

Cultural Diversity Committee Meeting: Minutes

September 10, 2013, 1:30 PM

804 Langdale Hall

Attendees: Douglas Covey, Lynda Brown-Wright, Annette Butler, Diane Belcher, Mourad Dakhli, Yali Zhao, Tai Wang, Nedda Ahmed, Sarah Pallas, Carrie Manning Marian Meyers, Elisabeth Burgess, Peggy Albers, Fernando Doria, Monica Diaz

Absentees: Darryl Holloman, Judith Emerson, Heather Housley, Michael Wyatt, Tanya Washington, Shif Gurman, Valerie Fennell, Miles Irving, Janelle Kerlin

Minutes: Brenda Francois Kinchen

1. Presentation by Douglas Covey, Vice President of Students Affairs

Douglas Covey reported that a senior administrative position was created; Darryl Holloman is the Assistant Vice President for Multicultural Affairs. In addition, the position will be responsible for new programs. Dr. Covey mentioned that the multicultural center should be in the student area. He also mentioned possible collaboration with the Institute for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies to have a women's center or gender resource center, he anticipates that space this semester. He talked about the opening events that included LGBTQIA students. Dr. Covey reported a white male from Birmingham, Al received most attention in the media, because he wants to form a white student union on GSU campus. They meet as an informal club. Students have not sought institution recognition, they were using GSU name on their website, and were told to take it off. We have 400 recognized student organizations. The Signal is covering this very closely. The community is interested in this issue. They are trying to promote this on Tuesdays at 6:00-8:00pm. Dr. Covey reported that is all he knows about WSU. Monica Diaz asked how multicultural center is working with other units. Multicultural center will be an administrative department.

2. Student Evaluations of Underrepresented Faculty (form subcommittee)

Stemming from the conversation the committee had last semester, there is a new initiative, to look at the student evaluations of underrepresented faculty. Monica Diaz asked Peter Lyons, from the office of institutional effectiveness if the committee could get data on how underrepresented faculty has been evaluated,

particularly on question #17, the question with no criteria. Dr. Lyons is getting data. David Cheshire, chair of the committee of faculty affairs is working with cultural diversity to form a combined committee to work on this issue. Marian Meyers reported the problem is bigger than question #17. Mourad Dakhli suggested for us to look at what data says before the committee decides how to proceed.

3. “Diversity scholar” (form subcommittee) (Monica Diaz)

Monica Diaz passes out the two new models of certification for students to be “city scholars” or “global scholars,” she suggested we think about including a diversity component in the curriculum. The committee suggests we look at what we have in place before we proceed. Dr. Covey will report next meeting on the programs and classes that are in place in terms of diversity. Dr. Butler reported the Diversity profile instrument and training is available through the Diversity Education Planning Office here at GSU. The Director for Diversity Education Planning is John Day.

New Business (Monica Diaz)

Sara Pallas reported she had a webinar on Project implicit, to test oneself on race and gender bias. Dr. Butler reported the Diversity profile instrument and training is available through the Diversity Education Planning Office here at GSU. The Director for Diversity Education Planning is John Day. Dr. Diaz reported on discussions she had with David Cheshire about salary gender disparity and how things have been moving along. Two initiatives: **(a)**. Faculty who get stuck at associate level, is it a gender issue? **(b)**. Issue of LGBTQ staff and faculty who don’t get benefits for their partners. UGA President started to grant initiatives for faculty and staff. The President of UGA will pay for benefits with foundation money, and the foundation said “no.”

Handouts

- Agenda
- Project Implicit

Adjournment

- Dr. Monica Diaz adjourned the meeting at 2:15pm

The next meeting will be held on October 9, 2013, Location TBD