

## SUNY OSWEGO'S OZ SPEAKS

### Discussion points:

- Be proactive in engaging our students in meaningful conversations around several of the summer's events (Pulse Night Club Shooting in Orlando, the shooting deaths of Philando Castile and Alton Sterling, the shooting deaths of 5 Dallas police officers, etc.).
- A series of moderated "Speak Outs" that we are calling "OzSpeaks" where members of the SUNY Oswego community can come and share their thoughts and feelings on these events and others. We plan on launching the forums in September and to host them on a broad range of topics thru October.
  - ✓ Launched by SAEM, organizing committee will be extended campus-wide
  - ✓ Moderated mostly by students (staff will also be there)
  - ✓ Counseling Staff will staff rooms for individuals needing to have a more private space to share
- Participants are encouraged to be creative in their expressions: Sing, rap, poetry, etc.
- Speak outs are not debates, educational workshops, intellectual discussions, opportunity to lay blame, perpetuate hate...it is to LISTEN...LISTEN...and be validated by one's community.
- Set ground rules:
  - ✓ Speak from the heart
  - ✓ Use "I" statements
  - ✓ Express feelings
  - ✓ Share your fears
  - ✓ The only acceptable response to another's speak out is...thank you for speaking out