

Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity  
Monday, October 29, 2007

Minutes

**Present:** Rick Shingles, Sam Camden, Guy Sims (for Zenobia Hikes), Sue Ellen Crocker, Brad Klein, Kevin McDonald, Ross Edmonds, Kelly Oaks, Jean Brickey, Ruth Grene, Sheila Carter-Tod, Jack Davis, Judy Ridinger (for Linda Woodard), Dennis Welch, Daphne Rainey, Pat Hyer, Carlos Evia, Karun Sapkota, Paul Davis, Deborah Morgan, Elisa Sotelino, Stevan Jackson, Ann Kilkelly, Mikhelle Taylor

**Absent:** Meredith Simon, Kesal Patel, Ray Plaza, Kim Beisecker, Patricia Smith

**Guests:** Maggie Sloane, Jane Ann Williams

**I. Call to Order**

The agenda was adopted.

**II. Presentations**

- A. **MLK Holiday** – Pat shared conversations about a resolution declaring Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a university holiday. Currently there are no classes that day and it is a staff holiday but since the university is open, many staff and AP faculty work that day. Twenty-two of our peer institutions are closed and two have no classes that day. There was conversation over the value in having the university closed and the symbolism in that message. The hope is that it would be easier for people to then participate in MLK activities, especially service activities scheduled on that day.
- B. **Update on the Implementation Team** – Kevin distributed a listing of the role and charge of the team, membership, and the process. Each team member has been assigned to one of the six report areas and when they meet again on October 30 they will start preliminary rankings of the recommendations as well as explore human and fiscal considerations, timeframes, and best practices. No specific budget has been identified for this work and some members expressed concern over how these recommendations might be implemented given their costs. Some conversation also followed on the role of the Athletic Department and how to better engage them in diversity initiatives. Some progress has been made as the Principles of Community were shown at the last football game and there are recommendations from the NCAA certification process that will move this along. The main role for CEOD may be in information gathering.

**III. Announcements**

Ross passed out postcards with information on a program sponsored by the LGBT Caucus. There will be a showing of the film, “for the BIBLE tells me so,” on Thursday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre and opportunities on Friday for individuals to meet with the director, Daniel Karlake. Toni informed members of the School of Education Student Association Research Conference. The title is, Achieving Tenure and Diversity: A decade, a difference...but still far to go. The keynote speaker is Ansley Abraham, director of the Southern Regional Education Board. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. Ann shared information on a new theatrical production, “Nuclear Power Play,” which is scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, November 7 & 8 in the Haymarket Theatre, Squires, at 7:30 p.m. Workshop performances will also be held in Room F of the Graduate Life Center on Friday, November 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 11 at 2:30 p.m. All performances are free and open to the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m. to allow taskforces time to meet and work on their respective projects.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia P. Cohen  
Secretary to the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity