

Diversity In Action Group
Meeting Notes
February 3, 2015

Members Present: Sylvia Aguirre-Alberto, Fauzi Hamadeh, Fi Tovo, Makiko Ueda, Henry Villareal, Chair

Guests: Theresa Martin, Krystal Romero, Lisa Melnick

Review of the Agenda

Agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of the DIAG Meeting Notes of December 16, 2014

Meeting notes approved with the following corrections: Fauzi Hamadeh was present at the meeting. In addition, the Creating a Safe Zone environment topic was to be rewritten to reflect Fauzi's coordination of the event, and under the Development of a Diversity Website the term depository was replaced with repository.

Instructional Faculty Appointment Update

Henry explained that any faculty identified as a potential DIAG co-chair will need to have their name(s) forwarded to David Laderman, Academic Senate President. Henry also noted that Theresa Martin is interested in being considered for the co-chair position and would be available to participate as a co-chair for the fall 2015 semester. In the meantime, Theresa offered her assistance with managing the Student Equity Program. There was agreement to produce a co-chair job description with detailed responsibilities of the position. Theresa will assist with the development of the job description during the summer so that the position can be distributed in early fall and an appointment determined soon thereafter.

Diversity Planning Committee (DPC) Update

Sylvia explained that a college-wide email had recently been sent to inform the CSM community of the availability of DIAG funds. Given the increase in funding from Student Equity she noted that the DPC agreed to support up to \$750 for each DIAG event. Upcoming events include a Chinese New Year Celebration taking place as part of the Maker Space series at the Library. DPC approved \$240 to support this event. Remaining funds at this time total \$6,980. Sylvia also announced that the next DPC meeting is schedule for February 24 at 1:15 pm.

Diversity Website Update

Henry once again noted that he will invite Bev Madden to a future DIAG meeting to gain ideas and suggestions for the Diversity Website. As previously discussed, the website could serve as a comprehensive repository for programs like Puente, Umoja, MANA, Safe Zone, and for other diversity focused programs and campus clubs and organizations.

Student Equity Plan Initiatives and Budget Review

This topic will be addressed as a single agenda item at the next DIAG meeting.

Black History Month Event Focused Around the N Word

Henry explained a situation that recently transpired in which a couple of white students uttered the N-word in front of an African American Bookstore employee. The student-employee who went to the President's Office with her concern was referred to Henry as DIAG Chair. Henry recommended holding a campus-wide forum on the topic of derogatory and hateful language.

There was robust discussion and support for an event, however, it was noted that the program does not necessarily have to take place during BHM. Henry will hold a planning meeting with a small group of colleagues to include the offended student/employee.

Safe Zone Update

Fauzi shared that he will be establishing a Safe Zone Steering Committee and will be seeking interested constituents to participate. The purpose of the training will be to enhance awareness and sensitivity towards LGBTQ students, faculty and staff. Plans are to invite to campus speakers who can address relevant topics, to sponsor events that promote the visibility and diversity of the LGBTQ community, and to seek volunteers to become Safe Zone advocates. Fauzi will soon be coordinating a meeting to begin the planning for the creation of a Safe Zone campus.

Summary Notes prepared by Henry Villareal, Committee Chair

Next Meeting: March 3, 2015

Future Agenda Items

- Student Equity Plan Budget Review
- Diversity website
- Respect Campaign
- Dialogue on Diversity Series