



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY *at* NEW ORLEANS
COMMUNITY OUTREACH/UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT
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Allen-Jones recognized by Head Start for teacher training
September 9, 2010



Dr. Glenda Allen-Jones, Chair of Early Childhood Education, was presented with a plaque of appreciation from Total Community Action, Inc. Head Start Program in recognition of Leadership in the 2010 Pre-Service Training Conference. Dr. Allen-Jones conducted five trainings of over 100 Head Start teachers, assistant teachers and paraprofessionals on August 24th and 25th.

Dr. Allen-Jones says that her Informed Conversation: Engaging Young Children in Higher Order Thinking and Questioning trainings were favorably received, and she remains impressed by the level of dedication and commitment to excellence the Head Start faculty demonstrates in teaching young children.

“It is my pleasure to be of service to the teachers who are of service to young children. These children are the future of our city, state and nation,” says Dr. Allen-Jones.

Q&A with Dr. Glenda Allen-Jones
May 24, 2010

Dr. Glenda Allen-Jones proudly represented SUNO as a member of Mayor Mitch Landrieu's Youth and Families Transition New Orleans Task Force. SUNO Public Relations spent time with Dr. Allen-Jones to ask her about her experience with the hand-picked group.

SUNO PR (PR): How were you selected to be a member of the task force?

ALLEN-JONES (A-J): Chancellor Victor Ukpolo sent a request to all SUNO faculty members via Vice-Chancellor Gloria Moultrie. The request asked interested faculty to submit their names for consideration for appointment to one of seventeen Transition Task Forces. The task force assisted Mayor Landrieu and his administration in developing policy recommendations. The names were given to a representative of the Transition New Orleans Task Force.

The Transition Task Forces were composed of citizens and experts committed to sharing their expertise and providing input to address issues in New Orleans.

Due to the research I conduct on family and male involvement in education, my former experience as a Commissioner on Human Relations and my passion for working with youth and families, I submitted my name for the Transition Task Force for Youth and Families.

PR: What was the mission of the task force?

A-J: The Youth and Families Task Force was tasked to recommend ways for the incoming administration to engage our city's youth and families to promote equity, expand opportunities, and develop healthy families and communities.

- Identify ways to improve and maintain the health and wellness of families.
- Recommend ways to work with the New Orleans Police Department and other agencies to ensure a safe environment for our families.
- Recommend ways the administration can facilitate and improve youth development in New Orleans.

- Identify and propose models to expand opportunities for youth to learn and work.
- Identify best practices to increase municipal support for family and caregivers.
- Recommend ways to develop infrastructure and expand access to existing resources for youth and families.*

PR: What does it mean to you, as a SUNO faculty member, to have been a member of the task force?

A-J: The experience of working as a task force member was transformative for my professional practice. One of my goals is to provide information germane to the community where I live and teach. Working as a task force member provided me firsthand knowledge I am using with my students concerning matters of importance in New Orleans.

I have always discussed with my students the importance of being advocates within the education profession, their community and our overall global community. Advocacy is essential to all aspects of our daily living because the inclusion of diverse voices and perspectives on issues provides the greatest clarity. I consider service an important aspect of my professional and personal life. It is a way for me to give back what has been shared with me throughout my life. In addition, I am able to advise my students on the benefits of services using my experiences.

PR: What, in your opinion, was the most significant discussion took place throughout your meetings?

A-J: All of the discussions took place during the meetings were focused on ways to engage families and youth improve their lives and address issues of access to quality services. I felt all of the discussions, brain storming session and independent study opportunities were significant in providing the best and most accurate report to Mayor Mitch Landrieu.

PR: Where do you hope the Landrieu administration goes with the Task Force's recommendations?

A-J: The task force was instructed to make recommendation in the following three categories:

- Identify the biggest opportunities/challenges for New Orleans should be acted on in the first 100 days;
- Identify the mid to long term policy priorities the administration should consider in the first 6 months and beyond;
- Recommend how to measure success in order for the City to track progress going forward. **

It is my hope the Landrieu administration with time, resources and continued support from citizens will implement the policy recommendations most appropriate.

* Youth and Families: Transition New Orleans Task Force. Presented to Mayor (elect) Mitch Landrieu, City of New Orleans. April 2010. Co-Chairs: Calvin Mackie and Gina Warner.

** Ibid.



***Johnson's art on display at the New Orleans Museum of Art
May 7, 2010***

Charlie T. Johnson's art exhibit "Beyond the Blues Exhibit: Reflections of African America" is on display at the New Orleans Museum of Art until July 11, 2010. The exhibit is part of the Fine Arts Collection of the Amistad Research Center. Mr. Johnson holds a degree in Art Education from Southern University at New Orleans.