



Library Association of Brevard

Nov. 10, 2017

Notes on DEOMI Continuing Education workshop for LAB

On Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 9 am, LAB members met at Patrick Air Force Base. This was for a tour of the DEOMI. (Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute) building and program. Around 20 people attended, including staff from Brev. Co. Health and Human Services, Harry Moore Cultural Center, Brev. Co. Diversity Team, and other LAB members and guests.

After meeting up with our tour guide, Mr. Chris Calkins, for a bus escort onto the base, we had an introduction to DEOMI with a mission video and guest speaker. The video covered the history of DEOMI, why the institute was started, and how it is progressing today. The main purpose of the institute, said Col. Martin, is to offer courses for military service members and civilian contractors in diversity training. It will train, coach and prepare students, she continued, for working in an environment free of discrimination and inequality. This includes all types of discrimination, including religion, race, gender, sexual harassment, and ethnic.

Next was a tour of the DEOMI's library. It serves the needs of their patrons including staff, faculty, and students doing research and study. It has about 20,000 physical items, including about 17,000 books, the rest being journals, promotional materials, and multi-media. They use the Library of Congress system, have study rooms for use, and are

accredited. They do not participate in interlibrary loan. They are open when the building is open for courses.

Another section the group looked at was the graphic design lab. Here designers work on diversity themes, and produce material for use. They make posters, bookmarks, coloring pages, handouts, etc. for use. The materials are reflecting educational themes of inclusion and diversity. They often target 18-25 year olds in their military and government audience. Materials often can be used in the public domain. Bookmarks were given out as samples.

Afterwards, a group picture was taken. Following that, the group had lunch at the scenic Riverside Dining Facility. The tour ended with Mr. Chris escorting the group off base by bus around 1 p.m. A very educational and enjoyable workshop were the comments by many attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Bennett, Secretary