



The Perspective

The Black Advisory Committee



Ms. Vicki J. Brooks
Black Advisory Committee Chair

Dr. Sanford C. Shugart
College President
Human

Dr. Stanley H. Stone
Vice-President for

Resources & Diversity

Greetings from the Chair

Vicki Jones Brooks

When commissioning this compilation, it was my personal objective to chronicle the major and significant contributions of the Black Advisory Committee of Valencia Community College for the past two years. As we recounted the many programs and services we have provided to the students and staff of the College, I found it difficult to narrow the scope of this Perspective. Would it have been possible to record and highlight all of our accomplishments, this publication would be years in the press. How to underscore the focal points of our objectives and achievements remained a daunting effort. But I believe that we have drawn your attention to the best of the best accomplishments that the Committee has made these past two years. So, I remain in awe of what we have done as well as the dedication and commitment of our Committee members. This is certainly represented on each page of this Perspective.

A debt of gratitude is owed to Dr. Sandy Shugart and the Valencia Community College students, faculty, and staff who have allowed us to partner in making educational dreams come true. Over the years, our collective suggestions and recommendations have not fallen on deaf ears but have become fruitful and, in many instances, long-standing. It is my sincere desire that others will read what we've accomplished and want to become a part of this formidable committee. It is also my desire that we rest not on the laurels highlighted herein but that we seek to reach higher, dream larger, and serve all the more.



The Perspective Overview Dr. Stanley H. Stone

Valencia's enduring partnership with the Black community has been successful and, in large measure, attributable to the fortitude of the Black Advisory Committee members. This partnership spans over three decades, and several members of the founding Committee still serve today in varied ways. Notably, the Committee has sponsored scholarship drives and events that raised thousands of dollars for our students, participated on various taskforces, and sought to increase the number of minority suppliers to conduct business with the College.

This Perspective features the Committee's work from 2003 to the present in five main areas: the Flagship Program — The Incentive Awards Program; African American Student Scholarships; Community Involvement and Minority Business Development; and Achieve the Dream. We begin with a listing of current committee members and the historical perspective entailing the Committee's past accomplishments, goals, and objectives. Next, the accomplishments, as listed in the areas above, are then presented. Finally, we take a look at where the journey will take us next—toward the future — Our Outlook. The Achieve the Dream Initiative, as funded by the Lumina Foundation, provided an opportunity for the Black Advisory Committee to expand its role with the College and collaborate further with the Alumni Association and other community and advisory support groups from the district. The success we enjoyed has been, in large measure, due to the Black Advisory's leadership in this area.

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve as the official liaison between the College and the Black Advisory Committee for the past three years. Under the leadership of Vicki J. Brooks, the Committee has persevered and proven to be the catalyst for change and the voice for many students whose stories are yet untold. As the Vice President for Human Resources & Diversity, I wish you well on your journey and congratulate each member of the Black Advisory Committee for your sincere dedication.

Membership**2005—2006 Academic Year****Community Members**

Jacqueline Barr

Deloris Batson

Vernard Batson

Gerald Bell

Vicki Brooks

Leona Burns

Brian Butler

Joe Caldwell

Marion Campbell

Marva Carter

Steve Currie, III

Val Demings

Kevin Gaston

Chester Glover

Arthur Jarvis

Eula Jenkins*

George Jordan

Reginald McGill

Ethel Rawls

Gaye Simpkins

Belinda Watkins

Margie Wells

Valencia Community College Representatives

Ed Ames

Dr. Michael Bosley

Vertrilla Hunt

Ty Johnson

Deborah McCoy

Pedro Rivera

Barbara Shell

Dr. Sanford Shugart

Dr. Stanley Stone

John Stover

Dr. Falecia Williams

Dr. Martha Williams

*Emeritus

*Member Emeritus



Historical Highlights

Established in 1970

Initiated Incentive Awards Program in 1976

Purchased dental kits for African American students in the Dental Hygiene Program

Sponsored the African American Heritage Scholarship Banquet

Notable Speakers were:

