

Diversity Planning Committee Meeting Summary

March 27, 2008

The following members were in attendance: Yolonda Barnes, Mike Cairns, Matt Chaney, Jim Cook, Matthew Eickhoff, Scott Herron, Warren Hills, Thuy Karafa, Russell Leonard, Janel Lockwood, Pam Meadows, Jessica Mills, David Pilgrim, Todd Stanislav, Susan Starkey, Luzia Tartari, Patty Terryn and Hurdylyn Woods.

Absent: Marty Bledsoe, Julie Buryk, Susan Fogarty, Don Green, Karen GreenBay, Eunice Merwin-Beck, Kent Sun, Robbie Teahen, Troy Tissue, and Leroy Wright.

The meeting summary from February 21, 2008 was approved.

Diversity Events:

- David thanked those that helped with the “Must We Say Vagina” Hot Topics Discussion. Hurdylyn Woods and Matt Eickhoff (among others) did excellent work with this project. Again, the DPC supported the idea of follow-up discussions being planned *before* controversial speakers or programming.
- Luzia Tartari reported that the ALSEMA Conference will be hosted by Ferris March 28 with 80-90 high school students on campus. Luzia has been the primary organizer and “force” behind the effort to make the conference a success. Thank you to the other members of the organizing committee, including, Janel Lockwood, Patty Terryn, Angela Mishler, Matt Chaney, Michael Wade, and David.
- Janel Lockwood invited everyone to the International Festival of Cultures, Sunday, April 13th from 1-5pm. This is one of the signature diversity events held at Ferris.
- Matt Eickhoff informed the committee that on April 1, the Five Star Event: "Darius Goes West" documentary will be shown in IRC-120 from 7-9pm. Also, Ferris Fest is April 26, featuring Baby Bash, Danielle Peck and The Frantic.

Equity Conference

- Todd Stanislav reminded everyone of the upcoming 18th Annual Equity Conference which Ferris is hosting, March 30 through April 1. You still have time to get your registrations turned in. The goal is to get at least 100 Ferris members registered. Please thank Todd and John Thorp for their leadership on this project.
- Todd Stanislav reviewed the schedule of events for the conference. He also informed the DPC that Connie Morcom’s class will be videotaping the conference as a class project.

Student Campus Climate Survey

- Thuy Karafa reported on her progress on the survey results. She distributed demographic variables and a list of factors for the members to review. The DPC discussed the survey’s results. Thuy also distributed a table asking the members to please rank the forms of harassment based on severity and return to her.

Diversity Plan

- David reported that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees approved Ferris' first Diversity Plan on March 21, 2008. David will be meeting with the Deans before the end of spring semester. David would also like to meet with each of DPC members one-on-one. The DPC discussed ways to implement several of the initiatives in the Plan.