

How clear is your lens?

A discussion about diversity and strategies for inclusion
both in and beyond the classroom

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Educating students to shape their lives, their
professions, and their societies.



Our Agenda

- Introductions & Background
- Purpose & Scope
- The Bee Sting
- Your opinion regarding inclusion by:
 - GVSU & Grand Rapids community
 - Student classroom environment
 - Student preparation for the workplace
- Rules for the road
- Concluding thoughts



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Introductions & Background

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Purpose & Scope

This workshop initiates a conversation regarding:

1. Ways of creating an inclusive instructional environment for:
 - Faculty and staff, and
 - Students
2. Techniques for helping students enhance their skills in creating an inclusive workplace upon graduation.



The Bee Sting

Source: Demetri Martin (2011)
“Important Things with Demetri Martin”,
Deltaskymag.com, June 2011, page 176

Are there any things in this story that
someone might find objectionable?





The Bee Sting (Con't)

Our world view is shaped by who we are & our journey

“Multiple sides to any story, yours, yours, yours, mine & the truth”

This applies to us as well as our students

So..... the richness is in the diversity



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TASK 1:

Write 3 things that would make you as new faculty feel more a part of the GVSU and Grand Rapids community.



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TASK 2:

Write 3 things that you think would make our students feel more included in the GVSU learning community



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TASK 3:

Write 3 things that you think would prepare our students for being able to practice inclusion in the workplace.



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Rules for the Road

- We are all entitled to our opinion
- We will all have an opportunity to share our opinion
- The only silly or foolish idea is the one that is not shared
- No single person is as great as all of us combined
- We will treat each other as we would like to be treated
 - We will respect the opinions of our colleagues
 - Personal attacks are not acceptable

(Source: Scantlebury, M. (2008) "Rules for the Road (RFTR): Establishing a Positive Atmosphere for Learning", Journal of Teaching in Travel & Tourism, Vol. 8(4) pps 395 to 400)



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Concluding Thoughts

- Resources available:
 - Faculty Teaching and Learning Center
<http://www.gvsu.edu/ftlc/>
 - Diversity in the classroom
<http://www.gvsu.edu/ftlc/diversity-in-the-classroom-12.htm>
 - Intercultural Competency and Experience
<http://www.gvsu.edu/ice/>
 - Inclusion and Equity Division
<http://www.gvsu.edu/inclusion/>
 - Disability Support Services
<http://www.gvsu.edu/dss/>



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