

RACE AND MEDIA FORUM  
FEBRUARY 20, 2002

Present: Neil Heinen, WISC-TV-3; Bob Miller, WKOW; Brennan Nardi, Madison Magazine; Sheryl Nelson, WMSN-Fox 47; Charlie John, WNWC; James Bonneville, Charter Communications; Mike Power, WNWC; John Gramling, Madison Times; Amos Anderson, MMSD; Sandy Kowal, WKOW; Norman Davis, City AAD; Phil Glende, WSJ; Darcy Luoma, US. Sen. Herb Kohl; Jim Dick, WMTV-15; Merit Orrien, WKOW, Thuy Pham-Remmele, MMSD; Hedi Rudd, City of Madison, Henry Sanders, City AAD; Richard Brown; Vicki Washington, UW Extension, Phil Haslanger, Capital Times; DJ Klauser, Native American Council; Tom Still, Wisconsin State Journal and Jim Kramer, Simpson Street Press.

Staff: Anthony L. Brown and Annie Weatherby

- The session open with remarks from Dr. Anthony Brown who welcomed the participants and thanked our host for this session, Charter Communications.
- James Bonneville, of Charter Communications offered brief remarks.
- Dr. Brown facilitated a brief check in of participants. Attendees took this opportunity to give brief descriptions of their experiences to date and expectations of the process.
- Phil Haslanger and Judy Adrian gave an overview of the Summer Media Institute scheduled to commence on June 10, 2002. They shared that the Workgroup changed the focus to high school students because of some of the logistical concerns last year with younger participants. It was the workgroup's thinking that a more mature group of students who improve the process. They also reported that the Coordinator Phonekeo Sirhatha would return for this session. They also indicated that requests for applications had been disseminated with a March 1 deadline for applying. They also encouraged the group to make referrals of interested high school students for consideration.
- Attorney D.J. Klauser, Native American Council presented on the subject, "Native Americans and the Media". He talked focused on the absence of the

Native American in news stories and the racial stereotyping when there is coverage. His presentation made references to Treaty Rights, Gaming, Gambling, Taxation and Native American Mascots and how the local has reported these issues and state media outlets.

- Tom Still and Neil Heinen led a group discussion on concerns that community members had about the media coverage since the last session both affirming and negative. Kirbie Mack was extremely concerned about the coverage she had received through a feature story in the Isthmus Newspaper and other piece from the Wisconsin State Journal. The attendees engaged in some significant dialogue around how the media influences the way we identify individuals or groups, including looking at specific examples. The group collectively decided to create a work group to address specific issues when they present themselves and report quarterly to the group about all occurrences. A sign up sheet was circulated for those interested in being a part of the work group.
  
- Anthony Brown opened the floor for discussion on future topics and directives for the group. Some of the suggestions were:
  1. DJ. Klauser suggested that we continue to center these forums on solution-focused dialogue between the perspectives groups.
  2. Annie Weatherby invited attendees to send suggestions to or attend the next planning meeting to involved in the process on the front end.
  3. Anthony Brown suggested that we hold the next session in the evening to open these forums to the community at large.