

COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND DIVERSITY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 2012
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
GRADUATE LIFE CENTER ROOM B

Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Dannette Beane, Kim Beisecker, Aaron Bond, Tom Brown, Catherine Cotrupi, Nicole DaDamio, Ross Edmonds, Tom Ewing for (Sue Ott Rowlands), Amer Fayad, Amy Hogan, Hal Irvin, Marwa Abdel Latif, Kris Tilley-Lubbs for (Rick Barrow), Karisa Moore, Lesley Moyo, Corinne Noiro, Bill Ortega, Susan Rosebrough, Guy Sims, Yannis Stivachtis, Jody Thompson, Leighton Vila, Alasia Washington

ABSENT: Chris Atkins, Jermaine Holmes, Sirisha Iruvanti, William Lewis (with notice), Anthony Lovelace, Jacqueline Nottingham, Emily Satterwhite (with notice), Sherri Simmons (with notice), Cris Thompson, Mary Ellen Verdu

GUESTS: Samantha Boyd, Perry Martin, Ray Williams

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by Chair Yannis Stivachtis. Motion to adopt the CEOD Agenda was approved.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Catherine announced activities related to LGBT History Month and Hispanic/Latino History Month running through October 15th.

Yannis announced that there would be a presentation at the next CEOD meetings on university recognition of Catholic holidays. Further discussion centered on historical and current approaches to university recognition and representation of religious holidays and related customs. It was suggested that CEOD would review previous university communiques on the topic.

Also announced the Dr. Lewis would like to have regular meetings with the coordinators of CEOD sub-groups.

III. UPDATES FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Perry Martin reported that cross-divisional focus groups were beginning to meet to discuss ways to align the current Diversity Strategic Plan with the Plan for A New Horizon.

IV. UPDATES FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCIL & UNIVERSITY COMMISSION MEETINGS

Leighton Villa spoke about discussions on the representation of student groups from diverse perspectives on the Commission on Student Affairs (CSA). Following reorganization last year, there is continuing debate on the how student voices are best represented on CSA.

V. PRESENTATION AND Q&A – MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS and SERVICES – RAY WILLIAMS

Ray Williams, Director of Multicultural Programs and Services (MPS) presented on the work of MPS. Founded through the efforts of student administrators MPS has provided a focus on diverse and under-represented student populations. MPS provides advising support to student organizations, coordinates communication on diversity activities, organizes cultural celebrations, provides a variety of educational programs and mentoring opportunities. Responding to questions on demand for services, Ray reported that MPS would desire to be a larger organization to better meet the demand for its services. It was also suggested that MPS seek to expand on linkages to the graduate and international student populations.

VI. PRESENTATION AND Q&A – MULTICULTURAL ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (MAOP) – JODY THOMPSON.

Jody provided an overview of the work of MAOP. MAOP is a program founded in the 1990s to assist with supporting student education and research opportunities in science areas with emphasis on opportunities for students from under-represented backgrounds. The program, which is funded by the state legislature, offers a signature Summer Research Internship program that is open to students from around the country. This program is designed to prepare students for graduate studies and nearly 30 students participate each summer.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Ross Edmonds asked if there were any plans for a university-wide diversity award. Perry reported that he was not aware of any discussion at this time and that previous discussions had not advanced due to a lack of funding for such an award.

Yannis asked each working group to identify a coordinator and responding to a question from Dannette Gomez Beane clarified that groups are to identify recommendations for actions or further discussion to the larger commission.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Aaron Bond, seconded by Ross Edmonds. Motion approved, meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. with sub-groups convening.

Respectfully Submitted,

Samantha Boyd
Acting Recording Secretary, Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity