

**From:** McCue, Kathy on behalf of Spence, Joseph  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2008 3:01 PM  
**To:** ARS-BA-ALL  
**Subject:** Establishment of the BARC Diversity Committee

March 13, 2008

To: Beltsville Area Employees:

As a part of our long term vision of the future of BARC, management at all levels is committed to enhancing the research environment and achieving a workforce that is reflective of the composition of society as a whole. I encourage all employees to share your ideas, suggestions, and vision for our future. An important part in the development and implementation of this vision is the establishment of the BARC Diversity Committee. Because of your diverse talents and knowledge, I invite all employees to consider nominating themselves for membership on this important Committee. The mission of the Committee will include:

- Determining what barriers may exist that will prevent BARC from becoming a workplace that attracts diverse candidates;
- Determining what initiatives and programs can be implemented that will encourage students from diverse backgrounds to engage in modern agricultural science which automatically incorporates advanced math and science courses into their curriculum
- Encouraging students from diverse backgrounds to pursue education in science through speaking opportunities, personal interaction, technical development and mentoring experiences

The Committee will meet on a monthly basis (second Tuesday of each month) and will require a minimal amount of time from your very busy schedules. You will be required to serve for 1 year with supervisory approval.

I am interested in having employees at all levels serve on this Committee. I am sure you will find your involvement with this group to be rewarding and you can be certain that your efforts will have a positive impact on the current and future employees of BARC.

If you are interested, please submit the following information by **March 27, 2008** to Jenny Allen at [jenny.allen@ars.usda.gov](mailto:jenny.allen@ars.usda.gov)

**Name, Title, Institute, Lab, email address and office phone number**

Joseph T. Spence/s/  
Director, Beltsville Area