

Chancellor's Committee on Diversity and Inclusion

Minutes

June 5, 2009

Attendees: Karen Chapman, Mikiyath Kelani, Shenethia Manuel, Roberta Morgan, Angela Perkins, Steve Raper, Barbara Schubring, Amiel Weerasinghe, Vincent Yu

Chancellor's Request for Involvement in Opening Week Activities – Dr. Steve Raper opened the meeting at 9 AM. Discussion was held regarding opportunities on how this committee can send a message out to all incoming students this fall regarding diversity and inclusiveness. Steve had contacted Patty Frisbee, director of New Student Programs, and received a list of activities that will be held during Opening Week. There will be several opportunities for the committee to interact with the new students. Steve will forward Patty's e-mail to all committee members so each member can find a place to serve. It was suggested the committee create a banner with the name of the committee and an appropriate phrase. Several ideas were suggested, with the committee choosing to go with "The strength of S&T equals the sum of its diverse parts", written out as a formula. Amiel will create the banner.

Subcommittee Reports –

Review of other universities – n/a

Review of literature – Vincent indicated this sub-committee was pursuing 3 areas: Julian – diversity and inclusion training/education; Shenethia – diversity programs in Higher Education and impediments that they face; Vincent – research on diversity officers in Higher Education.

Review of cultural climate assessment methodologies – It was suggested that contact be made with our sister UM campuses; Angela will contact and schedule a meeting with Roger Worthington, the Chief Diversity Officer at Columbia. In the report to the chancellor we need to indicate our objectives for conducting a campus survey for faculty/staff/students, and a list of questions we would want to ask.

Review of institutional history – Birdie reported that the last survey found in the archives was from 20 years ago with race/gender being surveyed; open forums had been held. Birdie mentioned that University Advancement is getting ready to submit a survey to the alumni.

Report on Webpage – Barbara reported that Lauri has posted information on the website including the charge to the committee, the names of the committee members, links and books of interest, time/place of upcoming meetings, and minutes from the committee meetings.

Development of Timeline for Deliverable (The Report to the Chancellor) –

- August 7 – Preliminary sub-committee reports finalized
- August 16-23 – Focus on participating in New Student Orientation (Opening Week)
- October 1 – Draft of final report
- October 15 – Deliver final report to Chancellor Carney

Scheduling July, August, September, and October meetings –

- July 13th, 3:00 p.m.
- August 7, 9:00 a.m.
- September – meet every Monday, 3:00 p.m.
- October – meet every Monday, 3:00 p.m.

Closing Comments - Steve and Birdie expressed an interest in attending the meeting in Columbia to visit with the Chief Diversity Officer.

Meeting adjourned, 10:30 a.m.