

## **Minutes**

Equity Council Meeting

Friday, March 8, 2013

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Thomson Board Room, Ballentine Hall

**Attendance:** Lynne Derbyshire, co-chair, Michelle Fontes-Barros, co-chair, Skylar Plante, Kerri Hicks, Sarah Couch, Amy Olson, Mailee Kue, Karol Leuzarder, Frank Forleo, Faye Boudreaux-Bartels, Liliana Costa, Katrina Dorsey, Pamela Rohland, Delores Walters, Alycia Mosley Austin, Gerald Williams, Laura Beauvais, Kyle Kusz, Diane Kern, Stephen Baker, Brandon Brown, David Hayes, Karen Sherman

1. Introductions
2. The February 7, 2013 minutes were approved.
3. CED Updates:
  - a. Michelle reported for Assoc. VP Thompson that the search committees for the two VP searches have been formed and she will get the names of people of color who are on the committee.
  - b. Abu Bakr's retirement celebration – Michelle informed the committee that Abu has been in touch with the President's Office and a date has not been set as of yet. We will let you know when it is.
4. RI Diploma Update:
  - a. Frank Forleo gave an update on the RI Diploma and the NECAP test. He indicated that he had attended a Parents Advisory Meeting and it was very sparsely attended because parents are worn out about this issue. He indicated that a new test was going to take the place of the NECAP test. It is the PARQQ test and President Dooley has signed his blessing to this new test. He also reported that Commissioner Gist has been invited to campus to discuss why the NECAP test is such a good idea. The committee approved that a letter be sent to the Faculty Senate for their support on this issue. They also indicated that if there were any other forums happening to keep the EC committee informed.

5. Academic Affairs Diversity Task Force Subcommittee:
  - a. Laura Beauvais gave an update for the Academic Affairs Diversity Committee. She indicated that they are putting together a model for courses in Cultural Competency that would meet the new proposed general education requirements, including course goals and learning outcomes that map out the endorsed set of multicultural learning competencies developed by the task force several years ago. The task force discussed using the Multicultural Enhancement Fund to support the development of cultural competency courses for the general education program. She indicated that the soonest the new program could be implemented would be Fall 2014. New Student Orientation would let the students know that they will need to take this course, along with other requirements in the new general education program. In addition, the task force is working on ways to develop multicultural competency among faculty through workshops and training programs.

6. Old Business

New Faculty members to serve on the Equity Council – next agenda

7. New Business
  - a. Equity Council listserv – There was a brief conversation about the listserv and how it is used. It was indicated that people are getting the same emails too many times. It was decided to keep things the way they are.