Boston College William F. Connell School of Nursing Diversity Advisory Board (DAB) Meeting Notes

Date: April 8, 2009 Time: 12p-2:30p Place: Cushing Hall, Room 411/412

Attendees:

DAB members from outside of Boston College: Linda Battle, Eva Gomez, Rolando Perea, Angelleen Peters-Lewis, Deborah Washington
DAB members from Boston College: Susan Gennaro, Cathy Read, Pat Tabloski, Jean
Weyman, Joyce Pulcini, Allyssa Harris, Donna Cullinan, Angela Amar, Michele Mendes,
Rita Olivieri, Judi Vessey, Vicky Barges, Kelly Montrym, Joana Maynard, Ariana Chao,
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This can be fostered by spending time with persons who have actually experienced health disparities, using strategies such as inviting guests to talk with students and faculty, visiting places where health disparities occur, or utilizing media like photography in class projects on health disparities.

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Nurses of color report negative experiences in the workplace and in the educational setting. Examples included a patient assuming that a nurse was a housekeeper, a faculty member assuming that a student would have difficulty in a class, and a new nurse discerning whether a manager's criticism is related to "differences" or lack of job competence. Students need faculty to serve as role models for dealing with these situations. This can be accomplished by open discussion when situations occur, but there is also the need for proactive strategies such as role-playing and storytelling.

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