2016 NAFSA Region III & VII HBCU Forum

Building Our Legacy: Expanding Global Engagement at HBCUs
November 6, 2016

1:00 - 1:15  Welcome and Opening Remarks
1:15 - 3:15  Do-It-Yourself (DIY): How to Internationalize Your HBCU Campus
3:15 - 3:30  Coffee Break
3:30 - 5:45  Identity & Culture in the African Diaspora - Navigating Intercultural Dynamics at HBCUs
5:45 - 6:00  Closing Remarks

Workshop Descriptions:

Do It Yourself (DIY): How to Internationalize Your HBCU Campus
Internationalization and global education are major efforts on university campuses. These efforts have benefited the entire campus communities, including increasing overall campus enrollment, diversifying the student body, and expanding study abroad opportunities for students. The expansion of global engagement continues to provide opportunities to expand research programs through collaborations with colleagues nationally and internationally, give faculty new global perspectives to enhance the relevance and knowledge-base of their classroom teaching, and offer professional development opportunities for faculty and staff. Administrators are becoming well aware of the importance of increasing globalization on their respective campus as the organizations that hire graduates are requiring an increasing awareness of the international knowledge of their prospective employees.

This workshop is geared towards campuses interested in developing or enhancing their strategic plan for comprehensive internationalization, with an emphasis on how to identify and engage key stakeholders across campus to implement new initiatives. Participants will explore key components of campus-wide internationalization, including international partnerships, financial resources to support internationalization (e.g. Fulbright IEA Seminar, Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship), collaborating with international colleagues and sponsoring agencies, interdisciplinary efforts (e.g. research and teaching), and non-degree programs (e.g. ESL courses). Participants will have the opportunity to network, share resources with colleagues, and learn from other universities on increasing internationalization on their respective campuses.
Identity and Culture in the African Diaspora – Navigating Intercultural Dynamics at HBCUs

HBCUs have a rich history of educating members of the African Diaspora across continents – often attracting students and scholars of color from around the globe. However, the assumption may be that all faculty, students, and staff at HBCUs identify with being “African American”. Many within the Diaspora may not share this identity, and this dynamic poses unique intercultural issues at HBCUs. How do we engage different concepts of Blackness and the cross-cultural misunderstandings that occur when someone’s idea of Blackness does not fit into the dominant paradigm? As international educators, how do we equip ourselves to facilitate these dialogues within the diverse communities on our campuses?

This session will examine issues surrounding cross-cultural conflict at HBCUs, and provide an overview of cultural and linguistic competency – skills that promote the necessary 21st century strategies needed to expand global engagement at HBCUs. This overview will set the stage and frame the beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors necessary to achieve cultural and linguistic proficiency with others as well as within ourselves. Many practitioners and others in the field believe they are already culturally and linguistically competent because they are people of color, or because they love people, don’t see themselves as racist...etc. The road to the skill sets involved in cultural and linguistic competency begins with a look within. The purpose of this presentation is the first step on that journey. Our time together will be serious, yet fun, and interactive.