

# Appreciating diversity





# Your Turn

If you broadly define the term *diversity* as differences in race, gender, ethnicity, religion, political preference, and the like, how diverse would you describe this college as being?



# Understanding Diversity and the Source of our Beliefs

- **Diversity:** variations in social and cultural identities among people living together
- **Multiculturalism:** the active process of acknowledging and respecting the diverse social groups, cultures, religions, races, ethnicities, attitudes, and opinions within a community



# Your Turn

Write about any specific lessons you learned in your family about the expectations you should have of diverse groups.

# Forms of Diversity

- Ethnicity, culture, race, and religion
- Age
- Learning and physical abilities
- Gender
- Sexual orientation

# Your Turn

Can you remember any time in your life when you gave up a dream because you thought it was “inappropriate” for someone of your gender? Can you remember a time when you assumed you wouldn’t be good at an activity, a sport, or a course because of your gender? What advice could you give to other students about not letting their gender narrow their range of life options?

# Seeking Diversity on Campus

- The curriculum
- Student-run organizations
- Fraternities and sororities
- Career/major groups
- Political/activist organizations
- Special-interest groups

# Discrimination, Prejudice, and Insensitivity on College Campuses

- Raising awareness
  - Campus resources and centers providing acknowledgment of and support to the diverse student population
  - Establishment of policies against any and all forms of discriminatory actions, racism, and insensitivity
- What you can do to fight hate on campus
  - Will you do something about it, or do you think it is someone else's problem?
  - Work with existing campus services





# Your Turn

Have you ever witnessed or been a victim of harassment because of your gender, race, regional identity, religion, or ethnic group? What can colleges and universities do to reduce the incidence of harassment?

# Challenge Yourself to Experience Diversity

- Diversity enriches us all
  - Become more culturally aware and more open to differing viewpoints
- Challenge yourself to learn about various groups in and around your community
  - Gives you an opportunity to develop skills to function in a variety of settings
  - Can also be gratifying
  - Helps you become a more educated person

# Tech Tip: The Case For Volunteering

Volunteering to build your resume, explore career options, and broaden your horizons

- You'll get to go to interesting places and do important work
- You'll learn to appreciate diversity
- You might get to travel internationally
- You'll gain valuable experience that could help you in your career
- Will help you become a happier, more fascinating, and less self-absorbed person