Status of Diversity Council of the Faculty Senate
Meeting Date: December 9, 2013
Time: 12:00 – 1:30 PM
Location: Campus Center Room 804 - 808

Minutes

Present: Mzamo Mangaliso (co-chair), Ernie Washington (co-chair), Jeung Choi, Doris Clemmons, Ingrid Holm, Willie Hill, Laura Lovett, Joel Martin, Marie-Christine Polizzi, Amilcar Shabazz, Anna Waltman, Nate Whitmal, Madeleine Charney (replacement of Sarah Hutton)

Apologies: Alberto Ameal-Perez, Ritika Bhakri, Merav Kaufman, Ernie May, Stefanie Robles, Annemarie Seifert

Co-Chair Mzamo Mangaliso called the meeting to order at 12:20 pm, welcomed all present, and reviewed the agenda.

The minutes of the meeting November 4, 2013 were reviewed; a motion to accept the minutes was seconded and approved. After then, there was a discussion about # 2 in the minute, especially the question, which race are you.

Reports by Ernie Washington

a. SRTI: Randy Phillis, President of MSP, responded our invitation to discuss the SRITI negotiation process. We will send another invitation to him.

A national conference is necessary to identify best practices and resources for the assessment of faculty teaching. A review of the literature suggests including teaching portfolios, artifact of students’ progress, syllabi, and other evidence of teaching.

It is evident that the same instrument, i.e., SRTI, cannot be used across departments, but there may be some components of assessment instruments which can be shared across departments.

Discussion by committee members:

There were three issues raised by the members-- how and where we get funding, where will be the place for the conference, seeking leaders as speakers. Members suggested talking with the director of Five Colleges for funding as well as the Union. Because of these issues, it seems to be impossible to hold it in this spring.

Ernie Washington talked to 2 administrators for funding, and contacted key individuals who believe that it is possible to put together the funding for a conference.

Anna Waltman brought to the attention of the committee the impact of the SRTI upon graduate students (TAs). Ernie and Mzamo suggested forming a subcommittee to further explore the SRTI impact on graduate students. The elected members are: Anna Waltman, Marie-Christine Polizzi, and Laura Lovett.
b. Diversity scorecard: Ernie suggested that each department should be encouraged to become interested and involved. Next semester, we will begin to gather feedback from departments about the components of the scorecard. Three departments have been approached and volunteered to participate in a pilot study of the scorecard.

c. Other: Amilcar Shabazz reported the graduate and undergraduate students’ comments from the Chancellor’s Diversity Advisory Committee meeting. The key point is that a larger number of minority students is needed to participate on representation on committees.

The passing of Nelson Mandela

Members took turns and shared their thoughts and reflections on the impact of Nelson Mandela on our campus and the world. Mzamo announced that an event will be organized to commemorate Mandela on campus in late spring, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeung Choi