◇Lerone Bennett, Ebony Magazine

◇George Frazier, Author

◇Gwendolyn Brooks, Poet/Author

◇Glenda Hood, Mayor

◇Bernie Casey, Actor

◇Merlie Evers Williams, NAACP

◇Allen Page, State Supreme Court Justice

Established the African American Heritage Scholarship, an endowment managed by the Valencia Community College Foundation

Hosted a reception honoring African American Administrators, Faculty, and Staff of Valencia Community College

Flagship Program - The Incentive Awards Program

- The Incentive Awards Program has been the signature event for the Black Advisory Committee. The award amounts have doubled from \$150 to \$300 for the past two years.
- Ten recipients are selected annually. Students are nominated by faculty and staff. The award is not based on need.
- Increased the monetary contribution of each committee member for the Incentive Awards Program.
- Formed a sub-committee partnering with the Foundation to raise a minimum of \$3,000 for the Incentive Awards Program
- Attendance at the Incentive Awards Program increased 38 percent by hosting event in the evening hours and inviting well-known, motivational, keynote speakers.

African American Heritage Scholarship Program

- Established and supports the African American Scholarship Program to provide additional assistance to African American students seeking to attend college
- Hosts galas to underwrite the scholarship awards.
- Partnered with the Valencia Foundation to establish an endowed fund to manage the scholarship.
- The amounts vary based upon the funding balances of the endowment. However, 50 students have been awarded this scholarship over the past five years.
- The overwhelming majority of our scholarship recipients have graduated from Valencia Community College. Our plans are to expand the number of recipients and to provide more support once they have graduated from Valencia Community College.
- In addition to community support, Valencia Faculty, Staff, and Administrators contribute annually to this endowment.



Community Involvement & Minority Business Development

- Co-hosted Brown v. Board of Education Panel Discussion in May 2004
 - Hosted its first Job Fair in November 2004.
 - Supports activities and projects to increase the number of minority staff and students.
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- Co-sponsored Juneteenth Celebration—"An Evening With Zora" at the Wells' Built Museum in June 2005.
 - Represents the College at various functions, such as: The RAFMAN Banquet and Program; Festival of Trees; West Orange County Chamber of Commerce Black History Dinner; NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet; The Boy Scouts of America; YMCA Black Achievers' Awards Gala; Orange County Black History Month Celebration; Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy Prayer Breakfast; Zora Neale Hurston Festival; and the United Negro College Fund.
 - Supports Valencia's outreach services and programs in the public schools to encourage minorities to enroll in college.
 - Serves as a community liaison for minority business development and receives quarterly reports on minority vendor awards.
 - Increased dollars spent with minority suppliers from \$1.8 million in April 2003 to \$3.1 million in November 2004.

Achieve the Dream Initiative

- Supports College's efforts to improve the performance of minority students via a grant from the Lumina Foundation, entitled Achieve the Dream.
- Hosted a community focus group in March 2005.
- Co-sponsored a planning retreat for Achieve the Dream—Community Conversations event in December 2005.
- Co-sponsored the Community Conversations event with Public Agenda in April 2006. More than 200 people attended this event.
- Served as moderators and recorders for the Community Conversations event.

**Our Outlook: Goals & Objectives
2005 - 2006**

- Increase Membership
- Increase Incentive Award Amount
- Establish a Task-force for the Achieve the Dream Project
- Host Two Community Activities Annually
- Host an Annual Retreat
- Conduct a Minority Business Development Workshop
- Co-sponsor the Juneteenth Celebration
- Create and Maintain a Website
- Publish a Brochure



To Help Brighten the Lives of our Students, Please Make Contributions to:

Black Advisory Committee/Valencia Foundation

Valencia Community College

Post Office Box 3028

Orlando, Florida 32802

The Perspective

Vicki Brooks - Chair
Marva Carter - Vice Chair
Chester Glover - Secretary
Margie Wells - Assistant Secretary
Deborah McCoy - Liaison

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