

# PRACTICES EXCHANGE

## NEWSLETTER

January 2018

<https://www.yeswemustcoalition.org>

Issue 9

## Institutional Resources/Practices

### Institutional Collaborations

**Holy Names University** (CA) is in conversation with Samuel Merritt University, also in Oakland, California, about forming a creative alliance that would improve student opportunities while maintaining each university's distinct identity. Holy Names, founded in 1868 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, is an inclusive and rigorous academic institution offering a liberal arts and professional education that empowers students for leadership, service, and promoting the common good in an ever-changing world. Since 1909, Samuel Merritt has prepared highly skilled and compassionate healthcare professionals, working to positively transform the experience of healthcare in diverse communities. Both universities embrace the core value of social justice and an entrepreneurial spirit and a history of evolutionary change, innovation, and adaptation. The two institutions envision their affiliation as a way of staying ahead of current trends and an accelerating rate of change in higher education. The cornerstone of the alliance will be: Two Institutions, One Campus, both located at the site where Holy Names University currently resides. While each university would remain separate with distinct governing boards, faculties, and administrations, Holy Names and Samuel Merritt would look for ways to take advantage of the common campus through complementary programs and resources, opportunities for community service, and shared facilities, such as libraries, campus services/facilities, dining areas, and technology support and services. Furthermore, by creating a vibrant campus community, both universities would seek to expand the intellectual and social opportunities for all stakeholders. Discussions are in a preliminary phase. For further information, contact Michael Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs. [mmiller@hnu.edu](mailto:mmiller@hnu.edu).

### YWM Student Exchange Program

An increasing number of YWM members are taking advantage of the **YWM Student Exchange Program**, established so that students have the option of studying at institutions that are similar to their own in terms of size and student support, but offer a variety of geographic and cultural environments that may be different from the student's home campus. Currently, nine YWM institutions are members of the YWM Student Exchange Program: Bacone College (OK); Bethune-Cookman University (FL); College of Saint Elizabeth (NJ); Ferrum College (VA); Heritage University (WA); Huston-Tillotson University (TX); Keuka College (NY); Mount Saint Mary's University (CA); and most recently, Coker College (SC).

"My experience at The College of Saint Elizabeth through the Yes We Must Coalition was amazing!" said Michele G., a Bethune-Cookman biology major who studied at CSE this past semester. "While at CSE, I was employed and worked under the departments of Volunteering and Campus Ministry, participated in many school activities and club events, and made several

genuine life-long friends.” CSE student Ananya K., who spent the Fall 2016 semester studying at Bethune-Cookman, observed that the highlight of her experience was “being surrounded by a new culture and different people.” This semester a psychology and theology student from CSE is studying at Mount Saint Mary’s University in Los Angeles, California. “Participating in the YWM Student Exchange Program has been such an enriching, educational experience for our students,” says Lindsey Ryan, Academic Internship and Study Away Coordinator at CSE. “It has provided them the opportunity to explore new communities around the country at institutions that like ours offer supportive learning environments both in and out of the classroom.” For further information about the exchanges described above, contact: Lindsey Ryan, Academic Internship and Study Away Coordinator, [lryan@cse.edu](mailto:lryan@cse.edu), and/or Adrienne Cooper, Associate Provost, [coopera@cookman.edu](mailto:coopera@cookman.edu). For information about the YWM Student Exchange Program and how to become a participant, contact: Nia Lane Chester, YWM Program Manager, [niachester@gmail.com](mailto:niachester@gmail.com).

### **Yes We Must Coalition National Conference, October 24–26, 2018, Austin, Texas**

The Yes We Must Coalition is holding its second national conference, *Educating the New Student Majority: Collaboration and Innovation for Persistence and Completion*, from October 24–26, 2018, in Austin, Texas. YWM members are encouraged to submit proposals describing the programs and strategies they have found to be effective in promoting the success of their low-income students. For further information and the Call for Proposals, go to [www.yeswemustcoalition.org/meetings](http://www.yeswemustcoalition.org/meetings).

### **Submissions for Future Issues**

YWM members are encouraged to submit examples of practices and/or resources to share with your YWM colleagues. We are particularly interested in examples of teaching and learning strategies you have found to be effective in promoting student success. Send brief descriptions and any accompanying materials to Nia Chester, YWM Program Manager, [niachester@gmail.com](mailto:niachester@gmail.com).