

Strategic Plan for Diversity and Inclusion at William James College Recommendations Progress

- In October 2015, the Black Mental Health Initiative was formed, its mission, the recruitment of Black faculty, staff and students. In addition, the Center for Multicultural and Global Mental Health <http://www.williamjames.edu/academics/centers-of-excellence/multicultural-and-global-mental-health/index.cfm> has been developed, which will offer coursework on issues related to African American mental health, among other topics.
- In October 2016, the BMHI created their own mentor program. Also, the Diversity Faculty Committee is currently discussing how to do so on a broader scale.
- In August 2016, WJC launched the Academic Prep Program: Ready, Set, Go. The 2016-2017 academic year also saw the launch of workshops led by the ARC as well as Writing Lab Drop-In sessions that occur every other week during the semester, along with special sessions dedicated to the BMHI.
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- In August 2016, increased accessibility on campus. The front of the building is 100% compliant for accessibility.
- In September 2016, The Dean of Students Office launched a new website under Services and Resources that covers mental health resources, help lines, and even information for maintaining a healthy student work/life balance. The Dean of Students Office at the same time has solidified a partnership with Riverside Community Care to accept referrals to replace the outdated low fee referral list. They also continue to offer free yoga twice a week, and open access to a quiet room for meditation/prayer.
- In Fall 2016, the Dean of Students Office for the 2016-2017 academic year has doubled the offerings of their Brown Bag Discussion Series. Now meeting six times each semester (three programs; each repeated twice over a single week), and with support from the Diversity Faculty Committee, these discussions offer the community conversations about diversity consistently throughout the academic year.
- In October 2016, through the Black Mental Health Initiative, WJC developed a formal mentorship program for minority students, in which they can get support for being a person of color/GLBT within the WJC community.
- In Fall 2016, the Dean of Students office provided opportunities for students who are first generation to attend college to come together and discuss their experiences during the 2015-16 academic year. Please also refer to the topic of the Brown Bag Discussion Series mentioned in the previous section.