



# New Deans' Seminar

## 2017

# Today Presenters

- Theresa Lee, Director *University of Tennessee, TN*
- Kevin Corcoran *Oakland University, MI*
- Elizabeth Kavran *Ursaline College, OH*

# CCAS Deans Seminar 2017



# Nashville, Tennessee

## 10-12 July 2017

- 44 Participants
- CCAS New Deans' Seminars
  - began in 1988
  - at William and Mary
- Purposes:
  - Sharing best practices
  - Networking

## Three days of presentations and discussions on such topics as:

- Leadership
- Development Activities
- The Roles of Associate and Assistant Deans
- Legal Issues for Deans
- What Presidents and Provosts Expect from Deans
- Thought-provoking Case Studies

# Today We Highlight Four Sessions from the Seminar

- Getting Started as Dean  
Elizabeth Kavran, *Ursaline College*
- Making Good Decisions *or* Avoiding Unexamined Bias  
Theresa Lee, *University of Tennessee*
- Getting Excited About Planning & Resource Management  
Kevin Corcoran, *Oakland University*
- Conflict and/or Faculty Issues  
Theresa Lee, *University of Tennessee*

# Getting Started as Dean

Elizabeth Kavran

*Ursaline College*

# Starting off right

## 1. Building trust

- positive first steps with chairs and team

## 2. Establish your team

- Evaluate & understand organizational structure and responsibilities
- Value in team retreat
- Incorporate faculty



# Expand your team

## 3. Be seen

- Get out and walk around
- get to know faculty

## 4. Listen and Learn – Get to Know the University

- Other College Deans
- Advancement Office, HR, General Counsel, Alumnae, Provost, CFO, Diversity Officer, Student Affairs, IT

# Manage changes

5. Walk into conflict, don't avoid it

- Create positive effect & avoid costly mistakes

6. Diplomat, Dove and Dragon

# Making Good Decisions *or* Avoiding Unexamined Bias

Theresa Lee

*University of Tennessee*

# Definitions of Diversity

- Everything that makes people different from each other
- Just race and gender (minority group status)
- Cultural variations within our institutions
- **Those differences that carry social and historical significance in the modern world**



Source: 2009 LEAD presentation by Kecia M. Thomas, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Sr. Advisor to the Dean of the Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, University of Georgia

# Why Diversity is Important

- Diverse groups ...
  - more careful processing information
  - outperform more homogenous ones
- Mere presence of diversity changes decisions, conversations, interactions, etc.
- More homogenous groups feel more confident about performance (but not actually more successful)
- Social justice and need to overcome structural and individual bias (social and historical significance)

Even the most well-intentioned person  
unwillingly allows **unconscious**  
**thoughts** & feelings to **influence**  
apparently objective **decisions**.

*Mahzarin Banaji, Professor of Psychology, Harvard*

# Bias is Not What Most People Think It Is

- **Common Perception**
  - Conscious
  - Intended
  - Explicit
- **Research Indicates**
  - Unconscious
  - Unintended
  - Implicit



Implicit Association Test ([implicit.harvard.edu](http://implicit.harvard.edu))

# Micro-inequities: Bias in Action

- **Micro-aggressions**

- Interruptions
- Talked over
- Translations
- Called the wrong name or have your name repeatedly mis-pronounced
- Excluded by others
- Ideas discounted





# Implicit Bias Undermining Diversity in Academe

## For the targets

- Vigilant, suspicious
- Stereotype threat
- Lack of belonging
- Taxes mental resources
- Health consequences

## By the perpetrators

- Lowered expectations
- Uneven evaluations
- Differential letters
- Limited and narrow views of excellence
- Exclusion

# Research on Unexamined Bias

## Job Callbacks

(Bertrand & Mullainathan, 2004)

- White vs. Black names, 2 skill levels each
- Whites: 50% more callbacks
- Highly skilled and avg. blacks virtually same number callbacks
- Avg. skilled whites **more** callbacks than highly skilled blacks

## Academic CV evaluation

(Steinpreis et al., 1999)

- Same CV, different name
- Male applicant rated better in all categories, more likely hired
- Pattern holds for both men and women reviewers

## Teaching Evaluations

(Russ et al., 2002)

- Guest male lecturer for 8 sections of a comm. course. Partner (Jennifer/Jason) referenced.
- “straight” instructor received 22% more positive comments
- “straight” instructor received 81% fewer negative comments

## Academic Rec. Letters

(Madera et al., 2009)

- 624 recommendation letters for psych. faculty candidates
- Women: communal descriptors; Men: agentic descriptors
- Communal characteristics negatively correlated with hiring decisions

## Lab Manager Appl' n

(Moss-Rascusin et al., 2012)

- Same CV, different name - reviewed by science faculty at R1s
- Males rated significantly more competent and hireable
- Higher starting salary and more career mentoring offered to males
- Pattern holds for both male and female reviewers

# Getting Excited About Planning & Resource Management

Kevin Corcoran

*Oakland University*

# #1: Planning & Resource Management Are Intrinsically Interconnected

- Resources are rarely plentiful
- Opportunity for shared governance
- Holds units accountable



# #2: Know Your Budget and Processes

- How is your budget determined? Model?
- Processes and rules at all levels
- Who is accountable? For what?
- Role of chairs?



# #3: You Can't Manage a Budget Without Securing Resources

- Relationships, Relationships
- Planning & Data essential
- Getting creative



# Conflict and/or Faculty Issues

Theresa Lee

*University of Tennessee*

# Keys to Working With Faculty

- Know your institutional context & types of faculty
- Set priorities and procedures with department heads for recruitment
- Priorities and procedures for faculty development, retention and retirement
- Dealing with faculty who have problems
- Working effectively with faculty



# Institutional Context

- Union/Non-union
- Public/Private
- National/Regional
- Large/Small
- Residential/Commuter
- Role of research, online instruction, specific missions

# Types of Faculty

- Spectrum
  - Tenure Track, Non-TT Lecturers/Instructors, Clinical, Full/Part-time,
  - What is your mix? What is the right mix?
- Promoting faculty *esprit de corps* across all faculty
- Setting workload and promotion expectations for each group

# Faculty Recruitment

- Setting hiring priorities based on strategic plans and budget
- Procedures for search committees
- Promoting diversity and gender equity
- Procedures for developing offers – salary, start-up, moving, other costs

# Faculty Development

- Mentoring at various career stages
- Evaluation at various career stages
- Retention at various career stages
- Retirement

# Problems with Individual Faculty Members

- Grievances brought against faculty or by faculty
- Improper conduct, history of poor annual reviews
- Termination
- Get to know your lead HR officer, your Title IX officer, Campus lawyer you will work with

# Working Effectively with Faculty

- Know about important faculty committees and their leadership
  - Ex. Faculty Senate, Curriculum committee
- Understand institutional governance issues that arise from the institutional context
- Choose Chairs/Heads and Program Directors carefully. They will be your front line with the faculty

# New Deans' Seminar, 2018

- If you are interested in attending next summer, please leave your business card and we will contact you when it is time to register.
- Enjoy the rest of the meeting in Denver!