“Living our Vision Everyday”

Once we developed our Mission and Vision statements, we came up with the idea of having an article written each month showing how activities or project elements relate to our vision statements.

Our project groups will take turns writing this vision article.

MWBE PARTICIPATION - REACHING FOR OUR GOALS

Many of our CPO Visions and Values come into play as we reach to expand our use of Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) A/E firms and to fulfill our voluntary goals or 10% MBE and 6% WBE participation.

To quote from President Emmert’s message on diversity “Diversity is an inherent ingredient in an excellent education”. So too is diversity an inherent ingredient in providing the best and most complete architectural and engineering services as well as construction services. To the extent that we can appreciate and take advantage of the rich and diverse cultural of our community, we all benefit as we learn from each other in our mission to provide the best built environment for the UW.

As we all know, since I-200 passed in 1998, our MWBE participation goals switched from mandatory to voluntary. Voluntary goals, of course, require much more effort to achieve. So how do our efforts to achieve these goals tie into our CPO Vision statement: TEAMWORK, INTEGRITY, INNOVATION, COMMITMENT, and LEGACY? Here are a few examples:

TEAMWORK - Our recent A/E Networking event which emphasized MWBE firms, exemplifies TEAMWORK in many ways. From the enthusiastic support for the event from a large team of UW and GA participants, and an equally large team of A/E firms, to the our teaming with the Washington State Department of General Administration (GA), and the team support we had from the Office Of Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises and the U.S. Small Business Administration, this is an outreach event that could not have happened without the TEAMWORK of all.

INTEGRITY – We all demonstrate individual INTEGRITY as we include the value of diversity in our effort to select A/E firms for projects at the UW.

INNOVATION – The newly created Architect/Engineer Partnership Program with specific duties in MWBE outreach; establishing connections between CPO and the UW Business Diversity Program; and the recent A/E Networking Event are all examples of how INNOVATION helps in our MWBE program.

COMMITMENT – Our collective COMMITMENT to MWBE outreach can be seen in our efforts to expand our use of MWBE A/E firms and in our working with non MWBE prime consultants to encourage and assist in their efforts to hire subconsultants that reflect our diverse community.

LEGACY – As we create and nourish our working relationships with the diverse community of A/E’s, we will build a LEGACY of design work and architecture that reflects the best of our diverse cultural heritage.

Doug Jennings
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