Greetings
Welcome to the inaugural issue of the AFSA Newsletter. I would like to thank Stephanie Paredes for her initiative in bringing this newsletter to life. The purpose of the newsletter is to inform and engage the AALANA and broader RIT Community in an ongoing dialogue of issues that contribute to RIT’s journey to being an inclusive institution.

President’s Message
Recently I met Sara Reynolds, founding member and long time Chairwoman of the Ethnic Faculty and Staff Committee of RIT. As we spoke I was reminded of the audacity of hope. Twenty five or the thirty years ago when most of our current students were not yet born and many of the AALANA faculty and staff were not here, Sara and others had the audacity to hope for an RIT where diverse people and ideas could flourish. The founding members knew that if their hopes were to be realized Communication, Advocacy, Service and Engagement (CASE) were the cornerstones for progress. For the next thirty years they were on the “CASE”.

On the eve of 2012 as we survey RIT’s journey to an inclusive institution I see hurt and hope. We are saddened by the unacceptably high number of AALANA students, faculty and staff who fail to achieve success at RIT. We hope to add our voices and efforts to a positive resolution of this institutional shortcoming. At the same time we rededicate ourselves to the improvement of the University we must recognize and celebrate the achievements that hope combined with hard work has produced.

There are record numbers of AALANA students, faculty and staff on campus. RIT has engaged the Rochester Community in many ways, through volunteers, the United Way, over a thousand students currently in K-12 programs, RIT/RCSD scholars program to name a few.

As we look forward let us take a lesson from our elders and be audacious in our hope and efforts to move RIT to that inclusive institution. Let us use the tools of Communication, Advocacy, Service and Engagement to be part of the process and the solution.

All the best
Eulas Boyd
A Night Out...

November 10th -12th
7:30 pm WCTC presents STRAY
We explore the dynamics of professional and personal relationships when those relationships come face to face with the extraordinary circumstances and trauma of one little boy’s journey from Uganda to America.

Spotlight Studio
3 Railroad Street
Fairport, NY 14450
Visit www.workingclasstheatre.net for more info!

November 15th  4:00 pm
Frederick Douglass Institute Marks 25 Years with Garth Fagan lecture and demonstration

Garth Fagan, one of the great reformers of modern dance, will launch the 25th anniversary celebrations of the University of Rochester’s Frederick Douglass Institute for African and African-American Studies on Nov. 15 with a lecture and demonstration in the Spurrier Dance Studio, Room 104 on the University’s River Campus.

20th Minett Professor Announced

Rochester City Court Judge Teresa Johnson has been named the 2011–2012 Minett Professor. Johnson, who has served in the Rochester City Court for more than 20 years.

Established in 1991, Minett appointees are distinguished Rochester-area minority professionals from business, government and non-profit organizations. Appointed by RIT President Bill Destler and Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion Kevin McDonald, Minett Professors share their professional knowledge and experience as adjunct faculty, program leaders coordinators of special projects. Johnson was recently re-elected to a third, 10-year term.

For complete news release please contact Michelle Cometa

AALANA Connects Mentoring Program

We are looking for Faculty & Staff to volunteer for the AALANA Connects Mentoring Program that will be kicked off Winter Quarter.

The goal of the AALANA Connects Mentoring Program is to connect AALANA Faculty, Staff and Students and form networks that will assist students towards their graduation goal. Our hope is that you would provide encouraging, supportive and motivating environment for our students.

This is a very informal relationship and you will schedule times to meet and events to attend on campus throughout Winter & Spring Quarter.

If you are interested please contact Joyelle Proctor 585-475-5227, by Wednesday, November 16th.

The application is attached.
Expressions of King’s Legacy Week 2012

Join us for the annual Expressions of King's Legacy Celebration at RIT with keynote speaker Dr. Cornel West. Other performances by Tony award winning Garth Fagan Dance and award winning poet Joshua Bennett.

January 23, 2012
12pm-2pm
Field House
*Free Event


For more information visit www.rit.edu/diversity or call 585-475-6546.

What Do YOU Have To Say?

The AFSA Newsletter wants your opinions and commentary on politics, the economy, social issues and government.

If you are interested in submitting an article please submit your 100-150 word article.

Your article will be printed as submitted.

Please submit a photo of yourself contact information and article to:

Gwen Gause by Wednesdays at 2pm at gxgcto@rit.edu

Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else.

-- Judy Garland
Mark your calendars for AALANA Faculty/Staff Association meetings. They will be held in the Campus Center, Room 2650 from 12 pm - 1pm.

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"Your mother and I found out you've been blogging. We don't know what that means, but we'd like you to stop."

**Laugh of The Day...**

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."  
-Henry Ford