This team of supporters, Jennie Babcock, Roberta Dillon, Tara Reed and Sue Kern Wilkins, assisted the Diversity Council’s Composition team co-chairs, Maria Cimilluca and Jessica Lang to put together an inaugural event that will continue for many years to come due to the success of it. The Diversity Committee recognized that there was a need to create partnerships with community organizations in order to increase transparency and build a pipeline of job seekers for jobs in Facilities Services. This support team embarked on a 7 month planning period to make the initiative a success.

The committee partnered with the Human Ecology facilities and event planning staff to host the event in The Commons in the Human Ecology Building. This location was ideal as it had a parking garage, computer labs, an eatery, lecture halls and enough space to host all the representatives and community members who attended.

The goal for this event was a combination of aligning with the President’s Towards New Destinations Facilities Services Composition initiative and the Presidents Sustainable Campus Committee initiative of Community Engagement and to fill a need for applicants in Facilities Services. The goal was to partner with the local community in an effort to build a pipeline of applicants to fill a wide range of Facilities Services positions.

We joined forces with local community employment and educational organizations to offer an even broader amount of resources and information.

Community partners included representatives from local trade unions that represent FS staff, Challenge Workforce Solutions, Greater Ithaca Activities Center, Skilled Trades Diversity Council, Tompkins Workforce New York, and TST BOCES.

This team handled all details from recruited top level Human Resources representatives to volunteer to provide resume, cover letter and interviewing guidance, and to give hands-on instruction during open computer lab sessions. Assisting with navigating around and logging into the Cornell Careers site to view open positions, directions for applying online, to providing beverages and snacks for attendees, as well as, all audio and technical needs for sessions and vendors.

Overall this event was a huge success with over 100 community members attending. Contacts were made with Human Resource staff and potential applicants, as well as community members connecting with local unions. Due to the event, a few participants have applied, interviewed, and are working here at Cornell.

Plans are in place for next year’s event to continue to grow this pipeline and bring information to the community about FS careers.

This team was nominated by Maria Cimilluca. Andrea Haenlin–Mott was co-chair for the Diversity Council for 2012-2014 also pictured with VP KyuJung Whang, and Dave Howe Sr. Director Finance & Administration.