Minutes
Faculty Diversity Committee
September 11, 2001

Present: B. Bates, N. Bristow, M. Nowak, E. Orlin, J. Royce, D. Scott, C. Washburn

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.

1. Election of Chair

Bernie Bates was elected chair of the committee by unanimous acclamation.

2. Review of charges from Faculty Senate

The committee briefly reviewed the charges from the Faculty Senate. They are as follows:

- 1. Continue to work with Office of Admission staff to implement the telephoning project.
- 2. Continue to work with the Director of Access programs and the Faculty Support Committee to collaborate with Access programs and implement the Speakers' Bureau.
- 3. Present a revised draft of the University Statement on Diversity to the Senate during the Fall 2001 semester and facilitate University-wide deliberation regarding the statement.
- 4. Work collaboratively with appropriate offices and governing bodies to explore additional initiatives regarding disability as an aspect of diversity.

Continuing members of the committee provided some background on each of the charges. The first charge refers to a program initiated a couple of years ago as an avenue for encouraging African American students' interest in the university. It involves phone calls to prospective students, conducted late in the fall by faculty. The second charge involves support for Kim Bobby and her work with the Access to College Program. A Faculty Support Committee was appointed last year. There are also plans for a Speakers' Bureau, for visits to local schools. The third charge refers to work that has been going on for the last two years, as a sub-committee effort. They have created a draft of a new University Statement on Diversity, that would replace other existing statements. This would not replace the non-discrimination policy. This new statement is more active in tone than older statements, and will also be brief enough to be used around campus easily. The Senate has seen the draft copy, and Bartanen has notes from that meeting. One issue remaining is the process through which this statement will become official. The committee will be asking the senate for guidance. The fourth charge involves campus initiatives regarding disability as an aspect of diversity. Last year the committee sponsored a forum to disseminate information on disability. Ivey West has also worked with the committee on this issue.

3. Plan for next meeting.

Committee members will act as historians, collecting fuller background on each of the charges, and will report back to the committee next time. This will allow us to have an expert on each.

The assignments are as follows:

Charge 1: Eric Orlin Charge 2: Nancy Bristow Charge 3: Jac Royce Charge 4: Margi Nowak

4. Plan for minutes.

Minutes are to be circulated to the committee by email. The minutes can be included in the body of the email, rather than as an attachment. Once approved, minutes are forwarded to facultcoms@ups.edu. Minutes should contain a suitable level of information, and need not be verbatim.

5. Personnel of committee.

Washburn reported that we are waiting to hear whether we will have an appointee from the Staff Senate. We are also waiting for the student appointees. Washburn will follow up on this.

6. Meeting time.

Meetings will remain at 9:00 a.m. on alternate Tuesdays. We will meet every two weeks initially. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 25, in Wyatt 326.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bristow