WHAT IS THE PONO LEARNING COMMUNITY?

PURPOSE
In Autumn 2010, the Pono Learning Community was created and facilitated by the Diversity, Study Abroad and TRIO Programs Department. The Pono Learning Community (PLC) provides a space for open dialogue of diversity and social responsibility issues with and among students, staff, faculty and administrators at Columbus State Community College.

The purpose of PLC is to:
- Serve as a multi-level learning community
- Provide a platform of collaboration between faculty, staff, administration and students
- Improve understanding of diversity concepts

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS
- 8 total meetings per cohort (October – February, February – May)
  - 75% attendance required for year
- Supervisor endorsement for employees

LEARNING OUTCOMES
- Community and Civic Responsibility
  - Greater understanding of self and the world around you
  - Reduced fear and misunderstanding
- Effective Communication
  - Ability to actively participate in diverse discussion
- Critical Thinking
  - Openness to others’ beliefs and views
  - Dissolved misconceptions about culture

EXPLANATION OF THE WORD “PONO”

Pono, the word itself, means 'right', and describes that exquisite sense of rightness that comes from being at one with everything. It is based on the ancient Hawaiian belief in spirit greatness and self power, in the unconditional love and compassion for, and the spirit connections between, all things.

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PONO LEARNING COMMUNITY 2011-2012 SCHEDULE

COHORT II-A
- Orientation October 18, 2011 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Race and Ethnicity Module November 1, 2011 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Sexual Orientation Module November 15, 2011 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Religion and Faith Module November 29, 2011 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Class and Economic Disadvantage Module January 10, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Mental and Physical Health Module January 24, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Global Culture and Perspectives Module February 7, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Book Session February 21, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room

COHORT II-B
- Orientation February 28, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Race and Ethnicity Module March 6, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Sexual Orientation Module March 20, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Religion and Faith Module April 3, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Class and Economic Disadvantage Module April 17, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Mental and Physical Health Module May 1, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Global Culture and Perspectives Module May 15, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Book Session May 29, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room
- Celebration Reception June 5, 2012 2-4pm ERC MM Room