

Diversity, Outreach & Civic Engagement Update

(as of March 13, 2008)

A. Committee Considerations and Recommendations

The committee is currently considering several recommendations. We will engage in further discussion regarding the following:

- 1. *A public meeting regarding immigration*** (to include representatives from the Mayor's Office, City Council, and organizations that currently accommodate the concerns of immigrants).
- 2. *The introduction of a legislative proposal regarding "what Pittsburgh can do" to facilitate immigration.***
- 3. *A possible "college plunge" that would focus on placing students in unusual situations and would provide volunteer opportunities.*** (The plunge will focus only on increasing students' level of engagement with the City of Pittsburgh. It will not emphasize career opportunities. Ultimately, the goal is to increase awareness of the city's benefits and issues for the purpose of encouraging permanent residency. Existing organizations can be catalysts for this effort.)
- 4. *A web-based clearinghouse to increase awareness of Pittsburgh's features, events, and things to do.*** (Should be well-publicized; would include a wide range of information - from organizational listings and event calendars to places to live, sports activities, or opportunities to join local boards)

B. Committee's Next Steps

The committee has begun the process of dividing into teams so that we can better focus our efforts. There are now teams focusing on each of our three goals. The teams will collaborate to identify necessary next steps and will submit ideas to the committee and co-chairs for feedback or approval.

Attendees of the last committee meeting broke up into brainstorming groups based on their interests and have already begun to provide suggestions. Co-chairs will contact absent members to assign them to a group and will coordinate any necessary team communications.

C. Upcoming Events/Meetings

Meeting locations will vary according to our needs. However, the following dates have been scheduled:

Wednesday, May 7th (6:30 PM)
Wednesday, July 9th (6:30 PM)
Wednesday, September 10th (6:30 PM)
Wednesday, November 12th (6:30 PM)

Additional meetings and phone conferences will be scheduled as necessary.