

COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND DIVERSITY
Full Body Committee Meeting Minutes
1:30 PM, Tuesday, February 25, 2020
130 Burruss Hall

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Tutelo/Monacan people, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and live, and recognize their continuing connection to the land, water, and air that Virginia Tech consumes. We pay respect to the Tutelo/Monacan Nations, and to their elders past, present, and emerging.

Present:

In person: Ellington Graves, Mae Hey, Kimberley Homer, Christa Miller, Juan Cordero-Sierra for Rosaire Bushey, Stacey Wilkerson, Victoria Dashevsky, Khaled Hassouna

Zoom: Ellen Banks, Gabriela McCollum, Menah Pratt-Clarke, Katrina Colucci-Chang, Anthony Scott, Sara Leftwich

Regrets:

Maia Greene-Havas (with notice), Sara Beth Hollandsworth (with notice), Annabelle Fuselier (with notice), Laura Belmonte, David Clubb, Elizabeth Spingola, John Gray Williams, Kelly Oaks, Yolanda Avent, Pamela Vickers, Polly Middleton, Sally Shupe (with notice)

Guest: Dr. Charmaine Troy

Minutes:

Opening:

Christa Miller opened the meeting with land acknowledgement.

Members introduced themselves including zoom participants.

Minutes haven't been sent out yet. No vote today. Minutes will be sent out before end of the week and will use an electronic vote. No response means a vote of approval.

Other announcements:

- Changes in membership: Kase Poling was at-large undergraduate student, had to resign because running for house of delegates. Sara Beth Hollingsworth will fill in for Kase for rest of term. She couldn't be here today
- Victoria shared that student government has lots of new members and hoping someone will take on the representative role.

First-Generation Student Support--Dr. Troy

- Interested in creating First-Generation alliance. Her role is a new position of about 6 months
- Incoming FG students in fall 2019- 1747 including transfer
- Conducted a survey with FG community
- Have a student organization
- Interested in creating a board for FG and creating an allies program
- Alliance includes faculty/staff and students
- Dr. Pratt-Clarke shared that it is a good idea to come together as an alliance first and the over time determine if there is interest in forming a caucus.

Updates From University Council

- Resolution for Religious Accommodations
 - Students weren't sure how to make requests to faculty
 - Faculty have final say on whether or not approve accommodation
 - Students will come to Dean of Students office to have absences confirmed
 - DOS involved as a support for students, track the number of requests
- Formation of CAPFA Senate
 - Commission on administrative and professional faculty affairs
 - Senate was approved
- Principles of Community Awards
 - Decided to reach out to previous years nominators to ask if they wanted their nominations moved forward to this year
 - This has been done in the past
- Caucus status working group
 - Established to review structures and procedures of shared governance, each caucus rep was asked to participate
 - Review of the document that has been established by the working group
 - Document can be provided by 2020-21 CEOD Chair Christa Miller
 - Conversation about due date for reports. General consensus was to move date later in the semester either May 1st or June 1st
 - Conversation about caucuses in transition; OID has access to resources to ensure caucuses continue to meet their representational needs
 - "Adopting" language in document sounds paternalistic and not autonomous

Elections

- Submit updated list of names by May 1st, if coming off CEOD, need nominations for who is going to take their place
- Send something out who is coming off and who is staying,
- At April meeting, we need a quorum because we have to vote.

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:49pm.