

**COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND DIVERSITY**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012**  
**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**  
**GRADUATE LIFE CENTER ROOM B**

**Meeting Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Meghan Kuhn, Yannis Stivachtis, Kim Beisecker, Tom Brown, Sharbari Dey for (Mary Ellen Verdu), Ross Edmonds, Amer Fayad, Justin Graves, Hal Irvin, Shernita Lee, Willaim Lewis, Jim Snyder, Jody Thompson, Diego Troya,

**ABSENT:** Julianne Arnold, Rick Barrow, Lubna Chowdhury, Lori Anne Kirk, Bradley Klein, Lee Lovelace (with notice), Teresa Lyons, Ellen Plummer (with notice), Sheri Simmons, Christine Snider, Cris Thompson, Karen Jones, April Lucas for (Dean Alan Grant), Leslie Moyo, Guy Sims,

**GUESTS:** Samantha Boyd, Roxanna Link, Michelle McLeese

- **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chair Meghan Weyrens Kuhn.

- **NATASHA COX SPOKE ABOUT HER WORK**

Natasha Cox is a doctoral student in Family Studies in Human Development. Natasha has implemented a program entitled H.O.K.I.E.S (Honoring Our Kinship through Inclusive Excellence) to provide a safe environment where faculty, staff and students can engage in open discussions around issues of race, sexual orientation, gender, and religion on Virginia Tech's campus. Natasha is a doctoral student and Graduate Diversity Scholar in Family Studies. She will be presenting her findings at a year-end presentation in the Graduate School.

- **VOTING FOR AT-LARGE SEATS FOR 2012-2013**

Meghan asked the group what they wanted to do if a faculty position was elected to a seat that is not a full time position. All were in favor of going forward with the elected individuals with the most votes for the at-large seats. If the person's position ended, then the President could use the next nominee to fill the seat. Two nominations are sent forward to the President to make the final decision.

- **DISCUSSION ON 2012 CEOD DIVERSITY UPDATE**

Dr. Lewis provided updates on the Diversity Summit – The outcome of the meeting was that the Diversity Summit should be coordinated by the Office for Diversity and Inclusion or Multicultural Programs and Services which would better align the Summit with the Principles of Community with current policies. Dr. Lewis suggested that a meeting be convened with Yannis to go forward. Hal reiterated that this issue also came out at the Advancing Diversity Conference.

- **SGA-DIVERSITY COMMITTEE EVENT UPDATE BY JUSTIN GRAVES**

Justin Graves - The SGA Diversity event on the drill field was postponed due to weather conditions. Justin will announce by the end of business today further plans for the event.

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. William Lewis presented to the commission the new publication for the Office for Diversity and Inclusion, The Path Forward. He asked the group to submit stories from their units to make it a diverse publication.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Meghan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 7th, in the Graduate Life Center, Room B.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcie Bishop  
Recording Secretary, Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

