

ULM's diversity forum to feature attorney

Written by

Staff report
news@thenewsstar.com

11:00 PM, Mar. 14, 2011|

The University of Louisiana at Monroe's College of Education and Human Development Diversity Committee will conduct the Spring Diversity Forum in Strauss Hall-Room 270 from 5:30-7p.m. Wednesday.

This interactive forum offers an overview of the legal and ethical responsibilities shared by all educators in the public education system.

The event is free and open to the public.

Two continuing learning units (CLUs) will be received upon recommendation.

The Diversity Forum will feature Wesley Eby Johnson of Escamilla, Poneck, & Cruz, L.L.P., who will share her legal expertise on current trends in federal policy and law relating to lesbian, gay, bisexual and

Rights regarding sexual orientation harassment and bullying issues; free speech issues that arise in public school settings; as well as ethical and moral dilemmas that educators can face when addressing issues that pertain to the sexual orientation of individuals.

As legal counsel for numerous school districts in the state of Texas, Johnson brings a neutral and preventive law approach to this sensitive topic that is helpful for anyone who is currently in the public education setting or plans to be in the near future.

"Regardless of one's personal opinions and beliefs," said Johnson, "if one works in a public school setting, diversity issues will arise and the prudent educator will be up to date on the public school's legal obligations regarding sexual orientation issues."

The event is the second forum sponsored by the CEHD Diversity Committee. The committee works closely with the ULM

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Diversity Committee to create and promote programs that highlight diverse perspectives.

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