Libraries
- Strategic Initiatives
  o 9.1—Recruitment: Jeff is working on this goal
  o 9.2—Identify diversity in rare books collection: Tim Nutt and Joshua Youngblood will work on this
  o 9.3—Diversity in the collection: Mary will pursue clarification on this
- Next Meeting we will review the Diversity Plan
For the Good of the Order

- Joshua is working to host an event for Jennifer Hoyer, assistant professor of German in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, related to her work in Jewish studies
- The “Hope and Despair” photography exhibit which features images of Arkansans from the Great Depression is on display through June
- Jeff and Martha attended the Tim Wise presentations about race and entitlement