

Dr. Scott E. Page
Expanding Diversity Thinking Within the Academy:
A Session for Academic Administrators and Campus Leaders
February 23rd, 2012

Attendance

- 36 individuals attended and 27 completed evaluations.
 - Twelve attendees were faculty, thirteen were administrators, one identified as both faculty and administrator, and one did not specify her/his role.

Quantitative Results from the Evaluation Form

I feel I have acquired information or understanding about how diversity benefits NDSU.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Disagree	1	3.7	3.7
Agree	10	37.0	40.7
Strongly Agree	16	59.3	100.0
Total	27	100.0	

As a result of attending this lecture, I have a better understanding of the benefits that diversity brings to an institution like NDSU.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Disagree	1	3.7	3.7
Agree	6	22.2	25.9
Strongly Agree	20	74.1	100.0
Total	27	100.0	

I will be able to use the information that I learned today in my work at NDSU.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Disagree	1	3.7	4.0
Disagree	1	3.7	8.0
2.50	1	3.7	12.0
Agree	9	33.3	48.0
Strongly Agree	13	48.1	100.0
Missing Data	2	7.4	
Total	27	100.0	

I would recommend this session to others.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Disagree	2	7.4	7.7
Disagree	1	3.7	11.5
Agree	4	14.8	26.9
Strongly Agree	19	70.4	100.0
Missing Data	1	3.7	
Total	27	100.0	

Rate the overall quality.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Below Average	1	3.7	3.8
Average	3	11.1	15.4
Above Average	6	22.2	38.5
Excellent	16	59.3	100.0
Missing Data	1	3.7	
Total	27	100.0	

Qualitative Results from the Evaluation Form

1. What questions do you still have after attending this session? Please list any areas that you would like to receive additional information about or that need further clarification.
 - Where to access discipline specific threshold data, which was mentioned?
 - If his works purposed to move study of diversity out of divisive political dialog → how does that compare to danger of traditional labels of ‘objective’ versions of truth which do not acknowledge underlying bias/expropriation.
 - What should NDSU be doing differently in the approach to diversity as a result of this presentation?
 - How can we keep from pushing out people different thinking than us on our way to diversity?
 - Will need to think about local applications.
 - Foundation for this perspective on diversity should be provided to rest/underpin the far flung threads discussed
 - Hour is productively defined by various groups.
 - More ideas about incorporating diversity/group activities into our classes.
 - Need time to think about how to bring these concepts to faculty search committees and departments.
 - How can NDSU facilitate a discussion about the positives related to diversity with external stakeholders (legislators, city officials, corporations, etc.)?
 - What was that crack about the Red River Valley?

2. What do you think were the most helpful or valuable aspects of the session you attended today?
 - Coupling to quantitative methods.
 - I like the value put on (1) group work vs. individual brilliance & (2) variation & diversity.
 - Brining to bear mathematical analysis and findings from biological diversity to the study and implementation of diversity.
 - Some of his examples of issues & the soc examples were particularly helpful.
 - Take diversity out of the political bag.
 - New ideas.
 - Fascinating stories about mathematical/statistical diversity.
 - Lots of time for Q & A.
 - Thoughts on how diversity improves thinking and problem solving.
 - We didn’t do menial talk exercises.
 - A few specific implementation ideas, mainly re: teaching.
 - Usefulness of ‘diversity’ of cultures in groups--.
 - Political/moral vs. ‘performance’ diversity.
 - Allowing so much time for questions/discussions.
 - Thinking in terms of performance advantage vs. social/political.
 - Thinking about diversity outside the moral/political system? How can NDSU reframe the common-sense rhetoric/culture of ND that mandates that all issues either be argued via moral/political or economic systems?
 - It was St. Augustine who said sometimes the truth is not in the middle, sometimes it is at both extremes.
 - Great speaker – lots of energy. Answered all questions.

3. How could this session be improved to be more beneficial to you?
 - I do wish it had been more interactive between attendees.
 - No, it was very enlightening!
 - More organized.
 - We do need a bit more direct strategy.
 - Table talk. Always encourage table talk.
 - Session nothing – need to read more on subject.
 - Could have prepared more – was thirsty for more & sometimes all questions aren’t great.

4. Please provide any additional comments you have about today’s session and/or the FORWARD program in general below or on the back of this page.
 - Considerable name dropping & overt self-importance; first 15 minutes was just about himself & “prepared” remarks were less than 30 minutes.