

Miami University Hamilton
Office of Multicultural Services
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Welcome to Miami University Hamilton for the fall 2008 semester. Miami University Hamilton has been working to address the views and concerns of all racial and ethnic minorities attending this institution.

You may have heard that the Campus Dean has challenged faculty and staff to increase recruitment and retention of minority students. The Hamilton Senate Diversity Committee has studied the Miami University Hamilton environment both in and out of the classroom. After careful study and much discussion, the committee updated the Campus Diversity Plan. As part of the action plan, Dr. Hall has appointed me, Jim Jones, Special Assistant to Campus Dean for Diversity Initiatives and Director of Multicultural Services.

What does this mean to you, an ethnic minority student attending Miami University Hamilton? First, this institution has made strides toward increasing the number of minority faculty, staff and students. Secondly, Miami University Hamilton is working to enhance the climate of the institution. This means the university is trying to provide a comfortable and supportive environment. In recent years, under the leadership of the Dean, the number of faculty, staff and students at Miami University has significantly increased. Although we are proud and encouraged by these increases, we want to expand our efforts in the upcoming year. Our efforts to increase minority participation can be grouped into three areas:

- 1) Increased recruitment and outreach activities in the African American and Latino Communities.
- 2) Continued and expanded service to retain minorities presently enrolled at Miami University Hamilton.
- 3) Continued solicitation of the advice and recommendations from Minority students within the college and the community.

As the Special Assistant to the Campus Dean for Diversity Initiatives and Director of Multicultural Services, I will be the key contact person for information, advisement and support for minority students here at the university. I will also act as liaison between the Campus Dean's Office and students. Finally, as a member of the minority community, I realize there is no "one" strategy to deal with all issues that face minority students who are considering or attending college today. That is why I need your help and support as new students; your perspective is vital to any activities this college undertakes. I invite you to share your opinions and suggestions on how to make Miami University Hamilton a better place for all students.

I am personally inviting you to visit the Multicultural Center in 114 Rentschler Hall. I am looking forward to working with you to make Miami University Hamilton a great place for all students to attend.

