

Meeting Minutes

Equity Council Meeting

Thursday, November 18, 2010

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Thompson Board Room, Ballentine Hall

Attendance: Trish Morokoff, co-chair, Gerald Williams, co-chair, Karol Leuzarder, Marcia Morreira, Major Stephen Baker, Bob Dilworth, Annemarie Vaccaro, Alycia Mosley Austin, Michelle Fontes-Barros, Frank Forleo, David Coates, Christina Knoll, Liliana Costa, Lisa Abreu Morel, Amy Olson, Pamela Rohland, Barbara Silver, Eileen Orabone, Gail Faris, Andrew Winters, Lynne Derbyshire, Ann Morrissey, Laura Beauvais, Melvin Wade, Ed Givens, and Kyle Kusz.

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Minutes of the October 22, 2010 meeting were approved.
- 3) Announcements
 - a) Lunch for Equity Council members to meet Kathryn Friedman, candidate for the position of interim Associate VP for Community, Equity, and Diversity was held October 28, 2010.
 - b) Academic Affairs Diversity Task Force met October 28, 2010
 - c) A meeting to address LGBT issues was held with the negotiating team on November 5, 2010. We discussed progress including training for RA's to be held over the intersession, status of Ruggles house as a site for the GLBT center, and that work on compensation for GLBT staff is underway.
 - d) Equity Council co-chairs Gerald Williams and Trish Morokoff met with President Dooley on Friday October 30 to discuss appointment of interim Associate VP.
 - e) Equity Council met with President Dooley and Provost DeHayes on November 9, 2010 to provide feedback on candidate Kathryn Friedman.
 - f) PFLAG meeting was held November 17th for a screening of the documentary film "Anyone and Everyone." President Dooley attended.
 - g) There are two postings for campus police officers—diverse applicants are sought. This will be announced on the Equity Council listserv.
 - h) Call for nominations for the Martin Luther King Jr. URI Peacemaker Award presented annually by the URI Chaplains Association was sent by email.
 - i) David Coates, President of the Student Senate announced issues of interest at the Student Senate including:
 - i) Role of the Associate VP for Community, Diversity, and Equity
 - ii) Curriculum changes to the General Education program
 - iii) Enhanced multicultural Greek life on campus
 - iv) Developing a master calendar of events at URI

4) Confidentiality

Trish reviewed the policy for confidentiality at meetings.

- No one will speak to the media concerning issues discussed at an Equity Council meeting unless agreed upon at the meeting.
- All discussion at Equity Council meetings will be confidential unless otherwise designated.
- Minutes will be made public after approval.

5) Subcommittee on Staff, Faculty, and Student Alliance for LGBTIQQ issues report. Ann Morrissey, subcommittee convener, distributed a subcommittee invitation to the community and agenda. One subcommittee meeting has been held so far. The subcommittee will report further to the Equity Council at the next meeting.

6) Role of the Equity Council and Associate VP for Community, Diversity, and Equity. Discussion was led by co-chair Gerald Williams. There was Council discussion concerning the move of the Diversity Centers to report to the new Interim Associate VP and the Associate VP's relationship to the President. It was noted that it will be important for the Equity Council to have input into the position description for the permanent Associate VP for Community, Diversity, and Equity. There was further discussion concerning the importance for the Equity Council in maintaining direct input to the President during the term of the Interim Associate VP.

A motion was made and seconded that the Co-chairs maintain their line of communication to the President during the interim on behalf of the Equity Council. The motion was unanimously adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.