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# BULLETIN

To the Faculty, Staff and Students of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Adm: Pub: EB

Vol. 25, No. 9  
May 3, 1994

MEMO TO: The University Community

FROM: Nancy Belck *Nancy Belck*

SUBJECT: "A Harmonious, Open, Hospitable Environment . . ."

One of the main values of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville is that a humane, safe and supportive environment is essential to the welfare, growth, and advancement of all members of the University community. The University's Statement on Diversity emphasizes that "Each member of the University bears responsibility for creating a community typified by tolerance and civility, and that welcomes the exchange of differing opinions and ideas."

It is important for all of us to continue to communicate and demonstrate the true spirit and meaning of these values. Now is the time for each of us--you and me--to reflect these statements in our daily work. We can begin to do so through full and open communication.

We have initiated open discussions with students, faculty and staff on Diversity. All issues brought to the attention of administration are being acted upon. In order to advance this agenda, it is important that we begin with a basic acceptance of the meaning of Diversity.

Diversity is respect, understanding and acceptance of differences. The benefits of cultural diversity are many. They include: enhancement of interpersonal communication skills; learning to value others who are not like ourselves; cultivation of friendships and effective working relationships with those of other cultures, races or ethnic background; learning skills for conflict resolution; and becoming better prepared for the increasingly diverse business and education world. In diversity, there is wealth, achievement, domestic tranquility, and hope for peace in the world.

With these concepts, please assist us in a campus healing process. Let's end the school year with respect and harmony, and let us prepare for the next academic year with the full expectation of achieving our goal.

bc: Chrono  
File ✓

NB/SS/lk