

University Diversity Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2011

I. Call to Order

Dr. Salome Nnoromele called to order a regular meeting of the Eastern Kentucky University Diversity Committee at 1:31 p.m. on October 18, 2011, in the Student Success Building, Room 549.

The following members were in attendance, confirmed by sign in sheet.

Debbie Sowers	McNair Scholars
Sherry Robinson	Provost and Academic Affairs
William Harris	Counseling Center
Emily Campbell	University Housing
Lauren Childs	First Year Programs
Roger Cleveland	Educational Leadership
Holly Long	Human Resources
Rich Richmond	McNair Scholars
Gladys Johnson	Cooperative Education
Norman Powell	Educational Leadership
Sheila Pressley	Environmental Health Science
Socorro Zaragoza	Foreign Languages and Humanities
Sara Zeigler	University Programs

Co-chairs

Salome Nnoromele	AFA/English
Teresa Belluscio	OSID

II. Approval of the October 18, 2011 Minutes

Dr. Nnoromele inquired committee members about the October 18, 2011 minutes, she asked if committee members had read and approved the minutes, as presented. Dr. Zeigler made a motion to approve the minutes, as presented. Dr. Zaragoza seconded. The minutes were approved.

Reports:

III. Campus Climate Survey – Update

Dr. Nnoromele reviewed with the committee details regarding the upcoming campus-wide dissemination of the Campus Climate Survey. She noted a subcommittee comprised of the following members met before the scheduled meeting of the University Diversity Committee:

- Sheila Pressley
- Sandy Hunter
- Teresa Belluscio
- Salome Nnoromele
- Jessica Gregory

Dr. Nnoromele stated the committee planned the project's budget, created and disseminated campus communications, planned survey incentives and delegated tasks to committee members in an effort to successfully complete survey-related tasks on time and efficiently. Dr. Nnoromele reported the subcommittee was on target to complete all tasks in time for the survey's start date, October 24, 2011.

Additionally, Dr. Nnoromele identified 4 key areas of campus where student workers with faculty and staff volunteers will be stationed to assist with survey promotion:

- Powell
- Library
- Stratton
- Business and Technology

She stated communication would be established with regional campus leaders, and times would be identified to send committee members and students to regional campus sites to promote the survey. The committee discussed methods to increase campus buy-in of the survey and possible incentives for campus participation. Dr. Nnoromele stated the committee has received support from Ms. Sandra Moore, Dr. Janna Vice, and President Whitlock. It was noted when participants complete the survey, they must enter their email in order to be eligible to win an i-tunes or gas gift card.

Dr. Nnoromele asked for committee support regarding the provision of incentives for survey participants. Dr. Zeigler offered QEP items, Dr. Nnoromele informed the committee Dr. John Wade offered items and Admissions usually offers items. She asked that committee members email her with information regarding donations.

The committee discussed the creation of campus kiosks designed to increase student participation in the survey. Dr. Nnoromele solicited committee assistance to supervise student workers and help model best practice behaviors. Dr. Zaragoza informed the committee she would inform the Latino Student Union of this opportunity.

IV. Diversity Breakfast Update/Follow-Up

Dr. Nnoromele and Ms. Belluscio provided the committee with an update regarding the Diversity Breakfast. They noted the breakfast was received well from the campus community and noted a few areas of improvement. It was noted access to coffee could be improved for attendees in addition to longer breakfast service. Dr. Nnoromele reported the information tables were successful and enjoyed by participants. Dr. Zaragoza stated she would have preferred more explanation from Mr. Arevalo concerning his documentaries, Dr. Pressley noted attendees enjoyed Mr. Arevalo's presentation. Dr. Powell stated he enjoyed Mr. Arevalo's presentation regarding different aspects of diversity. Dr.

Zaragoza informed the committee she had copies of Mr. Arevalo's videos for committee members to view. Ms. Pressley stated a feedback form should be created.

V. Latino Heritage Month/ Latino Street Fair

Dr. Zaragoza provided the committee with an update regarding events centered around Latino Heritage month. She queried committee members for advice and guidance regarding methods to gain campus support. Committee members engaged in discussion related to methods designed to increase campus community participation in events such as Latino Heritage month. Dr. Zeigler suggested Dr. Zaragoza secure co-sponsors with campus entities which share a similar vision and mission. Committee members discussed additional methods which could help promote efficiency within Dr. Zaragoza's programming, such as, narrowing the focus of events and limiting the quantity. Dr. Zaragoza expressed appreciation to the committee for their suggestions.

VI. Other Business

Human Rights in Sierra Leone

Dr. Nnoromele informed the committee of Professor Tom Reed's upcoming presentation on Human Rights in Sierra Leone. The presentation is scheduled to take place on October 18 at 3 p.m. in Library 108.

Benefit for East Africa

Dr. Salome Nnoromele shared details for an upcoming benefit sponsored by the African and African American Studies Department to benefit east Africa. She noted there will be a musician and silent auction activities with proceeds benefitting the people of east Africa who are struggling with famine. Dr. Nnoromele encouraged committee members to invite colleagues and students and to donate items for the silent auction. The event is scheduled for October 20, 2011 at 7 pm.

Fiesta Latina

Dr. Powell announced the event, Fiesta Latina, scheduled for October 22, 2011. He encouraged committee members to inform their colleagues and to attend if possible. The festival is sponsored by the Foothills Community Action Partnership, Hispanic Outreach Program.

General Education

Dr. Zeigler reported information related to general education requirements at ECU and noted the new general education requirements are scheduled to roll out for Fall, 2012.

VII. Adjournment

With no further items to discuss, Ms. Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Zeigler seconded. The committee adjourned at 2:30 pm.

