

COE Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity  
Wist 218  
9:30a.m. - 11:00a.m.  
April 27, 2006  
Minutes

- I. Present: Chair Steve Brown, Shannon Simonelli, Alice Ehmes, Xu Di, Jeff Moniz, Morris Lai, and note-taker – Becky Ozaki.
  - a. Introductions: Steve welcomed two visitors who are considering joining the committee. He talked about the mission of the committee and stated this information is going to be available on the COE – Diversity website in the near future.
  - b. Shannon Simonelli stated that a new committee about Hidden Disabilities is meeting monthly and invited all to attend.
  
- II. Approval of Minutes: Correction to the title to change Agenda to Minutes. Minutes distributed. No quorum to approve.
  
- III. Report from the Assistant Dean for Student Academic Services
  - a. Admission for next year was completed on April 20
  - b. The University is down 5-10 percent
  - c. COE is up 6-10 percent in enrollment
  - d. Scholarships: Jeff is assisting with the process. All students have been notified. There is no money for scholarships for students to attend local conferences. There is money (not in Di Di's office) for those presenting papers.
  - e. Jean is working on the commencement. The program is about 1.5 hours. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Dress is casual. It is being held at the Campus Ballroom.
  - f. Di Di talked about trying to collect data on new and current hires, stating that the system was changed approximately 2-3 years ago. The result is that there are many fields that are not compatible. She is working to address these discrepancies. The goal is to get consistent data from year to year. The data does not collection information on disability or funding sources.
  - g. This year data fields/categories will be defined. We can stay with UH but COE collects more data than UH and the committee agreed that more information was valuable.
  - h. Di Di will hire a .50 FTE to help with data collection to provide longitudinal data.
  - i. Next year Di Di would like to request a subcommittee to work with her office to help coordinate information collected by the Dean and human resources.

- IV. Updates
  - a. Legislative Testimony: Steve testified regarding a House resolution requiring an audit of diversity within COE. The testimony was distributed via email. Currently the bill has been tabled.
  - b. Disability Leadership Institute: The Institute is on May 8, 2006 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Steve and Becky will represent the Diversity Committee.
  
- V. Faculty Senate Update
  - a. Tuition Hike Resolution: The Resolution drafted by the Diversity Committee was approved at the COE Senate meeting. The Senate added the UH system President to contacts the Resolution will be distributed. The Resolution, prior to Senate change and approval, was distributed via email. Di Di will keep data to track the impact of tuition hikes in the COE
  - b. Charge to Diversity Committee for 2006-07: To review the impact of COE policies, rules, regulations and practices on racial, ethnic and diversity issues as they related to faculty, staff, and students. Monthly reports will be presented at the COE Senate. The Committee did not have the exact language of the Senate motion, but did discuss expanding the Senate's charge to all aspects of diversity the Committee feels is appropriate to its own mission.
  - c. Jean is purchasing some books related to these issues that will be available for the Diversity Committee Review.
  
- VI. Emerging Issues
  - a. Request from faculty member regarding language pronunciation (handout distributed via email to the full Committee): Discussion regarding the request resulted in a proposal for the Diversity Committee to make a presentation at the Fall COE Congress. Morris volunteered to take the lead to talk about the use of respectful language/pronunciations, tying the presentation in with new release of the Ka Wana series. Steve will talk with Darnell to see if we can get on the agenda.
  
- VII. 2006-07 Committee Members.
  - a. Steve will develop an informational handout for the COE Congress meeting on May 12 to solicit new committee members.
  
- VIII. Next meeting: Via email.