

NEWS

University appoints Bundy first Equity and Diversity Officer

By JEN PILC
Aquinas Correspondent

Recent statistics show that 85% of The University's student body report their ethnicity as being either Caucasian or Eastern European.

University officials have realized the need for more campus-wide diversity and have recently hired Rosemary Gray Bundy, Ed.D., as Equity and Diversity Officer, a position created by the University this year.

Bundy will be "responsible for the overall development and implementation of the University's Affirmative Action plan and a comprehensive program involving faculty, staff and students," according to a University press release.

Bundy has had much experience with inter relations, multi-cultural affairs and student development.

Bundy has many plans for this coming year, some of which include presentations, demonstrations, counseling and support services.

She believes that through a program of "careful listening, talking, and most importantly, communication between students," we may begin to think

differently about other cultures and become exposed to new customs, traditions and ways of thinking quite different from our own.

Although there are not many minorities presently attending The University, most students say that it is not a problem.

Michelle Gilchrist, a freshman from Bergen County, N.J., stated, "Although the majority of

'[Scranton] is a very warm campus with students...interested in diversity.'

Rosemary Gray Bundy
Equity and Diversity Officer

Scranton students are Caucasian, there are also a variety of other nationalities.

"Actually, I really never noticed it [the lack of diversity] until it was brought to my attention," she added. "The reason I chose this school was not because of its ethnic makeup, it was the academic reputation."

While many students don't

criticize The University's lack of diversity, some argue that the "mirror syndrome" is hard not to notice.

Denise Kubovic, a freshman from Long Island, N.Y., said, "I had visited The University three times before Orientation, but it wasn't until then did I notice the overabundance of Caucasian students.

"Coming from a school district that is almost 100% white, I was somewhat disappointed to see that I would be coming to a school with the same low percentage of minority students.

"It really does not give me the opportunity to meet and interact with people from different backgrounds," she added.

Although Bundy states that a lack of diversity can cause "perception problems" among members of a campus community, she believes that with "support and service, the issue [of overcoming The University's lack of diversity] is not insurmountable."

Bundy, who has been enjoying her stay in Scranton, remains positive about the future. She believes that this is "a very warm campus with students who seem quite interested in diversity."

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Security Log

September 6-12

Sept. 9 - University Public Safety was notified that a small black and white kitten picked up in the Hill Section has tested positive for rabies.

Sept. 10 - There have been several reports of indecent exposure incidents that have occurred off-campus. The Scranton Police Department is investigating.

Sept. 12 - City of Scranton police notified the Office of Public Safety that a woman student at The University, who requested confidentiality and respect for her personal privacy, reported a rape in Redington Hall by an unidentified attacker.

Sept. 10-12 - Several students were cited by Scranton Police for liquor law and disorderly conduct violations.

Fire Alarms - Public Safety personnel responded to two (2) fire alarms at University buildings.

Escorts - Seventy-nine (79) members of The University community were escorted by Public Safety personnel.

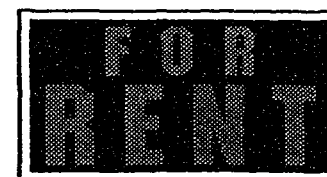


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