

Diversity Planning Committee Meeting Summary
April 12, 2007

Present: Chrsity Brewer, Mike Cairns, Micala Evans, Susan Fogarty, Karen GreenBay, Scott Heron, Thuy Karafa, Pat Klarecki, Russell Leonard, Eunice Merwin, David Pilgrim, Todd Stanislav, Kent Sun, Luzia Tartari, Troy Tissue and Leroy Wright

Absent: Abdul Ahmed, Yolanda Barnes, Karyn Benner , Matt Chaney, Tyrone Collins Matthew Eickhoff , Don Green, Warren Hills, James Mikula and Troy Tissue

- The March 15, 2007, meeting summary was distributed and approved.
- Summer University 2007
 - Concurrent session list was distributed and committee members asked to review session descriptions.
 - Committee members volunteered for sessions, see list below:
 - Ferris Is Mine, Too: Creating an Inclusive Community* –
Karen GreenBay and Hurdylyn Woods
 - Diversity: Can't Change What We Can't Talk About* –
David Pilgrim and Micala Evans
 - Didn't The People Speak?: Proposal 2 and Ferris* –
Yolanda Barnes/Miles Postema and Kent Sun
 - The Person In My Mirror Makes Me Sick: Cultural Impact on Self-Image* –
Leroy Wright and Susan Fogarty
 - Us Versus Them: Stereotyping* - Andy Karafa
 - Hello, We're In The Room: Issues Relating to Persons with Disabilities* –
William Potter and Guests
 - Now That You Have Us Here What Are You Going To Do With Us?:*
International Students –
Luzia Tatari and Abdul Ahmed
 - "Did he really say what I thought he said?" Words That Injure* –
Russell Leonard and Janice Weaver
 - Ok, I See The Problem, What Can I Do?: Action Steps* –
Todd Stanislav, Christy Brewer and Mike Cairns
 - Frank Hale, keynote speaker may be able to assist our group after Summer University.
- A Student Affairs Diversity Committee Progress Report was presented by Mike Cairns. Some of his observations:
 - This process has been a real eye opener for the division.
 - Orientation is an important instrument to begin getting the diversity awareness message introduced to incoming students. Through this process the committee realized that the diversity statement and images are missing in the orientation video.
 - This group has been working on assessment for the last 5 years.
 - Infusing the diversity awareness in professional development is a critical component.
 - Summer Retreats will include a diversity message.
 - Developing a welcoming divisional notebook with a checklist which includes diversity awareness is important.
 - We handed out a Diversity Survey that was distributed throughout the division.

- Department Diversity meetings are planned.
- The DPC thanked Mike for the leadership that he has shown in getting Student Affairs to find ways to embed diversity into their infrastructure.

Major News: The new diversity statement is now being placed on all job postings and advertising. **Ferris State University is sincerely committed to being a truly diverse institution and actively seeks applications from women, minorities, and other underrepresented groups.** This is the exact wording that the DPC proposed and it does not violate Proposition 2.

- Upcoming Events
 - 14th Annual YBBW Conference, Saturday, April 14, 2007 at the Holiday Inn, Keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Page.
 - International Festival, April 14, 2007, Rankin Center.
 - Student Art Expo: Representing Issues, sponsored by S.A.S.O., April 25-27, 2007, Rankin Center.
- Sub-Committee Report
 - Campus Climate – Luzia Tartari report that the group looked at current assessments. They are planning a focus group meeting with the International Students.
- Other discussion
 - David Pilgrim attended the April Town/Gown meeting held at the Holiday Inn.
 - At the next meeting the Committee needs to discuss the summer meeting schedule.

The next meeting will be April 26, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.