Facilitators

BRENDA ALSTON-MILLS serves as Associate Dean and Director for the Office of Diversity and Pluralism at Michigan State University. She lectures and has published on the topic of underrepresented groups and women in science. At NCSU with others, she examined curriculum transformation as it relates to diversity. She holds a Ph.D. in Zoology and is a Professor of Animal Science.

STEVEN HUMES is Regional Coordinator for the Region IV-North Hemophilia Treatment Center Network at UNC-Chapel Hill. He has worked in public health for over 20 years, with experience in HIV prevention at the American Red Cross in Greater New York and at Gay Men’s Health Crisis in New York. He also oversaw educational and research programs during a 10-year stint at the National Hemophilia Foundation in New York. He holds an M.P.H. with a concentration in Community Health Education.

HARVEY LINEBERY, II serves as Associate Dean for Human Resources at the UNC Chapel Hill School of Medicine and has worked for over 10 years as part of a national diversity project. He holds a B.S. in Accounting, an M.B.A. and a Ph.D. in Leadership Studies focusing on diversity as a leadership development tool at the CEO level.

DIONARDO PIZAÑA is the Diversity and Personnel Specialist for Michigan State University Extension (MSUE). He has over 25 years of experience developing, teaching and facilitating diversity education programs. Dionardo’s programs have focused on issues related to diversity, multiculturalism, cultural competence, authentic relationships across differences, and other social justice topics. He holds a B.A. in Sociology and an M.A. in Organizational Leadership.

ROBIN GOFF ROPER worked for over 25 years with NC Cooperative Extension coordinating efforts to increase the organization’s capacity to program with under-resourced audiences. She brings extensive experience in diversity and inclusion to her facilitation. She holds a M.S. and M.A.Ed. and is an ally to and advocate for people of color and those in the LGBTQ community.

BILL SWALLOW is a Professor Emeritus in the NC State University Department of Statistics. He is an ally and advocate for women, people of color, and has provided visible leadership for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) community at NC State. He has an A.B. in Social Relations (a combination of psychology and sociology), an M.S. in Fishery Biology, and a Ph.D. in Biological Statistics.

DIANA WELLS serves as a Human Services Practitioner in the SOM UNC Comprehensive Sickle Cell Program. Her experience also includes over 15 years of providing advocacy services for victims, families and perpetrators in the area of violence and maltreatment. She holds a B.A. and Master’s degree in Social Work, B.S. in Nursing, and a M.P.H in Maternal Child Health.

Opening Doors Workshop

UNC-SOM Sponsored Workshop

Fees:

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While there is no cost to attend, due to required payment of facility fees you must notify us of your cancellation five business days prior to the session start date or your department will be charged a $500.00 cancellation fee.

Registration covers the cost of lodging, meals, training, materials, and use of the meeting facility.

For More Information or to Register Contact

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School of Medicine
Human Resources Office
145 Medical Drive
Campus Box 9520
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-9520
(919) 962-6559

Opening Doors: A Personal and Professional Journey

Sponsored by

UNC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Opening Doors Brochure – Revised April 2016
**What is Opening Doors?**

*Opening Doors* is an overnight three-day retreat that lays the foundation for personal and organizational growth. Through this workshop participants explore a framework that deepens their diversity awareness and enhances their ability to create inclusive organizations. This workshop addresses personal and professional change as part of an understanding differences initiative of multicultural organizational development.

In the Opening Doors workshop participants will:

- Increase understanding of diversity by identifying and learning more about our own identity groups;
- Identify personal feelings and experiences related to cultural and other differences among people;
- Examine how practices of institutions, as well as our own personal practices, maintain inequalities among people and prevent us all from reaching our potential;
- Develop a framework and common language in order to facilitate change collectively;
- Identify practical strategies for implementing and supporting change;
- Build alliances and networks

**Who Can Participate?**

Everyone in the UNC Chapel Hill organization! *Opening Doors* is beneficial to all employees including faculty, para-professionals, team leaders, support personnel, and administrators. Workshop participants represent a dynamic mixture of our organization. This combination of employees adds a dimension of diversity that brings much richness to the process.

**Quotes from Past Participants**

“My ‘lens’ to diversity was wiped off and refocused after my Opening Doors experience. Difficult issues were openly discussed and my awareness of challenges that so many people face became sharper so that I am now able to become an ally to my coworkers. The workshop prompted a core group in our department to form a Diversity Committee and begin a dialogue of acceptance and understanding of behaviors that repelled us in the past.”  
*Joe Stavas, MD, UNC Clinical Professor, Radiology*

“I had a wonderful experience with Opening Doors and I wish everyone could attend the sessions. I learned so much about other cultures, races, and religions. Many things I took for granted as a compliment were interpreted by others as insults. It made me more aware of why many of our misconceptions exist.”  
*Janice Woodard, Projects Director, UNC Thurston Arthritis Research Center*

“For me it was more than diversity, it was seeing the world in a different light. Taking colors away from reaching our potential;”  
*Ophelia Hill, Administrative Assistant, UNC Life Safety Systems*

“Going into Opening Doors, I thought I understood most of the issues. Opening Doors provided an experience that truly deepened not only my intellectual understanding of the many complexities involved, but also deepened my awareness of how I have been affected throughout my life by these issues and events. It was a deeply personal experience that was also a safe haven to share with others on this deeply personal level.”  
*Dede Corvinus, PhD, Research Director, UNC Medicine Administration*

“Despite feeling quite empowered as a white female, I was surprised to find I was in more ‘disenfranchised’ groups than I thought and was pleased to find others who realized they were more empowered than they thought. I was also made aware of generational differences and realized that, although we should never forget the mistakes of the past, the older generation must also learn to let go and not be handicapped by them lest we unintentionally keep our own biases alive.”  
*Patty Strother, Sr. Employee Relations Specialist, UNC Health Care*

“This Opening Doors experience availed me to become aware of the pain that “excluded” groups endure because of other’s greed. Wow, we learned so much and it’s a great experience!”  
*Doris Woods, Division Manager, UNC OB/GYN*

**Retreat Dates**

**Spring Opening Doors**  
March 22 – 24, 2017  
St. Francis Springs Center  
Stoneville, NC

**Summer Opening Doors**  
June 21 – 23, 2017  
St. Francis Springs Center  
Stoneville, NC

**Fall Opening Doors**  
November 8 – 10, 2017  
St. Francis Springs Center  
Stoneville, NC

St. Francis Springs Center is located just north of Greensboro, NC  
www.stfrancissprings.com

**SPACE IS LIMITED – PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!**

**Retreat Schedule**

The Opening Doors Workshop begins at 10 a.m. on Wednesday and concludes at 3 p.m. on Friday. Participants are expected to attend and stay overnight for the full workshop. Please call Dr. Harvey Lineberry at 919-962-6559 if you have any questions about this requirement.