

**Old Mission Statement**

*"The ESC is a safe and supportive environment for historically underrepresented groups and allies while providing cultural and educational programs. "*

**Proposed Mission Statement (What we do)**

*The ESC is a community that supports historically underrepresented ethnic students and allies by providing a social atmosphere and inclusive environment where we engage in identity exploration and strive for cultural awareness and academic excellence.*

**Vision Statement (future vision of the ESC)**

*Cultural Awareness  
Identity Exploration  
Academic Excellence*

**Theoretical Foundation of the ESC**

*Affirming Identity  
Building Community  
Cultivating Leadership*

**From "The ABC Approach To Creating Climates of Engagement on Diverse Campuses" By Beverly Daniel Tatum**

## Chronological overview of Ethnic Student Center Mission Statement

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Review of ESC mission statement; identified cultural and educational as core values and statement continues to be focused. No changes. August 30, 2007 ESC Admin. Planning Retreat; Renée Collins, Michael Vendiola, Janna Cecka, and Ted Pratt.

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Current Mission Statement:

*The Ethnic Student Center strives to provide a safe and supportive environment for historically underrepresented ethnic groups and allies while providing cultural and educational programs.*

Revised October 25, 2001

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ETHNIC STUDENT CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE minutes

November 2, 2000 5:05 p.m., VU109

VI. Revision of Mission Statement

A committee will be forming to update the Mission Statement especially since we are celebrating our 10th Anniversary this year. The Mission Statement is in a 3-tier format consisting of: 1) our role, 2) our purpose, and 3) our goal. The four students on the committee are: Shilpi Mathur, Andrew Rogge, Quoc Nguyen, and Kay Keovongphet.

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ETHNIC STUDENT CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE minutes

October 8, 2000 3:30pm, Lakewood facility

I. ESC Mission Statement

A revision of the current ESC mission statement is needed as it is grammatically incorrect; and, as we reflect on the past ten years of the ESC's existence, we need to take a look to see if our mission is the same as originally designed. Michael handed out a sample mission statement, of the "Working Drummer:"

- Our role: To keep consistent time in a way that makes the music feel good
- Our purpose: To support and serve the music and lay down the red carpet of groove for others.
- Our goal: To achieve the above in the most relaxed and musical manner possible with complete confidence. This is done through a regimented and consistent plan of practice and performance, as well as regular critique and evaluation. It is achieved by specific design, not by accident.

The "working drummer" format would make a really strong statement, letting everyone know what the ESC is all about, effective. Helen pointed out that the "role" is what we are doing and "purpose" is why we are doing it, with the "goal" being future achievement. The revision will be a collective process- bring ideas for role/purpose/goal to the next steering

committee meeting.

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ETHNIC STUDENT CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE minutes

February 6, 1995 4:00 PM

#### X. REVIEW OF MISSION STATEMENT/BECOMING AN ESC CLUB

Joanne asked that the SC review the 1991 ESC Mission Statement (copies distributed) due to the issue of identifying who is and who isn't an ESC affiliated club. The ESC needs to come up with what factors or criteria should be in place in deciding ESC affiliation due to the expansion of clubs and the lump sum allocation for program funding. Clubs are asked to discuss this and review or rewrite the Mission Statement. A one-sentence Mission Statement is to be written. Joanne asked the SC to consider "what is the ESC" and came up with the following:

- Safe environment: from being isolated
- Comfort zone: a middle ground to get to adjust and adapt to WWU
- Educational cultural resource: a place to talk with others and share related interests, cultural values. A central base. The newer clubs have expanded through this support.

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ETHNIC STUDENT CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE minutes

April 21, 1994, PM

#### V. ESC MISSION STATEMENT

Joanne proposes that we write a one or two line statement to have a concise visionary statement. A short statement could be added to our business cards. A longer version could still be available. In writing a vision statement, we need to assess that it reflects the values of the ESC. The following are terms expressed on the values of the ESC: support, enlightened, informed, integrate, advocate, awareness, pride, and heritage. The next step is to determine what are the perceived values, in what other people see the ESC to be: to put on educational programs, to be the spokesperson for all minorities, here just for people of color, militant, shows our inferiority by needing a special center and can't make it on our own. Some ways to change these perceptions will be to educate on what the ESC is, provide a friendlier inclusive environment to anyone that comes in here, and avoid any form of bashing. On one hand the ESC needs to be welcoming in terms of general understanding. On the other hand, students need to have time/place/space to get away from it all. Anjene stated a concern that many students need to find one's strength within and bond with one another before involvement with white students. All AS clubs are open to all students; yet many ESC members also need to have time to be around the people they're comfortable with. Jocelyn expressed that we are here to unify all students. Kim suggested writing an article in the Newsletter or as a letter to all students on this to dispel the assumptions, and to educate a wider audience on the cultural issues. Joanne lead us to write a haiku as an exercise for a short mission statement.

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ETHNIC STUDENT CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE minutes

October 20, 1992 ,4:08 PM

#### VIII. ESC MISSION STATEMENT

Daniel [Reyes] distributed copies of an ESC Mission Statement, created by David Muga (9/91), and asked that clubs review and revise as necessary. At the next Steering Committee Meeting, any revisions will be discussed. Kevin suggested prioritizing the items in the statement.

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Memo dated September 6, 1991, written by David Muga (ESC Coordinator 1991-1992)

## **MISSION STATEMENT ETHNIC STUDENT CENTER**

The Ethnic Student Center is an organic part of the University's commitment to diversity and exists to promote and develop positive interaction between, and among, students of diverse populations and the majority group culture. In providing leadership and direction to this commitment, the Ethnic Student Center adopts for itself the following non-prioritized visions, aims, and value statements:

1. To improve the overall quality of student life on campus by developing and implementing educational, cultural, and social programs that will promote pride of heritage, increase multicultural awareness, and assist the University in retaining students of color/international students in academic programs. This entails being a special friend to all students, especially those of African, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, and Pacific Islander cultural backgrounds.
2. To help students of ethnic/racial heritage and international students solve problems by providing referral information about help from appropriate University sources including financial aid, academic advising, individual counseling, tutoring services, career placement, employment opportunities, housing services, and health care.
3. To provide activities and programs coordinated with those of the University's surrounding communities to assist in the academic recruitment of culturally diverse students.
4. To empower students of color and national origin by providing a comfortable, safe operating base of support for ethnic student organizations and international clubs and to promote unity by serving as a meeting place for the campus community where face-to-face interaction and discussion can lead to understanding and the establishment of friendships in the context of diversity.
5. To work with non-minority University and community populations to create an atmosphere of mutual cultural respect.
6. To instill in all students making use of the Center those characteristics necessary to succeed not only at WWU but in society after they leave the campus environment.
7. To help in breaking down the artificial boundaries between campus and community by \* working with local community organizations through utilization of their leadership, experience, expertise, and counsel and, conversely, by offering channels for participation in ESC events and facility utilization.
8. To assist all students, but especially students of color and international students, in organizing special interest groups, special interest seminars and workshops, and developing cultural courses that affirm cultural integrity and emphasize the contribution of diverse cultures to the unity of American life.
9. To assist students of color and international students in gaining admission to graduate and professional programs and achieving representation in higher academic and professional life.
10. To assist the University in its endeavors to create a culturally diverse campus.