

# Minority Affairs Committee Report

Executive Meeting Summary – Jan 20, 2018

*Hyacinthe Yarabe and Charlene Crawley*

## Jan – Dec 2017 Minority Affairs Committee Goals:

- 1) Reestablish membership roster from previous participants and recruit new members.
- 2) Hold at least two meetings during the year 2017
- 3) Request a budget line amount at the January Executive meeting
- 4) Hold at least one large event with budget and description as described below:

**Theme:** NOBCCHE Leadership Summit: Connect, Communicate, Collaborate

**Objective:** To enhance the professional development and preparation for minority STEM students in the Virginia area.

## Budget Request: Total - \$4000 (ACS) + \$600 (Colleen Taylor/Dupont)

**-Support for 2-day ACS/NOBCCHE Summit at VCU on Nov 17-18, 2017** Costs to include Plenary Speaker Travel Expenses; Cost of Venue, meals, printing, and supplies, travel stipend.

– I. Work with ACS Minority Committee to sponsor a NOBCCHE Student Leadership Summit and invite area Schools to start NOBCCHE Chapters with VCU as the central agency: Va State, Va Union, Hampton U, Norfolk State U, UVa, Mary Washington, William & Mary, ODU, JMU, others(?) (invite both chemistry,

- **FINAL ACTUAL BUDGET**– Two Day Event - Darden Fundraiser (Nov 17) and Student Summit (Nov 18)  
– Expenditures - \$8570; Revenue - \$8579; Net - \$9 (Funds from VCU and Pfizer are still in collection.)

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE:**

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- I. **Student Summit Mtg** - The co-chairs (Crawley and Yarabe) held weekly to bi-weekly phone meetings with former NOBCCHE chair, Talitha Hamilton during the Spring in the planning of the summit and bringing in speakers. Meetings were resumed this fall with Alicia Cheeks of NOBCCHE. *One minute spots of this event were advertised on the VCU Calendar, local ACS website, Facebook, and on **Public Radio**, Thurs, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> on **88.9 WCVE FM Radio at 8:41 am** during Morning Edition, as a one-minute featured spot; and on **88.9 WCVE FM Radio at 4:18 pm**, during All Things Considered, rebroadcasted one-minute featured spot). The Darden Fundraiser Event was also taped live (for sound only) by Public Radio for replay at a later date and archival. Planned Fundraiser and Summit Mtg were held at VCU and near vicinity (5<sup>th</sup> Baptist Church) on **Friday, Nov 17-18 with– Dr. Christine Darden** (Hidden Figures) as our Friday fundraiser speaker followed by a Saturday luncheon and workshop with several invited speakers and workshop hosts (View Slideshow of both events and Refer to see bulletin).*
- II. **Organization of NOBCCHE Student Chapter at VCU** – (Crawley) – Held bi-monthly meetings with student leaders at VCU (Josly Louis-Pierre – Student Affiliate ACS President and Jasmen Cheese – President VCU NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers) to develop By-laws for the VCU NOBCCHE chapter. We have already obtained a roster of interested students and are holding an additional information student meeting this evening)  
**Update:** The information student interest meeting was held at 7 pm same day on Friday, Sept 15 and we attracted **15 students** from various departments (i.e. chemistry, engineering, forensic science, and science, including some preHealth majors who were interested in joining the new NOBCCHE chapter. We have completed paperwork and are now recognized as an official VCU



student organization. Two meetings of the student organization were held at VCU ((1) pre-Halloween social with invites to other VCU STEM student organizations as well as the CHEM 101-102 students and (2) End of semester Study Session with Pizza). We still need to attend the NOBCChE national mtg to confer official chapter recognition by this organization as well.

- III. **Faith & Science "Embracing Minority Students in STEM"**: Sanctuaries United in STEM for the Promotion of Under-represented and Economically Disadvantaged in Chemistry and Engineering is a theme that we hope to embrace and continue in the future in various communities to bridge other student and community activities in the education and alignment with STEM issues.
- IV. **(Yarabe Report) Funds donated to Minority Affairs from Pfizer ( Denise Walters):**
  1. Up to \$4,000 received from Pfizer again earlier to send VUU students to attend the National ACS meeting in 2018. Please note that it takes more than 75 days for payments to be made.
  2. \$4,000 received earlier this year that was used to send the VUU students to the ACS meeting in San Francisco this past spring.

## **FUTURE INITIATIVES:**

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1. Refine our mission statement.
2. Increase participation of minority professionals in ACS activities.
3. Brainstorm methods to increase student participation.
4. Begin to plan next year's activities of increasing student NOBCCHE chapters across the state, strengthening student networks, as well as ACS participation in this demographic.
5. Plan another Student Summit at different area and location within our region with plans to make this an annual event. (Considering inviting **Dr. Shirley M. Malcolm**, Head of Education and Human Resources Programs at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to be the keynote speaker for this event with a similar training program, i.e. workshops on Academic Success, Networking, Mentoring, Internships, and Career Planning (Request \$2000 - \$4000 budget)
5. Brainstorm methods of outreach to the Hispanic and other marginalized STEM student communities.