

College of Education
Senate Committee on Diversity
October 19, 2005
Wist Hall Rm. 218

1. The meeting was convened at 9:37 a.m. Present: Steve Brown (Chair), Patricia Espiritu Halagao, Jeff Moniz, Morris Lai, Michael Salzman, Becky Rude Ozaki.
2. Minutes and Note-taker:

Becky agreed to be responsible for the Minutes this month. Correction to the minutes: Morris clarified that he would not be in town during the “Celebration of Giving” event and wanted to confirm that he was not a co-chair of the event. He confirmed that status with Rhonda and Becky prior to the meeting. Becky moved to accept the Minutes as distributed/with corrections, Jeff seconded the motion.

- a. Approval of Minutes dated September 16, 2005 with corrections

3. Update on “Celebration of Giving:”

Becky distributed a flyer about the Celebration event. The flyer is void of any holiday decorations that may be construed as having a religious bias. Becky confirmed with Child and Family Services about the donation for the Domestic Violence Shelters. CSF will inform us about the number of children, girls, boys, sizes, and specific needs. Things to be completed and responsible person include the following:

- a. Make corrections to the flyer and forward to Morris (Becky)
- b. Print the flyers on green paper (Becky)
- c. Provide paper plates, cups, utensils and napkins at the event (Becky)
- d. Distribute the flyers via email to the COE and CDS (Becky)
- e. Include a faint shading of a Hawaiian tapa print of sea urchin as the background on the flyer and return to Becky (Morris)
- f. Check with Dean Hitz about the department providing drinks (Steve)
- g. Check with Jim Skouge and Dean Hitz about providing music for the event (Steve).
- h. Report on the Diversity Committee and the event at the Senate meeting on November 4, 2005 (Jeff)
- i. Assist with the distribution of flyers via handouts placed on bulletin boards, distributed through departments, handed out at the Senate meeting(committee)
- j. Assist with setting up and cleaning-up after the event. (committee)
- k. Assist with taking the items to Child and Family Services after the event. (committee)

4. Focus/Discussion Group topics:

Michael continued the discussion from the previous meeting by talking about the tuition hikes at UH and questioning whether we are diminishing access to education of all ethnic and socioeconomic groups as a result. He cited a recent article in the Los Angeles Times which discussed the trend of privatizing public institutions.

Morris questioned whether the differential effects are a form of racial discrimination. Also, as a land/sea grant institution, is the decision by the University staying true to their cause? There is reduced availability of scholarships and tuition waiver; how will the increases impact the poor?

The conversation touched on the No Child Left Behind Act, military recruitment of High School students with a promise of a college education, access to education as it relates to employment and earning power.

People were identified that could contribute to a discussion groups related to this topic. We want to include a Representative or Senator, someone with knowledge about the affects on ethnic groups in our community, a representative of the University, students, and either Governor Lingle or a representative.

Final decisions:

- a. Topic title: **Equal Opportunity? Discriminatory effects of tuition hikes on access to higher education**
- b. Questions to ask during the discussion: Will raising tuition diminish educational access? If so, for who? Is that okay? What are the long range impacts on the community? Should access to education, healthcare and justice be a function of money?
- c. People to invite: Representation Lyla Berg (Patricia), Jonathan Okomura (Morris), Linda Johnsrud (Michael), Students (Morris – through COEDSA), Governor Lingle (unassigned)
- d. Materials to distribute: Data on wages, job opportunities with and without a college education. Jonathan Okomura's OP-ED article published May 25.
- e. Structure: Session I – panel discussion; Session II- Social Action – use of round table discussion or Structured Academic Controversy model, to be determined.
- f. Committee; Michael, Patricia, and Jeff will finalize details and report back to the committee.
- g. Dates: Brown Bag sessions: Session I - February 17 or 24 from 11:00 to 1:00; Session I - March 3 at 11:00 to 1:00. Steve will investigate room possibilities.

5. Student Representation:

Jean Johnson is encouraging all committees to get student involvement with their planned activities.

- a. Morris will contact COEDSA about participation of students on all activities
6. Other Business – none at this time
7. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00. Next meeting, Wednesday, November 9, 2005 at 9:30 to 11:00.