

Meeting Notes

April 2014

This month's topic was Heroes Among Us: Stories of People Who Have Changed Their Organization.

After welcome and introductions, Jamie led the group through an ice-breaker activity that explored the ideas and approaches of various change-makers throughout history and encouraged participants to learn more about each other (copy of quotes the group discussed are attached).

Guest speaker Rosemarie Allen (bio attached) shared personal and professional stories and guided us through her experience as a change-maker. She provided specific examples of "tactics" to use when dealing with micro-aggressions as well as systemic racism. She encouraged those of us who are white to be allies and join the conversation. Rosemarie shared many pearls of wisdom in our efforts to normalize race – we start by talking about it.

Recommended readings: Privilege, Power, and Difference by Allan G. Johnson and Courageous Conversations About Race by Glenn E. Singleton.

Next steps:

1. Erin will follow up about the idea of a session on "invisibility." Rosemarie talked about this activity and we think it might be appropriate for COFIE.
2. Please review the 2014 calendar and let Jamie know if you are interested in helping with any session. You could send relevant materials and links, co-present, suggest presenters, etc.
3. We confirmed that over the course of the year, we will read the book - "Tempered Radicals: How Everyday Leaders Inspire Change at Work" by Debra Meyerson. Our December conversation will be based on the book.
4. Jamie and Erin will type up meeting notes and send them out to all.
5. Please remember to RSVP for each meeting (yes or no). It's helpful for Erin with snacks, etc. but more so for Jamie. Sometimes the number of people attending matters when she is developing the structure and format of a meeting.