

University Diversity Committee
Minutes 4/6/07

Present: Carrie Washburn, Ed Cole, Kim Bobby, Jennifer Tanner '07, Heather Clifford, Monica Duhart, Nila Wiese, Rosa Beth Gibson, Janet Marcavage, Mike Valentine, Mikiko Ludden, Jim, McCollough, Yoshiko Matsui

The minutes were reviewed. VP of Enrollment George Mills issued a letter in response to the minutes of our last meeting. The committee acknowledged the current legal climate prevents the university from using language that implies there is a numerical goal for recruiting underrepresented students. The minutes of this committee reflect our discussion, not policies at the university.

The committee discussed some of the information provided by the Academic Dean's office, including the five-year retention.

A motion was made to accept the minutes as written. M/S/P

Announcements: DTY, and others are sponsoring a lecture on the expulsion of the Chinese in the West, including the "Tacoma method" on April 16th in Rausch.

Nila distributed a draft report to the Faculty Senate regarding the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority students. The draft included data and history and also a set of recommendations. The draft will be updated with some language generously provided by Randy Nelson in Institutional Research. Other reports are needed to complete the draft.

Overall, the draft addresses multiple facets of diversity and hurdles to recruiting underrepresented minority students. The current draft will be sent electronically to the committee and revisions will be due by Friday, April 13th.

Discussion followed about the sensitivity of some of this information. Caution will be taken not to inadvertently disclose students' identities. The report authors will confirm with sources of data (Financial Aid, Admission, and Institutional Research) about the appropriate levels of disclosure regarding this information.

End of the year report for the committee was discussed. Jim drafted a report, and sought input about future charges for the next committee. One suggestion is to take on a greater role in coordinating diversity efforts as discussed during our self-assessment.

A motion was made to spend our budget on student registration fees to the "Power of One" conference in Olympia. M/S/P.

Respectfully submitted,
Yoshiko Matsui