

## **Meeting Minutes**

Equity Council

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Hillel Center

**Attendance:** Trish Morokoff, Co-chair, Gerald Williams, Co-chair, Marcia Morreira, Andrew Winters, Justin Wilner, Joseph Santiago, Riley Davis, Lisa Abreu Morel, Tammy Vargas Warner, Roxanne Gomes, Michelle Fontes-Barros, Frank Forleo, Ed Givens, Maxwell Edmonds, Gail Faris, Amy Olson, Melvin Wade, Michael Donahue, Major Stephen Baker, Jody Lisberger, Kyle Kusz,, Lynne Derbyshire and Pamela Rohland.

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Minutes of the May 21, 2010 meeting were approved.
- 3) Announcements
  - a) President Dooley made a proposal at the Strategic Budget and Planning Council endorsing a new position for Associate VP for Equity, Diversity and Community.
  - b) Equity Council co-chairs met with President Dooley on June 30, 2010.
  - c) Michelle Fontes-Barros reported that the Advancement Division has formed an Alumni Association Diversity Committee.
- 4) Confidentiality:

Trish reviewed the policy for confidentiality at meetings.

  - a) No one will speak to the media concerning issues discussed at an Equity Council meeting unless agreed upon at the meeting.
  - b) All discussion at Equity Council meetings will be confidential unless otherwise designated.
  - c) Minutes will be made public after approval.
- 5) Old Business:
  - a) Major Baker presented a summary of a report concerning police questioning of students as they were chalking information for a Native American Student Organization event. He handed out the conclusion of the report of the incident to the Equity Council and presented information to support the police response including lack of prior notification and the nature of the student's actions. He concluded that the police response was appropriate while acknowledging lack of

communication between the first and second officers. It was agreed to hold a separate meeting to discuss this incident/response further.

- b) VP Diversity. Trish reported on the Strategic Budget and Planning Council meetings in June. President Dooley made a strong proposal for an Associate VP for Equity, Diversity, and Community to the Council at a meeting which was attended by a number of Equity Council members. In a subsequent decision, the SBPC ranked this proposal third across all recommendations for the FY 12 budget. Trish indicated that there is still much work to be done to call this a success. It was stated that it would be good to get someone with a track record of success for this position.

#### New Business:

- 6. The President proposed a summit meeting at the end of the summer with himself, Provost DeHayes and VP Tom Dougan. He recommended for us to have a steering committee with some members of the Equity Council. We need to set up a process as to how to go about this.

#### Preparation for August meeting:

Because we are limited to a subgroup of the Equity Council, it was necessary to decide how to select Council members for the retreat. It was agreed that we should have representatives from each of the Diversity Committees and Centers and that students should be included in this process. Trish indicated that the purpose of this meeting would be to set priorities for the coming year regarding diversity and equity issues. It was discussed that we could put together our own set of priorities to bring to the meeting. It was also suggested that it might be good for the diversity committees to meet before the meeting with the President so that they could discuss their priorities for the coming year and bring those to this meeting.

- a) Discussion ensued concerning the need to propose to the President that an Interim Assoc. VP for Diversity should be put in place with the recommendation for the Equity Council co-chairs to be appointed to this position. A motion was made with one committee member abstaining from the motion. A motion was made and seconded to recommend to President Dooley that the co-chairs of the Equity Council be appointed to fill the position of Interim Assoc. VP for Equity, Diversity, and Community for the academic year 2010-2011. The motion carried with all voting in favor with one abstention.

#### 7. LGBT Campus Climate

Andrew Winters gave a brief report regarding the LGBT campus climate, but it was decided that we should have a separate two hour meeting in

mid-August and bring back the LGBT issue and the Native American incident to discuss at this meeting.

8) Website development

Frank Pari joined the meeting to discuss the website page that the Equity Council is in the process of setting up. Ideas were discussed and it was decided that Tammy Vargas Warner and Lisa Abreu Morel would work with Frank to get the website set up. They would also work with Eileen and Trish to get documents from them to put up on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.