

COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND DIVERSITY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
GRADUATE LIFE CENTER ROOM B

Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Gloria Bensen, Brian Bolton, Aaron Bond, Tom Brown, Skylar Duncker, Ross Edmonds, Tom Ewing (for Sue Ott Rowlands), Amer Fayad, Jermaine Holmes, Diana Housein-Salaita, Hal Irvin, Marwa Abdel Latif, Robin Lawson, Elizabeth Lazor, Sara Leftwich, William Lewis, Lesley Moyo, Jennifer Nardine, Susan Rosebrough, Laura Rugless, Mary Ellen Verdu

ABSENT: Rick Barrow, Sam Cook (with Notice), Paul Heilker, Corinne Noirot, Bill Ortega, Patty Perillo, Anita Puckett (with notice), Sherri Simmons, Amy Tanner, Nick Warrington (with notice)

GUESTS: Marcie Bishop, Samantha Boyd, Karisa Moore, Pamela White

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chair Lesley Moyo.

Lesley introduced herself and welcomed members of the CEOD to the first meeting.

II. INTRODUCTION OF JERMAINE HOLMES, CEOD VICE-CHAIR

Lesley introduced Jermaine Homes as CEOD vice-chair.

Jermaine Holmes made a few remarks about his role.

III. MEMBERS INTRODUCTION

Members introduced themselves and the areas they represent.

IV. UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Dr. William Lewis provided updates and the process to launch a new Diversity Strategic Plan to the university community.

Dr. Lewis explained to members that he had commissioned the Institute for Policy and Governance to conduct a national study to review Virginia Tech's peer institutions compositional dynamics, organizational structures, and assessment, planning and evaluation practices regarding diversity and inclusion. The study was conducted concurrent with the development of the 2013-2018 Diversity Strategic plan which will be disseminated in later this month. The study report is posted on the CEOD scholar site.

Dr. Lewis announced his plans to spend one week at each college here at the university to connect with deans, faculty, staff, and students, with plans to elevate diversity activities at Virginia Tech and take diversity and inclusion to streets beyond the university.

V. **PRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE SYSTEM AND THE ROLE OF CEOD – ELLEN PLUMMER, ASSISTANT PROVOST**

Dr. Ellen Plummer presented an overview of the university administrative structure and university shared governance process. Dr. Plummer educated attendees on the history of CEOD at the university and its role within the governance structure.

VI. **CEOD AGENDA FOR 2013-2014, LESLEY MOYO AND JERMAINE HOLMES**

Chair Lesley Moyo provided an overview of the CEOD agenda for 2013-2014. The agenda is posted on the CEOD scholar site.

VII. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Lesley Moyo and Co-chair Jermaine Holmes brought forth the motion of having the full commission only meeting once a month, with an executive group consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chair, three Ex-Officio members, and three additional selected members continuing to meet on a bi-weekly basis to handle any commission business that might come up. This motion was passed after some discussion. Laura Rugless made two additional motions. Her first motion was to include all Ex-Officio members on the executive committee. This motion did not pass. The second motion was to open the executive meetings to all CEOD members and guests who may wish to attend. This motion passed.

The names of the CEOD Executive are posted on the Scholar site. Agendas of the Executive meetings will be announced to the CEOD ahead of the meetings.

It was decided that the next full CEOD meeting will be held on Oct 21, 2013. The Executive Committee meeting would hold its first meeting on Oct 7, 2013. Details regarding the revised CEOD meeting schedule are posted on the scholar site along with September 16th meeting minutes.

A question was asked about the status of a previous suggestion to explore virtual participation in CEOD meetings. In response, Aaron Bond offered to set up WebEx for the Commission's exploration of virtual participation.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am. The next scheduled full commission meeting is October 21st, 2013, in GLC Room B. The executive group meeting will be October 7th, 2013 in GLC Room B.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcie Bishop
Recording Secretary, Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity