President's Commission on Diversity
MEETING MINUTES
December 1, 2009

Graduate Assistant: Matthew Coffman
Guest: Scott Olson, Provost

Regrets: Anoop Atre, Kellian Clink, Kelly Meier, Jerry Robicheau, Wanda Viento.

Meeting Agenda Approved

Agenda

I. Scott Olson, Provost, Presentation on Core Values
   - Dr. Olson stated that Respect and Diversity are top priorities to our Core Values.
   - Core Values have a triune vision: Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Core Values Statement. Most departments utilize mission and vision statements, and should adopt a core values statement.
   - A survey was done of, what three values are important to the students, faculty, and administration. The survey had over 1100 responses. Data was then recorded and arranged to the amount of repeated words or phrases.
   - The next phase of the survey, was that the administration held open forums. Groups initiated the core values breakdown from the words most submitted by responses.
   - This led to a draft of core values, from these group forums.
   - Diversity was the number one word from this data, which suggested change.
   - The university needs to act quickly on our Core Values Statement, and what is important for the university during tough economic times.
   - Curriculum-seems to be a sufficient amount of “content based” courses, and not enough of experiential or “service learning” courses dealing with diversity.
   - University needs to promote courses to be invented to fill this void.
   - The issue is that there are too many great ideas but not enough time and money to make them happen.
   - Suggested inviting Kimberly for an account of purple and gold classes, commission to help.

II. Reports from Sub-Groups
   - Matt is having website issues with editing content. Has contacted IT concerning and will follow through in making the needed changes.
   - Sub-groups will have a chance in the next meeting to meet together.
   - Julie Snow submitted report for the awards and grants. She submitted award information to publicize the award recipients. We currently have two applications
for the Diversity Grants. Asked if commissioners could volunteer to review and approve applicants.

- Information should be placed on the following websites: Institutional Diversity, President’s and President’s Commission on Diversity.
- Mike noted that Julie did an excellent job presenting the awards.
- Stewart reported that he will be attending “Expanding the Circle” in San Francisco and will report in our Feb. 26th meeting.
- Reggie has been working with The Free Press for how they cover and operate with concern for Diversity issues. Also it is important to have a joint collaboration between the sharing of diversity news between The Reporter and The Free Press.

III. Diversity Updates and Announcements

- April 6, the mother of Matthew Shepherd will be on campus for “eliminate hate” week. Her lecture, “The Meaning of Matthew” will be presented in the evening. Jessica needs co-sponsors for the event and asked if the Commission would be able to co-sponsor with a financial commitment. Mike proposed that the Commission donate $500 to the event. Amy put in motion, Thomas’ seconded the motion, unanimously moved to contribute the $500.
- The Commission should send appreciation letters to the Reporter for the coverage of diversity issues on campus and encourage continuing their coverage.
- Edge II, is a two-day training for higher ed and administrators applies Diversity to Management. The event will be held at 7700 France in Edina. More information can be found on the Institutional Diversity website.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: January 12, CSU 238 at 10:30 to 12:00. Subgroups will be allotted time to meet during the second half of the meeting.