

# **University Diversity Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**February 22, 2009**

### **I. Call to order**

Ms. Belluscio called to order the regular meeting of the University Diversity Committee at 1:30p.m. on Monday, February 22, 2010 in the Student Services Building, Room 549.

### **II. Roll call**

The roll was called with the following persons present:

Allison Bullins, Teresa Belluscio, Salome Nnoromele, Mark Merriman, Chris Baker, Rich Richmond, Vigs Chandra, Sharon Lee and Gayle Cron.

Visitors present:

Erin Barnett

Lori Beth Miller

Those members absent:

Jenny Allen, Steven Byrn, Emily Jo Campbell, Tamala Cox, Loni Crowe (regrets), Steve Haggerty, Mark Howard, Margaret Hale (sent alternate), DuJuane Harris, Sandy Hunter (regrets), Gladys Johnson (regrets), Wardell Johnson, Bob Keith, Kristie Kirkpatrick (regrets), Holly Long (regrets), Kim Merritt, Steve Minter, Marta Miranda (Regrets), Sandra Moore (regrets) Chelsey Nickum , Abbey Poffenberger, Chrissy Roberts, Afsi Siahkoohi , Debbie Sowers (regrets) James Street, Deneia Thomas (regrets), Sherwood Thompson, Jane Tinsley (Regrets), Janna Vice and Sara Ziegler (regrets).

### **Approval of minutes from the meeting of November 16 , 2009**

Ms. Belluscio inquired if members had read the minutes that were previously emailed from the November 16, 2009 meeting. Vigs Chandler made the motion to approve the minutes. Chris Baker seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read by voice vote.

### **III. Announcements**

As follows:

Ms. Belluscio welcomed our guest Dr. Lori Beth Miller, First Year Programs (Orientation & New Student Days) and Ms. Erin Barnett, QE Program Coordinator

Dr. Nnoromele discussed the results of Jenny Allen's presentation on February 11, 2010. There were approximately thirteen people present. There were several students in attendance but we need more students in the audience. Ms. Allen's presentation was an excellent presentation and the campus would benefit from it.

Dr. Nnoromele spoke with Sandy Hunter and he is presently working on a date and time for his presentation that is titled :

**The Faces of the Rainbow: Multi-racial people in America**

A brief synopsis of the presentation; The panel will discuss changes in the demographics of the U. S. during the past decade; during which, people who identify themselves as multi-racial have become the fastest growing demographic according to the U. S. Census Bureau. Panel members will engage the audience in an interactive dialogue about how this change in racial identity affects educational institutions and the greater society.

Sandra Moore has not yet set a date and time for her presentation. She is to have members of the CPE Panel on Diversity as panel members. Dr. Nnoromele advised we will need to advertise this meeting to make sure we have a large audience since the panel would be made up of CPE members. We may wait until the first of May to have Ms. Moore's presentation.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Celebration of Black History Month: Dr. Nnoromele advised there have been several readings and performances during the month. The presentations listed below are of upcoming presentations:

The Civil Rights Movement in Lexington, Kentucky. A panel presentation presented by Reverend Thomas Peoples and Herbert Owens will be presented Wednesday, February 24, 2010, at 3:30 p.m. in the Library in room 108.

African American Read-In will be presented in the Main Lobby at the Corbin Extended Campus on February 23, 2010 at 5p.m.

Harlem Renaissance Night is being held in Kennamer Room, Powell Building, on February 24, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. This will be an evening of poetry readings and history.

All of the above events are free and open to the public.

March is Women's History Month.

Rich Richmond advised he has nothing planned for his area, but encouraged students to show up for all the planned events. He advised Jill Petrey would be a good resource to inform us what is going on for student activities.

#### **IV. Open Issues Discussed at Meeting**

##### **Resources to Reach Extended Campus:**

- Downstream on website or teleconference actual meeting to extended campuses.

