

Meeting Minutes

Equity Council Meeting

Thursday, August 11, 2011

10:00-12:00 p.m.

Thomson Board Room, Ballentine Hall

Attendance: Trish Morokoff, co-chair, Gerald Williams, co-chair, Laura Beauvais, Alycia Mosley Austin, Delores Walters, Jody Lisberger, Amy Olson, Roxanne Gomes, Liliana Costa, Lynne Derbyshire, Pamela Rohland, Frank Forleo, Jason Pina, Tammy Vargas Warner, Lisa Abreu Morel, David Hayes, Ann Morrissey, Abu Bakr, Stephen Baker, Barb Silver, Michelle Fontes-Barros, Joe Santiago, Melvin Wade, Chip Yensan, Mike Donohue, Earl Smith III, and Eileen Orabone.

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Minutes of the June 29 meeting were approved as attached.
- 3) Announcements:
 - a. Equity Council co-chairs met with Kathryn Friedman on July 14th.
 - b. Equity Council co-chairs and co-chair elects met with Kathryn Friedman on August 10th.
 - c. Frank Forleo announced that 357 students completed the TD Summer 2011 Program.
 - d. The search for the GLBT Center Director has begun. Lynne Derbyshire will chair the search and will distribute a list of the search committee members.
 - e. Jody Lisberger announced that Jeff Bachman has been hired as a joint lecturer in Political Science and Women's Studies.
- 4) A recommendation was made and agreed to that Anne Marie Coleman and Laura Kenerson will be invited to a future meeting of the Equity Council to discuss HR procedures.
- 5) It was agreed to discuss recognition for Andrew Winters, former Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs, at a future meeting.
- 6) Confidentiality policy

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.

7) Report from the Student Affairs Diversity Committee

- a. Pamela Rohland gave a brief report of the Student Affairs Diversity Committee. She reported on some of the priority issues that the committee has been working on which included revitalizing the charge of the committee.
- b. There was also discussion about the Diversity Fund Committee. Katrina Dorsey will continue to chair the committee. She also reported that there was \$50,000 budgeted and there was around \$22,000 that was not spent. Discussion ensued as to whether there was a limit on the amount of money people could ask for and what is the mechanism of accessing these funds. It was clarified that anyone could apply for these funds.
- c. There was discussion about the relationship between the Women of Color Network and the Student Affairs Diversity Committee. It was also suggested that it might be beneficial to have a member of the Women of Color network join the Equity Council as an official member.

8) Report on the URI Police Department Recruitment Process

- a. Major Baker gave a brief report on the URI Police Department Recruitment Process. He handed out copies of the report to the committee. There was some discussion that the budget should be increased for diversity recruitment. It was indicated that there would be money coming from the Community, Equity & Diversity department for recruitment and retention.
- b. A motion was made to commend the URI Police Department on their search and recruitment process. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

9) Update on the CDO Search

Laura Beauvais gave a brief update on the CDO Search. She indicated that they were working on a timeline and have made a list of recommendations to the President. Letters will be sent out to invite them to be on the search. The first meeting will convene when the search committee is selected.

10) University Manual proposed language changes and operating procedures

Trish Morokoff handed out a copy of the PCOSW by-laws to the committee. She said that we would discuss whether other groups should have by-laws at a future meeting.

11) Digital Commons Community for Community, Equity & Diversity

Joe Santiago gave a brief report on the Digital Commons project he has been working on. He handed out a copy for everyone to read and we also viewed the Digital Commons Community for Community, Equity & Diversity.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.