

Carraway discusses legacy of Dr. King during Carlisle Barracks celebration

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Dr. Vernon Carraway, Leadership trainer and Legacy teacher of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke to students, staff and faculty in Bliss Hall Jan. 10 as part of the Carlisle Barracks celebration of the legacy of Dr. King.

Jan. 10, 2014 -- “When you are a leader, you have to lead in every aspect of your life,” said a prominent **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** scholar during the Carlisle Barracks celebration of the civil rights leader in Bliss Hall Jan. 10.

Dr. Vernon Carraway, a staff member at Penn State University and Leadership trainer and Legacy teacher of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., covered a variety of topics on Dr. King during his hour-long interactive session here.

“We needed him and he came at the right time,” he said of King during the civil rights movement of the 1960’s. “We were a divided nation. He sat at the intersection of where worlds collide.”

Many have described King’s leadership style as the type that comes only once in a lifetime, said Carraway.

“He was charismatic, transformational and ethical in his leadership,” he said. “Even your staunchest racist would stop to listen to what he had to say.”

One of the questions from the audience addressed the different ways that King approached a complex problem.

“He used a similar approach to your ‘DIME (diplomacy, information, military, and economic) model.’ He used diplomacy where necessary, gathered information of the area to see what issues where

important and encouraged people to stop using merchants in order to reach businessmen,” he said. “That approach is not all that different than how the military attacks complex issues around the world.”

Carraway said that the students in the class should take a cue from King and apply to their own leadership challenges.

“Every action he took was about doing the right thing,” he said. “You are the best and brightest. You are going to leave here and enter some of the murkiest times in our nation’s history. You have to commit yourselves to doing what is right and ethical. You all have the capability, you will have to dig deep.”

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