

SERD 02-11-08 Meeting Minutes

**Attendance:** Gargi Roysircar, Josefina Irigoyen, Corey Gifford, Brian Denietolis, Michael Brodeur, Ron Miyatake, Emily Pimpinella, Wendy Vincent

**Introductions to new members**

- Welcome Ron Miyatake!
- Emily stated her connections to SERD:
  - Research assistant
  - Gargi's Dissertation Advisee
  - Student Editorial Reviewer for the JMCD
- Josefina discussed the roundtable
  - Has to do with issues of multiculturalism and diversity in psychology and education
  - Smaller conference, but it's so student friendly
    - Everyone there is open to talk with students
  - Josefina plans to present about women of color, and the common barriers they face
- Michael
  - Talked about his research with Gargi over the years
  - His dissertation is coming out of his work with Gargi in New Orleans, as well as other outreach projects that Disaster Shakti has done.
  - He also stated that he enjoys the interpersonal aspects of SERD
- Gargi discussed their proposal
  - Ben: help seeking strategies of Muslim students
  - Fran: Assessment competencies of school psychologists
  - Barb: Increasing therapeutic efficacy for transgendered individuals

**Gargi's Mississippi project**

- Gargi met with the director of the American Red Cross of this unit
- They talked about Antioch providing workshops to people in Mississippi
- There is a possibility that the governor of Keene may be one of our key stakeholders, as well as the president of Antioch University New England
  - The president showed interest in being a part of this
- Gargi was invited to be the keynote speaker in New Zealand, and to give a workshop on self-care and her disaster work

**Ron Miyatake**

- Ron has experience in intelligence operations for the Navy
- He also has experience in community mental health, and private practice (UAP)
- Has been at UAP since last year
- He is a second-generation Japanese-American Clinical Psychologist
  - Gargi and Ron shared stories about discrimination
  - Talked about not being accepted by either culture, which raises the question, “Where do you belong?”

**We talked about our experiences in the field**

- Brian shared about his involvement in SERD, and his work at the Martha Eliot Health Center
- Gargi shared about her mothers comment
  - “I have four votes; one for Hillary, and three for my daughters”
- We lamented about ‘what a waste of money’ elections are
  - There are millions of dollars wasted in elections
- Some of us have wondered about why we go through all of this hype with the primaries
  - Why can’t we have one general election?
  - If we could choose our candidates and have one election
- But democracy is expensive
  - You need money to survive;

**Corey: Mexico Trip**

- Corey found about 6-8 articles, and she’s wondering if SERD members would be willing to take an article and write a brief summary of it
- Corey will schedule with Brian about which dates we’ll discuss the articles
- Corey will also send an email to SERD, asking them to pick an article

**Josefina: Mexico connections**

- Josefina is looking into airfare
  - Josefina’s parents are willing to drive Shakti members to Monterey; from there we would fly to Villahermosa
- Josefina has also attempted to contact the universities and governmental/ non-governmental organizations down there
  - She’s also contacting the Mexican Red Cross

Respectfully submitted by:

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