

THE HEDGEMAN CENTER

for

Student Diversity Initiatives and Programs



*A Legacy of Multiculturalism, Leadership, Vision,
and Service to Students and the Hamline University community.*

-research done by Mike Pesko ('07) with assistance
from Katy Blank ('07) and Colin Smith ('05)



“Supporting, Strengthening and Empowering Our Community”

The Hedgeman Center for Student Diversity Initiatives and Programs helps create and sustain an inclusive community that appreciates, celebrates and advances student and campus diversity at Hamline University.

We support, empower, and promote the success of all students with particular attention to U.S. students of color, queer students and others from historically marginalized backgrounds.

Our services for queer students includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex students and allies (LGBTQIA). In partnership with other university and community members, our initiatives help prepare students to live, serve and succeed in a diverse university and world.



1969: Document 14

Shortly after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. (April 1968), Hamline University President Bailey appointed a committee charged with outlining the university's role in relation to "*disadvantaged youth*".

The committee, consisting of students, faculty, and administrators, developed a set of recommendations that became known as Document 14. The document was approved by the faculty, Board of Trustees, and adopted two-to-one by the students in a referendum.



Document 14

- “Hamline University has long recognized both that a diversity of educational experiences is one of the aims of a liberal arts education and that the University has an obligation to the urban environment in which it finds itself. The University now proposes to heighten this diversity and to deepen its involvement in the urban community by becoming more actively involved with the disadvantaged elements of American society, especially those who belong to minority racial groups. It will seek to fulfill this aim by moving as rapidly as possible to a position where (1) the composition of its student body, faculty, administration and staff will include increasing numbers of minority racial groups in the hope that the Hamline community will benefit from such diversity, and (2) the student body, faculty, administration and staff of this university will accept responsibility for and give support to programs which will increasingly involve Hamline University with the problems of disadvantaged youth—problems existing on this campus and problems of disadvantaged youth in their own environment.
- Should this policy be accepted, the responsibility of coordinating the future programs and continuing investigation of areas and means of involvement will be vested in the Presidential committee. This committee will be appointed by the President of Hamline University and will include seven students, three faculty members and two members of the administration (24).”

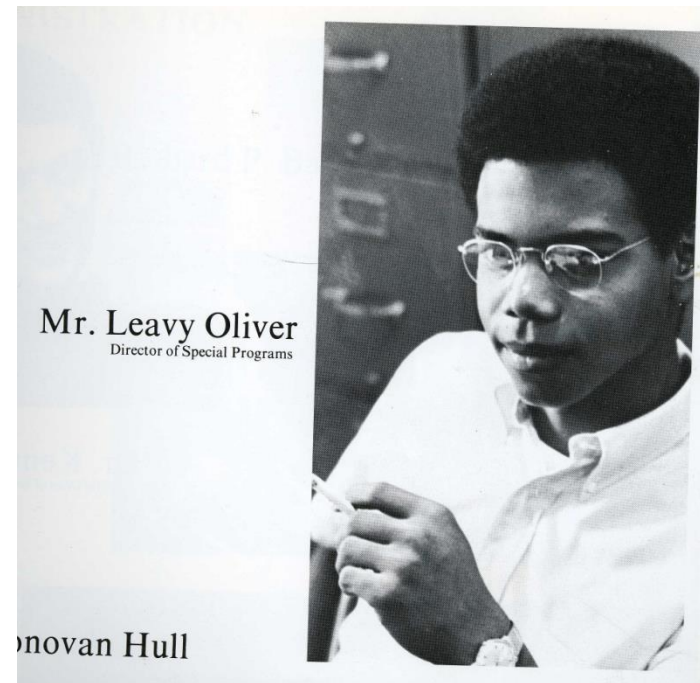
1969: PRIDE is born!

- ***Promoting Racial Identity, Dignity and Equality*** (PRIDE), the first student-of-color organization formed with Richard Jones, a sophomore, elected as the first president.
- PRIDE represented and was inclusive of all students of color, as well as white students and international students



1970: Office of Special Programs

- **Leavy Oliver** hired as Director of Special Programs and Educationally Disadvantaged Students. Employed from 1970-1974.





1973-1978:

New Leadership, New Names

- **1973:** *Office of Special Programs* changed to *Office of Minority Affairs*
- **1974:** *Name changed again to Minority Careers Office, becomes known as Office of Minority Programs. Barbara Simmons becomes the director.*
- **1978:** *Office of Minority Programs begins reporting to the Dean of Students.*

Barbara J. Simmons

Providing academic support was one of Simmons' biggest goals for the Office of Minority Programs.

Later Simmons created the Study Resource Center in the Center for Academic Services.



1979: An Alum Takes the Helm

- **Yolanda Williams**, a 1979 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts, becomes Director of Minority Programs.





Yolanda Williams

Williams believes that her legacy at Hamline University is three-fold. First, she was successful in raising the number of students of color in incoming classes. There were fifty students of color by the time she left compared to five students of color in the incoming class her first year as a student. Second, the relationship between PRIDE and the student government was significantly improved during her tenure. And finally, Williams was able to network well with other schools through MATCH.

1985-1989: Daniel Abebe returns to HU as Director

- **1985:** Daniel Abebe, a 1974 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts, becomes Director of Minority Programs.
- **1986:** *Office of Minority Programs* changed to *Office of Intercultural Affairs*. International students and students of color integrated into the same office.





Daniel Abebe

Abebe believes that his legacy at Hamline University is that he continued to plant the seeds for a different thinking about diversity at Hamline University. He was very happy that dramatic changes began to happen immediately upon his departure, as Intercultural Affairs was split into two offices, each with a full-time director. Key faculty members were also involved in advocating for changes in part because he was able to connect with them during his tenure.

