

College of Education Diversity Committee

10/06/17

MINUTES

In attendance: Dilys Schoorman, Hanizah Zainuddin, Joe Waters, Melissa Mariani, Carol Tessel, Angela Rhone, Patty Kirsch, John Hardman

Action: John will reach out to ESE and ESHP to complete the committee membership.

1. Welcome & Introductions

The committee welcome Dr. Angela Rhone as a new member in representation of the Department of Teaching & Learning, replacing Dr. Rina Bousalis. Dr. Rhone is based on the Davie campus. Jennifer Percival, doctoral student, will be attending the November meeting. Jennifer is based on the Jupiter campus and also represents the CARD initiative in the Department of Exceptional Student Education.

This means that the Diversity Committee now has representation on FAU's three main campuses.

John reminded the members that the Diversity Committee is a standing committee of the College, and that in consequence the members should request that they should be included in department/unit monthly meeting agendas. There is no need to create reports each month if unnecessary, but the members should be prepared to report on important information, decisions, and actions taken by the committee and, in turn, bring pertinent information back to the committee from the departments/units.

2. FAU Diversity Platform Council update

John and Dilys shared some of the more important events and activities to have been highlighted during the council's first meeting of the year, held Wednesday, October 4. Particularly noteworthy were the following:

- The Council budget for 2017-18 has been set at \$100,000
- In 2016-17, FAU was involved in a number of events and activities:
 - Creation of the Wonder & Gender Equity Center (launch date October, 2017)
 - Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)
 - Diversity Platform Open House
 - MLK Diversity Address Co-Sponsor
 - Legal services for DACA students at FAU (approx. 164). Contact person to be made available soon
 - Festival of Nations Co-Sponsor
 - Diversity Symposium on Addressing Implicit Bias and other topics
 - National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD)

- Direct Employers Association Institutional Membership (ongoing). This is a cross-listing service of job postings across the country increasing the university's outreach to diverse constituencies.
- National Association of Black Accounts
- LGBT History Month
- Hispanic/Latinx Heritage events
- Publication of institutional marketing materials in Spanish as well as English

3. Current initiatives

- a. Website <http://www.coe.fau.edu/facultystaff/committees/diversity.php>

The committee briefly reviewed the website content, and made corrections to the existing content and suggestions for keeping the site current.

4. New initiatives

Guest Speaker announcements:

- David Stovall Ph.D. October 26th 5:30-7:30 pm in Live Oak Pavilion. He is an advocate for social justice in education.
- Loretta Ross – Ending Violence and Reproductive Oppression through Human Rights. Friday, October 20, 2017. 10:00 – 1:00 pm. Theater Lab, Parliament Hall.

Items that Dilys will bring to Executive Committee:

1. Diversity Committee website
2. Need to update Student Accessibility Services (SAS) statement in syllabi
3. Discussion of possible Canvas tutorial for students.
 - a. Selected Improvement Plan – Coaching for Student Success
 - b. CLASS eSuccess project

Action: 1) Ask Laura to collect data on students dropping out. 2) If possible, to obtain information about why students are leaving. Patty suggested we should have access to the number of times students have attempted certain tests such as the GK, FTCE, FELE.

Other topics:

There has been difficulty giving students accurate midterm grades through Canvas.

Discussion on how to and who should contact struggling students.

Students are unaware of how to navigate online courses.

Technology is an area that needs improvement and people should let Patty know what issues they are encountering.

Discussion of a possibility of an online tutorial, possibly mandatory, before taking an online class. Suggestion was that it's best to put it on YouTube and link back to Canvas.

There was mention that making it mandatory could be seen as a 'barrier' to success.

Discussion that the students that have the least familiarity with technology are also part of the historically underrepresented groups?

Angela suggested the book, *Creating the Opportunity to Learn* by Boykin & Noguera.

There was discussion of how to help students when they are being pushed into a 4-year program and the fact that many of these students are also from underrepresented communities.

Hani suggested that faculty encourage students with weak writing skills to use Grammarly (<https://www.grammarly.com>) as an online spell and grammar checker that is more effective than Word.

Issue: How much can we impose on students to seek out services on campus?

5. Next meeting. To be confirmed. Tentative date: Friday, November 17, 10:00 am.

Diversity Committee Membership

Hanizah Zainuddin	CCEI
Dilys Schoorman	CCEI
Joe Waters	OASS
*Angela Rhone	TL
Carol Tessel	CSD
Melissa Mariani	CE
Amanda Propst Cuevas	ELRM
John Hardman	ELRM
*Jennifer Percival	Graduate Student

*New members

Ex Officio

Valerie Bristor	Dean
Robert Shockley	ELRM
Barbara Ridener	TL
Patty Kirsch	Assessment & Evaluation
Elijah Watlington	Associate Provost