University Diversity Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2012

I. Call to Order

Dr. Socorro Zaragoza called to order a regular meeting of the Eastern Kentucky University Diversity Committee at 1:38 p.m. on May 15, in room #549, Student Success Building, Eastern Kentucky University.

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

- Lisa Day, Women and Gender Studies
- Sandy Hunter, Department of Emergency Medical Care
- Gladys Johnson, Co-op & Internships
- Socorro Zaragoza, Department of Foreign Languages and Humanities
- Sheila Pressley, Environmental Health Science
- Salome Nnorormele, African/African American Studies
- George Gallien, Office of Multicultural Student Affairs
- Danda Rawat, Applied Engineering and Technology
- Jane Tinsley, NOVA
- Emily Jo Davis, University Housing
- Alex LaVant, Office of the Associate Provost for Diversity Planning
- Sara Zeigler, University Programs
- Jillian Watts, Educational Talent Search
- Lauren Childs, First Year Programs

II. Approval of the May 15, 2012 Minutes

Dr. Zaragoza inquired committee members about the May 15, 2012 minutes, she asked if committee members had read and approved the minutes, as presented. Dr. Hunter requested language in paragraph 5 be retooled to promote clarity. Ms. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes, as presented. Dr. Hunter seconded. The minutes were approved.

Reports:

III. Announcements – University Diversity Breakfast

Ms. Johnson and Dr. Zaragoza shared information regarding the planning activities of the 5th annual University Diversity Breakfast. It was announced the event had thus far received over 200 RSVPs. Dr. Zaragoza provided information regarding student entertainment scheduled for the event, including the addition of guitar music accompaniment and a Japanese poetry reading with students. Dr. Nnorormele
stated that she and Ms. Belluscio would be providing a presentation covering data results of the 2011 administration of the campus climate survey.

The committee engaged in discussion related to continued breakfast promotion and strategic communications. Committee members suggested WEKU and the President’s Office should be utilized to remind the campus community of the breakfast’s purpose and event date/location.

IV. Diversity Programming, Idea Sharing Session

Dr. Zaragoza opened the floor to discussion and suggestions from committee members regarding the number and nature of diversity themed campus activities for the committee to develop, plan and implement. Ms. Watts suggested diversity break-out sessions representing numerous cultural groups. Ms. LaVant informed the committee the Diversity convocation, planned through the Associate Provost for Diversity Planning’s Office is scheduled to take place November 13, 2012. She encouraged committee members to assist in its promotion. She noted it will commence at 9 pm and is set to include participation from numerous RSOs, refreshments will be served.

Dr. Hunter engaged the committee in an advisory discussion regarding cultural sensitivity in intercultural, student exchanges on campus. The committee offered numerous suggestions, including the promotion and coordination of existing campus resources.

Diversity Dinner

Dr. Nnoromele advised the committee of the upcoming diversity dinner and its importance as an initiative meant to promote retention of minority faculty, staff and students on campus. She noted it was scheduled to take place October 29, 2012 in Keen Johnson.

Latino Student Union Open House

Dr. Zaragoza shared 2 flyers promoting the upcoming open house of the Latino Student Union. She noted it is scheduled to take place October 10, 2012, 10-2pm at Powell Corner. She encouraged all committee members to attend if possible and to promote to their students.

V. Adjournment

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