

University Diversity Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2013

I. Call to Order

Dr. Socorro Zaragoza called to order at 1:30 pm, February 19th, 2013 a regular meeting of the Eastern Kentucky University Diversity Committee in SSB, room #549

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

Debbie Sowers	McNair Scholars
Minh Nguyen	Philosophy and Religion
Sandy Hunter	Emergency Medical Care
Socorro Zaragoza	Foreign Languages and Humanities
Gladys Johnson	Center for Career and Cooperative Education
Lauren Childs	First Year Programs
George Gallien	EKU Cultural Center
Jane Tinsley	NOVA Program
Sheila Pressley	College of Health Sciences
Jessica Gregory	Policy, Compliance and Governance
Norman Powell	College of Education

Co-chairs

Gladys Johnson	Cooperative Education
Socorro Zaragoza	Foreign Languages and Humanities

II. Approval of the November 20, 2012 Minutes

Ms. Johnson inquired committee members about the November 20, 2012 minutes, she asked if committee members had read and approved of the minutes, as presented. Dr. Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes, as presented. Mr. Gallien seconded. The minutes were approved.

Reports:

III. University Diversity Committee Event Planning – LGBTQ Student Support Panel

Dr. Zaragoza, Ms. Johnson opened the floor to discussion and suggestions to the University Diversity Committee for future event planning.

Dr. Zaragoza discussed planning arrangements and key ECU individuals involved in various University Diversity Committee initiatives. Dr. Zaragoza noted that due to the committee not meeting in January – there had not been adequate time to properly plan for a discussion panel involving the Alphabet Center Executive Board. Dr. Zaragoza and Ms. Johnson explained the formal invitation would be extended

before the next committee meeting – scheduled for March – and that they would keep the committee informed.

IV. Follow-Up: Action Plan for Campus Climate Survey

Dr. Zaragoza and Ms. Johnson discussed committee action plan strategy to address areas of the 2011 administration of campus climate survey (CCS) with the lowest scores. The co-chairs solicited committee suggestions for action and programming to directly address student perceptions and identified areas of concern. One identified area of the survey were the reports of the LGBT student population and their perception of campus faculty and staff's response to needs specific to their population.

According to survey data, students who identified themselves as members of this student population were unsatisfied with the level of awareness/programming/educational opportunities available for this subsection of the ECU student population.

The committee engaged in discussion related to this identified area of concern, including sharing relevant information about current campus sources and ideas for future programming. The committee agreed they needed more information from ECU students. Dr. Zaragoza informed the committee she will contact Dan Hendrickson, President of the Alphabet Center and UDC member to schedule Mr. Hendrickson and the Alphabet Center Executive Committee to speak with the UDC for information and action planning purposes. The committee agreed with this course of action and set the panel meeting time for March 19th, 2013 @ the next meeting of the University Diversity Committee.

V. Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) Discussion with Jenny Allen

Ms. Jenny Allen, Director of the Equal Opportunity Office at ECU, addressed the committee about recent changes to the student code of conduct and the code of ethics for computing and communications. Ms. Allen discussed the implications of the changes to the Student Code of Conduct and Computing policies, respectively. Additionally Ms. Allen clarified the meaning of these changes and the continued expectation of mutual respect in both verbal and written forms of communication among members of the campus community. Ms. Allen directed committee members to a letter written on the topic of first amendment rights and civil rights law from the Assistant Secretary of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Education. Ms. Johnson and Dr. Zaragoza thanked Ms. Allen for her presentation and information.

VI. Other Business

Next UDC Global Café – Diverse Student Populations and Academic Integrity

Dr. Zaragoza, Ms. Johnson and Ms. Gregory shared information concerning planning and scheduling for the 2nd in the UDC's interactive campus educational series meant to address areas of diversity on campus. Dr. Zaragoza described the content of the next planned educational event, including speakers, topics and possible dates. Dr. Zaragoza shared with the committee that a formal agenda will be circulated once speakers and topics are finalized. The committee provided insights for program enhancement. Dr. Zaragoza and Ms. Johnson thanked the committee for their suggestions.

Announcements

Dr. Norman Powell shared information concerning an upcoming College of Education Diversity Event entitled "Call me Mister." Dr. Powell shared the event will bring 20 middle school age students to campus. Dr. Powell shared that the opportunity is available to students by application and is open to all students who match the eligibility criteria. Dr. Zaragoza thanked Dr. Powell for his announcement.

Ms. Johnson announced the recent margining of two ECU student support offices, Cooperative Education and Career Services. Ms. Johnson announced the two offices are now one Campus Center. Dr. Zaragoza thanked Ms. Johnson for her announcement.

VII. Adjournment

With no further items to discuss, the University Diversity Committee adjourned at 2:10 pm.