1989: From Intercultural Affairs to Multicultural Affairs

- **Starletta Barber Poindexter**
becomes new
director of newly
named office —
***Office of
Multicultural
Affairs (OMA).***





Starletta Barber Poindexter

1989 - 1998

Poindexter spent most of her time as director advising students and guiding the students as they implemented their own programming initiatives. To summarize the goal of the office, she worked to support and assist domestic students of color to be successful and to educate the campus about racial diversity. Poindexter was also very proud of doing her part to see Hamline University listed in an index of Top 100 Schools for African American students.

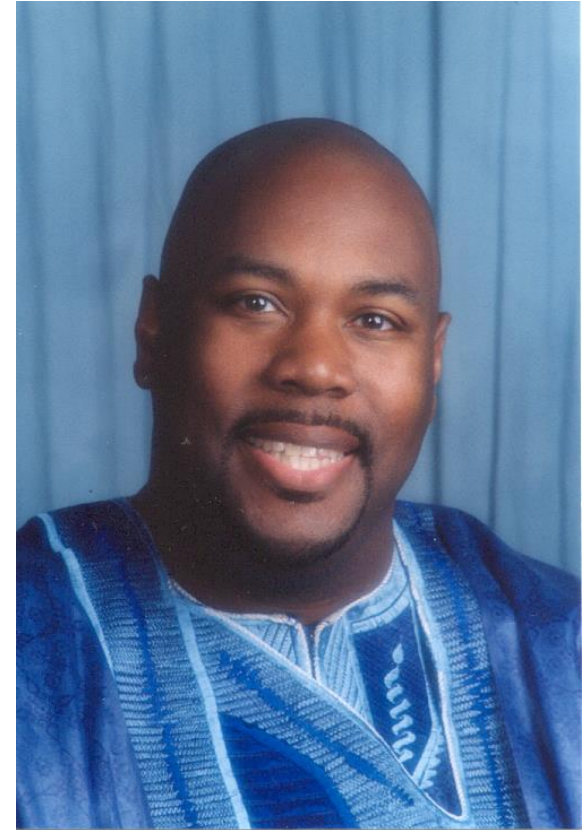


1989-1996 Organizations Form

- **1989:** Hamline Open Organization for Diversity (HOOD) founded, later dissolves
- **1990:** Asian Watch is formed; changes name to Hamline Asian American Student Union (HAASU), in 1992, is chartered. Group eventually settles on name, Asian American Pacific Coalition (APAC)
- **1994:** HU Board of Trustees approve the current University Diversity Policy.
- **1995:** Hmong Student Association (HSA)
- **1996:** Native American Student Association (NASA)

1998-2001 New Leader Arrives!

- **Carlos D. Sneed** becomes the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs.





New Initiatives, Groups, Identity!

- **1998:** Alma Latina, International Student Organization (ISO), and Multicultural Alliance created. New programs include Social Justice Symposium and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. University Commemoration.
- World Fest evolves from the International Food Fair.
- Multicultural Alliance formed in 1998.
- **1999:** Hamline begins sending teams to NCORE; new programs emerge, including Hamline University Conference on Race and Ethnicity (HU-CORE) and “This is My Story.”



MISA emerges!

- Responding to the rise in the numbers of international students, Office begins sharing responsibilities for this population with the Center for International Students and Scholars (MISA), most notably coordinating orientation and on-going programming and services to international students.
- **2001:** Office renamed Center for Multicultural and International Student Affairs (MISA) and moves to current location in Old Main Hall.



2003-2005:

New Student Groups Form

- **2003:** Multiracial Student Association (MSA), Students of South Asia (SOSA), and Hamline African Student Association (HASA) founded.
- **2004:** Sneed promoted to new position as Assistant Dean of Students for Diversity and Community / Director of Multicultural and International Student Affairs.
- **2005:** Students for a Free Tibet (SFT) and Hamline International Graduate Student Association (HIGSA) founded.



June 2006:

- MISA Office moves to new location, a house at 1475 Hewitt Avenue.

July 2010: Office Realigned

- MISA Office begins reporting to Office of Diversity Integration under Associate Vice President for Diversity Integration, Hamline University's senior diversity officer.



Spring 2011:

Office Reorganized, Renamed

- January 2011 - MISA Office was reorganized with international student services realigned under another office. MISA expands to offer service and programs on gender and sexual orientation with new position added to address these issues and populations.
- April 2011 - Office renamed **Hedgeman Center for Student Diversity Initiatives and Programs**, after Anna Arnold Hedgeman, class of 1922, Hamline's first graduate of color.



Hedgeman Center Evolves

- July 2012: Upon the elimination of the Office of Diversity Integration and Associate Vice President for Diversity Intergration, Hedgeman Center begins reporting to University Provost. Office relocated to newly opened Anderson Center.
- January 2013: Collaborations with Wesley Center, Student Activities and Human Resources lead to new initiatives including the expansion of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. University Commemoration into MLK Commemoration & Day of Service, formation of Students Educating and Empowering on Diversity (SEEDs Initiative), and launching of student worker diversity training series (also with Human Resources Office).
- July 2014: Shifting of university diversity programming continues with LGBTQA programs, services and staff person and Commitment to Community support and programming moved under Office of Diversity Initiatives.



Hedgeman Center Evolves

- In addition to multicultural student, advocacy and programming, Hedgeman Center continues offering all-university programming related to race, ethnicity, first-generational college student programming, and social justice.

July 2017:

Office Returns to Division of Student Affairs