

Fall, 2004

Second Annual Support Staff Conference

The second annual Support Staff Conference was held on August 4. The all-day conference, entitled *Diversity Awareness and Enrichment: The Role of Support Staff*, was held in Alumni Hall.

After welcomes by Holly Sateia and Sylvia Langford, Annelise Orleck, Associate Professor of History, delivered the keynote speech, addressing issues of class, race, and gender. Susan Aubuchon and Michelle Meyers then led the group in "20 Questions About Dartmouth", an exercise highlighting diversity statistics pertinent to the College.



The conference's morning panel discussion.
Photo: James Burger

A panel discussion followed, with the theme of making Dartmouth a more welcoming and inclusive community. Panel members were Richard Crocker, Dawn Hemphill, Pam Misener, Steve Silver, and Lynn White Cloud. Each spoke personally and collectively on topics ranging from religion to ethnicity, sexual orientation, and cultural differences.

Lunch was provided by the Hanover Inn in the Webster Dining Room. Conference attendees were eligible for various prize drawings, which took place during the meal.

The afternoon featured a workshop led by Giavanna Munafo and Lynn Rosenblum, offering a series of group exercises focusing on "Invisibility in the Workplace".

Barbara Johnson delivered the closing, acknowledging "the valuable resource that is available when we engage support staff as part of a collaborative effort to enhance Dartmouth's work and academic experiences."

Each session of the conference featured a robust question and answer period, as presenters and attendees shared ideas and suggestions. So that various groups could work with each other, attendees were assigned different tables for the morning and afternoon.

More than 100 individuals attended the event, which was moderated by Dee Dee Samuels. Conference sponsors included Collis Miniversity, Dartmouth College Athletics, the Dean of the College Office, the Dean of the Faculty Office, the Hanover Inn, the Hopkins Center, the Office of Human Resources, the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity, the Office of Pluralism and Leadership, the Office of the Provost, and the Office of Student Life.