



SPEAKER SELECTION CRITERIA

The Rodney K. Sisco Symposium for Transformational Leadership, Diversity and Equity Practices was established to promote the kingdom philosophy of inclusion as expressed in the Word of God. As such, a respected thought leader and effective communicator is essential for the Symposium to reach its goals of serving the college or university well in its impact on the campus and surrounding community.

Process:

The keynote speaker selection is a collaborative effort between the Hosting University/College and the Symposium Directorate. This procedure is coordinated primarily by the Site Leader & Symposium Directorate Liaison.

Cost:

The Symposium Directorate is committed to underwriting the costs* (honorarium and travel) of the Keynote Speaker. A contract for the Keynote Speaker will need to be signed by the university/college directly if costs* (honorarium and travel) *exceed* the Symposium Directorate award for that year. However, if costs are equivalent to the award, the Symposium/Directorate may sign the contract directly.

Qualifications:

The hosting university/college is welcome to identify and select a Keynote Speaker, providing the Keynote meets the essential criteria listed on the following page.

The Symposium Directorate has working relationships with several Speaker Bureaus and has developed a living vetted short list of potential national and international thought leaders. This list is not exhaustive.

The speaker selection criteria are as follows:

Pronouncement of faith	The selected keynote speaker must have a personal confession of faith in Jesus Christ, an understanding of the redemptive work of the Holy Spirit, and a willingness to dialogue with others about these matters humbly.
Recognized thought leader	The selected keynote speaker must be considered a/n national or international thought leader in at least 1 -2 of the following issue areas: transformational leadership, racial reconciliation, diversity and equity practices
Biblical Understanding of Diversity	The selected keynote speaker must have a clear understanding and agreement, that within the context of the Sisco Symposium definitions of ‘diversity’ and or ‘diversity and inclusion’ are categorically based on Biblical principles which are solely on race, gender, ethnicity, and EXCLUDE any and all allusions to sexual preferences and orientation.

Key questions to consider:

1. Does this speaker align with the mission and values of the Sisco Symposium?
2. Are there any red flags or controversies surrounding the speaker?
3. Is the speaker well known enough to attract attendees?

Additional On/Off Campus Workshop Speaker(s):

The Rodney K. Sisco Symposium is established in partnership by the Association for Christians in Student Development and the Caribbean-American Family Network.

- ♦ Smaller workshops/seminars/panels may be created across campus aligned with symposium theme and speaker to enhance the 2 – day experience. Site Leader may consider Appreciation gift/honoraria for these speakers.