

## **Meeting Minutes: Diversity Committee February 10, 2017**

**Present:** Angela Palmer, Nicholas Campau, Cindy Horn, Kevin Carmody, Angela Roman, Joy Pufhal, Angela Garrey, Mark Schuelke

**Absent:** Jacob Schrot, Matt Chaney, and Lindsay Barber

**Guest:** Taylor VanderLaan, Dawn Fox, Lottie Halm, Nicole Martin, and Lauren Thomas

### **Introductions:**

Introductions were given around the table since there were a number of guests attending the meeting.

### **Review 12/2/16 Meeting Minutes:**

A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on December 2, 2016 was handed out for review. If anyone has changes, please contact Angela Palmer.

### **MBLGTACC Conference:**

Cindy, Kevin, and Angela Roman are registered for the MBLGTACC conference. The agenda for the conference can be found online. The committee is looking forward to the feedback that the three of these individuals will bring back from the conference.

### **VRC Improvements:**

Improvements are underway for the Veterans Resource Center, with interest to increase exposure to this office/space. Plans are to expand the office space, adding furniture, and flipping the location of the computers around so that the user is facing the door instead of the users' back facing the door.

### **LGBT Resource Center:**

The goal of the committee is to make a proposal to the President's Council which would highlight a plan to open a LGBT Center on campus. The committee felt it was important to research other schools in Michigan who have LGBT Centers. We wanted to find out the location of the centers on campus for each school, how they were run (i.e. full-time/part-time staff), the names of the centers, the year each was founded, what division or who the center reported to, etc.

The committee felt that it was important to not limit our focus solely on LGBT Resource Centers, but to research and benchmark other campuses for other resource centers as well. These include but are not limited to:

- International
- Multicultural
- Women's
- Religious & Spiritual Life, prayer space
- Veterans
- Wellness
- Native American
- Food Pantry/risk for homelessness and homeless

Nick shared with the committee a handout which highlighted information regarding LGBT Resource Centers located on other Michigan university campuses.

Nick will add Foster Youth to the list as an important group to gather comparative data from other college campuses. Angela Garrey will create a list of schools that we should benchmark against and share that with the committee so that our gathered information is consistent.

Lottie Halm, a student in Social Work 320, has gathered and continues to gather a lot of data for a project that she is working on for her class. Lottie was most helpful in sharing her assessments thus far, and communicated that she would be willing to share any future assessments that she gathers.

**New Business:**

**SGA Diversity Committee- Safe Area Initiative:**

Lauren from Student Government is part of the Student Government Diversity Committee and she communicated that their committee is interested in forming a safe place/area initiative. They are planning a seminar sometime toward the end of March or early April, where students could participate by sharing their stories. The committee is also interested in reaching out to faculty and staff to ask if anyone would like to be trained to be a safe space provider for our students.

**Coffee & Printing:**

It has been suggested to Joy that the new Veteran's Center should provide free coffee and printing. This will be part of future discussions.

**Other:**

Angela Garrey shared that FSU will be back on Campus Index in approximately 15-30 days.

Submitted by: Angela Palmer  
Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Student Life