

MINUTES

Equity Council Meeting

Thursday, November 1, 2012

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Student Senate Chambers, Memorial Union

Attendance: Lynne Derbyshire, co-chair, Michelle Fontes-Barros, co-chair, Annemarie Vaccaro, David Hayes, Mailee Kue, Melvin Wade, Delores Walters, Kyle Kusz, Annie Russell, Katrina Dorsey, Jennifer Longo, Faye Boudreaux-Bartels, Barb Silver, Gerald Williams, Trish Morokoff, Gerard Holder, Roxanne Gomes, Abu Bakr, Liliana Costa, Stephen Baker, Alycia Mosley Austin, Frank Forleo, Ann Morrissey, Laura Beauvais, Kristina Moyet and Ed Givens.

- 1.) Introductions
- 2.) Announcements
 - a. The deadline for the MCC RFP has been extended until November 2nd at noon.
 - b. Trish Morokoff has been appointed Assoc. Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences.
 - c. Frank Forleo reported that the Narragansett Indian tribe scholarships have been awarded to 10 students for \$1000 each. Out of the 10 people, one received the DiMaio award also.
- 3.) Civility Committee update
 - a. Jen Longo gave a brief update as to what the Office of Civility does. She explained that they deal with issues relating to hazing, harassment, roommate issues, etc. She said they are working on a campaign to get people to be nicer and kinder towards other people. They have made up t-shirts, bracelets and other things to give out to the URI community. They are located in Rm. 302 in the Memorial Union.
This issue was brought to the Equity Council due to a concern by Jody Lisberger. It was stated that Jody's concern was a gender issue and that people need to be respectful of one another.
- 4.) Workplace bullying policy update
 - a. Liliana Costa gave a brief update on the changes that had been made to the anti-bullying policy document. She indicated that they had made an addendum to the Violence in the Workplace Prevention Policy by calling it the Safe Workplace and Anti-bullying Guidelines. She indicated that the goal was to have the Equity Council review the document and endorse the document for adoption. It would then go to the President and Board of Governors, as well as the other two institutions.

There was discussion regarding the document about whether or not this document could be distributed to other groups on campus, usage of some of the words in the document and whether there was anything in the student handbook having to do with bullying. It was decided that the Equity Council would endorse the substance of this document.
A motion was made and approved.

5.) Old Business

- a. Michelle Fontes-Barros revisited the topic of the Awards subcommittee. She said she would like to create a subcommittee that could find out about all of the awards that are given out at URI and gather the criteria about the awards. The purpose of this is to make sure that we can address the issue of equitable nominations with each of the awards committees. There was discussion about this and it was decided that a letter should be written and sent out to the Equity Council listserv asking them to send any information about URI awards that they know of and what the criteria is for nominations.
A motion was made and approved.
- b. Lynne and Michelle also reported that they had a meeting with Naomi and a few people from Marketing & Communications regarding diversifying the URI home page. They talked about lead stories, specific guidelines – and will make a point to seek out additional visuals from diversity committees and/or groups on campus. There was agreement to reevaluate their guidelines, opportunities and to get more visuals that include diversity. They will also make a conscious effort to get more visuals on the home page.

6.) New Business

- a. Mission/guidelines – there was discussion about the possibility of a subcommittee to be formed to talk about structure and goals. Trish and Gerald suggested that Lynne and Michelle review past meeting minutes because there is documentation that they can start with and maybe we can discuss within one of our meetings. They will review and bring back to the council as soon as possible. Some of the things that we need to focus on are: to reaffirm being advisory to the CDO, common set of bylaws or guidelines and figure out how commissions relate to one another. We also need to figure out how the EC can or will align with the other commissions and summarize as to what our structure is currently.

b. It was brought up the there needs to be an election for a faculty co-chair. Lynne and Michelle will put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.