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Communications, Education, and Outreach Committee

Agenda

Cultural Resources Workforce Development

Please see the following papers in Tab 1 for the Communications, Education, and Outreach Committee discussion:

Youth Engagement Concept Plan

Attachment: Draft Youth Plan



MEETING
COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE
Friday, July 7, 2023
1 p.m.–2:30 p.m. EDT

Join ZoomGov Meeting:

<https://achp.zoomgov.com/j/1601325001?pwd=T2sweTJVT3FrbDB1VjdjQmFJWDV2QT09>

Meeting ID: 160 132 5001

Passcode: 185063

Dial in: (646) 828-7666

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Introductions
- II. Discussion of Youth Engagement Concept Plan
- III. Discussion of Workforce Development
- IV. Updates
 - A. Status of Work with Historically Black Colleges and Universities
 - B. Interns
 - C. Awards



CULTURAL RESOURCES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Offices of Communications, Education, and Outreach and Federal Agency Programs

Background. During the past eight months, ACHP members have discussed the workforce shortage in historic preservation and related fields. These shortages have developed as a result of a number of circumstances, including increasing needs and growth in these fields, as well as new hires who may not be prepared adequately to step into a role in cultural resources management.

In the recent past, both the Offices of Communications, Education, and Outreach (OCEO) and Federal Agency Programs (OFAP) have, with member concurrence, undertaken several activities, including hosting listening sessions with both academics/educators and those hiring in the historic preservation field. The goals are to find out when or if historic preservation and cultural resources management is being introduced to students, and gather suggestions on how to expose more students to such knowledge and thereby increase the availability of a qualified workforce.

OCEO convened a listening session in early June that brought 13 educators and academics from secondary through graduate levels to the table to address these topics. Although most of the attendees participate in and lead preservation programs, others offered the public policy, law, and history program perspectives. The participants were the following:

Andrew Johnston	Director, Program in Historic Preservation	University of Virginia
Carole Nash	Professor	James Madison University
Cleary Larkin	Director	University of Florida Historic Preservation program
Jonathan Spodek	Director, Graduate Programs in Historic Preservation	Ball State University
Latif Tarik	Assistant Professor of History	Elizabeth City State University
Michael Neagle	Associate Professor of History	Nichols College
Ron Kloster	Assistant Professor	Hampton University
Ronald Kloster	Assistant Professor	Hampton University
Stephen White	Dean, Cummings School of Architecture	Roger Williams University
T. DeWayne Moore	Assistant Professor of History	Prairie View A&M University
Tara White	Assistant Professor	University of North Carolina Wilmington
William Chapman	Dean, School of Architecture	University of Hawaii
William Stoutamire	Associate Professor of History	University of Nebraska at Kearney

Findings. The session was interactive and lively. Participants clearly felt that it is critical to include information about historic preservation early on in introductory courses in public history classes, landscape design, planning, law, archaeology, and architecture.

There were a number of other key takeaways, which are summarized below. Please note that these are not all actions that the ACHP would be responsible for addressing:

- There is a great need for more historic preservation programs in colleges and universities.
- The national historic preservation program should recommend that a variety of other majors (such as architecture, law, business, and planning) should include references to historic preservation, to ensure students graduating with those degrees have been trained in historic preservation.
- The participants commented on the important use of experiential and hands-on learning experiences to hook students on the subject and to teach preservation.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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- The speakers advised that it is critical to expose students to information about cultural resources management and historic preservation earlier in their education—unfortunately, it seems that most students know little or nothing about either when they enter college.
- There should be an attempt to attract preservation professionals working in the field to teach part-time.
- Digital skills are essential as part of historic preservation programs.
- It was noted that the educators and academics who do integrate awareness of cultural resources management and Section 106 in their program do so with guest and adjunct lecturers. They typically lack the expertise themselves and conveyed little interest in further development of the topic.

OFAP is planning a parallel effort convening those involved in hiring new professionals in cultural resources management and preservation positions working with federal preservation programs such as Section 106 review.

As staff analyzes the responses from the first session and looks forward to the second, OCEO will gather ACHP member feedback on what, if anything further, the agency should contribute to these efforts as staff works to draw this initiative to a close.

Action Needed. Members will be asked to offer suggestions on avenues that OCEO can pursue to focus on the suggestion of reaching young people about historic preservation careers at an earlier age, which is the current focus of OCEO.

June 29, 2023