

Diversity In Action Group
Meeting Notes
October 13, 2015

Members Present: Theresa Martin, Co-Chair, Sylvia Aguirre-Alberto, Patricia Brown, Lee Miller, Lorena Gonzalez, Tabatha Conaway, Makiko Ueda, Henry Villareal, Co-Chair,

Review of the Agenda

Agenda approved as presented.

Approval of the DIAG Meeting Notes of September 8 and 22, 2015

Meeting notes approved.

Diversity Planning Committee Report

Sylvia provided flyers and referenced some upcoming events that included Patricia Wilder, a vocalist whose music focuses on the African American experience. The event is scheduled for October 26. An International Choral Festival being coordinated by committee member Makiko Ueda is taking place on November 1st in the theatre. As well, Rudy Ramirez' latest musical extravaganza is scheduled for November 11 in the theatre and is titled "Suavetona." An event request to support a film screening of "A River Changes Course" which focuses on the Cambodian experience has been received from Assistant Professor Elena Oxman. The director of the film will also be present at the planned event.

Facing Fear Update

Henry explained that the October 15 event of the "Facing Fear" film screening which will include a Q&A with the director and the two subjects of the film will take place in the Bayview Dining area since the theatre is unavailable. All are invited to attend.

Student Equity Plan Draft II

Henry and Theresa shared that the second draft of the Student Equity Plan which now includes a draft of the Executive Summary. Henry explained that the goals associated with the five success indicators---access, course completion, ESL and basic skills completion, degree and certificate completion and transfer--- have to be prioritized. Henry proposed that access and course completion be the two primary goals. After some discussion, the committee recommended that the two primary goals be course completion and ESL and basic skills completion as both these goals lead toward achieving degree and certificate completion and transfer. As well, these two goals and the related activities focus on retention whereas access is primarily dedicated to outreach and recruitment. Other discussion focused on changing the culture at CSM so that student's readily seek out existing support services. In essence, this requires a culture shift. As well, existing support services need to reach out and demonstrate a sincere interest in helping students succeed. The college needs to "Puentecize" its support services. Further, it was noted that many students "don't do optional" thus there is the need to be intrusive or to incentivize students taking advantage of support services. Lastly, mentor programs and peer advisors are one important strategy to help students succeed.

There was no discussion of the budget prioritizing as we ran out of time.

Summary Notes prepared by Henry Villareal, DIAG/Equity Committee Co-Chair.