

President's Diversity Council
October 11, 2022
PSU 400

Attendees:

Dr. Dee Siscoe	President Smart	Anthony Lakin
Dr. Rabekah Stewart	Madyson Garoutte	Armani Eason
Devin Schehrer	Yoti Lambe	Kelsey Major
Jadyn Lewis	Nakaja Weaver	Dr. Ryan Reed
Logan Chastain	Odyssey Gigante	Nicholas Horne
William Staeger	Colin Weber	Stefani Hall
Mikayla Buneta	Ethan Scott	Peggy Jones
Kylie Robertson	Chrissy Nguyen	Faith Giedd
Kailey Casebolt	Katie Chandler	Cecy Zubia
Jada Eggleston	Dr. Nina Barudzcic	Dr. April Phillips
Cynthia Jimenez	Shy Wells	Dr. Algerian Hart
Brooke Johnson	Riley Wells	Adja Jones
Juanita Fiddmont	Olivia Grandberry	Christella Payne

Dr. Stewart opened the meeting at 3:30 p.m. in the PSU Union Club with a welcome and introductions of panelists Pastor Tracey Wolff, Duan Gavel, and Tony Gunn.

Pastor Tracey Wolf Tracey serves as the pastor of Pitts Chapel in Springfield and leads the UMC Field College Ministry, serves as the co-chair for the NAACP Religious Affairs Committee, and the NAACP Economic Justice Task Force. She played for MSU's basketball team in the 80's and served two years as a graduate coaching assistant for the Lady Bears. She attended MSU in 1989 as an undergraduate and went on to complete a graduate degree.

Duan Gavel is the Co-Founder of *All Things Diverse SGF LLS* -a one-stop shop for all things diverse in the area. He serves on the MSU Black Alumni Council. He is a second gen bear and attended MSU in 2007 and again in 2021 earning two degrees: bachelor's in physics and another in Information Technology – Software Development

Tony Gunn has three Bachelors of Science degrees from MSU: Computer Information Systems, IT-Infrastructure, and Business Analysis. He is a novelist with 11 books under his belt, and is the founder of *Not a Statistic Enterprises*, and *Project You Belong*. He has attended the President's Diversity Council from its inception.

The panelist answered questions regarding navigating campus and Springfield.

Take aways included:

- Be intentionally connected to the black community.
 - Investigate the community. Seek out others and explore the area (i.e., the African History Trail or community events)
 - Plug into social media for campus and community events.
 - Find a mentor
 - Talk and learn about differences within and outside your race

- Download the app *All things diverse*- it includes more than 350 business and related resources.
 - Join a club or organization. MSU has more than 350 clubs registered
- Network with peers to share and study with those who do not look like you.
- Seek internships, networking, and job shadowing opportunities.
 - Career Center (HandShake)
 - Church
 - Chance encounters
- If you are feeling isolated, try attending a church or civic organization.

Dr. Stewart wrapped up the meeting by asking people to share upcoming events and items of interest. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Submitted by: Peggy Jones