#### **V. Student Issues that need continued action:**

- Ms. Belluscio thanked our guests for being in attendance and turned the program over to Ms. Erin Barnett, QEP Program Coordinator, and Dr. Lori Beth Miller from the First Year Programs, Orientation & New Student Days.
- Ms. Barnett advised they are moving away from the textbook currently used and going with a textbook for GSO that we produce ourselves. She hopes this will take place in fall 2010. At present we use Kendall- Hunt. They are more costly than the publisher; Hayden- McNeil Publishing that she is currently working with. It would also give ECU the rights to the materials in the textbook. This will allow us to get the material that we want out there to our students.
- The cost for the current textbook is approximately \$54.00; the new cost will be \$15-\$20. She would like to initiate a program where the students will also be able to download the material instead of having it in a hard copy. There will be photos of our ECU students, not photo shopped copies of students from other campuses. Our university owns the photos and she is working with Chris Radcliffe, university photographer to obtain photos for the publication. Rich Richmond advised the University of Louisville has a great publication that brings into focus the images of diversity.
- Ms. Barnett will be the final decision maker. She is asking for experts on the subject of diversity to help compile the material and bring it all together to be ready to go to the publisher by March 2011. Ms. Belluscio will set up a committee to help with this project. Ms. Belluscio asked Ms. Cron to send an email to the UDC members, to see who would be interested in serving on the committee, the email was sent to the committee on February 22, 2010.
- Currently Jane Tinsley (UDC member), is serving on the advising committee. The current work group consists of: Adrienne Bauer, David Dailey, Steve Haggerty (UDC member), and Lisa Moore.
- Ms. Belluscio asked what Ms. Barnett will need from our committee. She advised she needs content for the book. Ms Belluscio advised she would help and Dr. Nnoromele advised she would do an AFA.

- Ms. Belluscio thanked Ms. Barnett for speaking to our committee and asked that she keep us informed on what the committee can do to help with her project.
- Ms. Belluscio asked if there were any questions from the committee for Ms. Barnett. There being none the floor was then turned over to Dr. Lori Beth Miller, Director, First Year Programs (Orientation & New Students)
- Dr. Miller advised that orientation is held approximately fifteen times over the summer. Diversity is apparent just by the participants at the Campus showcase who host tables in Powell.
- She spoke on the different programs and methods they present to the freshman to make them aware of diversity. They show multicultural videos that deal with diversity.
- Colonel Camp is an event that is held offsite. It is a four day and three night event that are typically held in August. Last year 260 students attended, over 500 is expected to attend this year. Orientation Leaders divides the students in to small groups of fifteen. They start the programs at low risk and then get to high risk discussions. The orientation staff writes 20-25 skits that deal with sexual orientation, promiscuity, alcohol, being lonely, and eating disorders. Marta Miranda's Bi-Standard Training Grant funds these programs
- Dr. Miller spoke on another program regarding gender communication and crossing the line. This program raises and exposing awareness of crossing the line on communication with others.
- New Student Days is the last element of the programs for the freshman. The Saturday before Move In day on Sunday before classes starts on Monday. There is a City Fest. Members and their families participate. There is a program called ECU Reads. Last year's reading was "Glass Castle". The reading for this year is still "under wraps" and the title will be forth coming. There is a gentleman that is in a wheelchair that does a South Park like presentation that features diversity. His program engages the students in frank conversation about diverse matters. There is also a Carolina Chocolate drop event.
- Dr. Miller advised that the orientation tries to teach and expose the students to issues here on campus. She deals with issues that the parents of the new students have regarding diversity here on campus. She counsels the parents on many issues large and small regarding their children that will be attending ECU.

- Dr. Nnoromele stated that when our students do their internships right before they graduate, there is a disparity in how the students see diversity and the way the employer observes the way the student sees diversity. She advised this is a problem.
- Ms. Belluscio called for questions or comments. None were forthcoming. She thanked Dr. Miller and Ms. Barnett for taking the time to come and speak to our committee on these very important issues.

#### **VI. Next Steps to be Taken:**

- a) Check on the conferencing of monthly meetings to extended campuses.
- b) Ms. Cron to send an email to the UDC members, to see who would be interested in serving on the committee, (the email was sent to the committee on February 22, 2010).
- c) Ms. Cron to check with Bethany Miller for percentage that was minorities of the 21 % that witnessed harassment/diversity in the Climate Study. (Checked with Dr. Miller on 02-23-10, she is pulling information regarding the percentage and will email it to Ms. Cron when report completed).

#### **VII. Adjournment**

Mark Merriman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Salome Nnoromele. The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Gayle Cron