

Committee on Diversity  
Minutes  
September 11, 2015

Committee members in attendance: Michael Benitez, Alexander Gedo, Chad Gunderson, Matthew Ingalls, Grace Livingston, Czarina E Ramsay, Mike Valentine

Meeting called to order by Michael Benitez at 2:03 pm.

Michael Benitez enumerated items for the CoD's consideration:

- Meeting schedule
- Naming a chair- Mike Valentine
- Charges from Faculty Senate- to be provided at next meeting
- CoD liaisons to other diversity-related groups on campus
  - o BHERT- Mike Valentine
  - o DAC- Grace Livingston and Chad Gunderson
  - o Student Life FAC- Matt Ingalls
  - o SGVC- Grace Livingston and Oriel Su

Announcements:

Czarina

- Annual Open House at the Diversity Center on 9/10/15 was well-attended
- Queer Student Alliance Partners will meet 10/6 at 4:30 – 6:00 pm
- Mia Mingus, community organizer and disability justice advocate, will visit and speak here on 11/5/15. Location TBA.
  - o Lunch & workshop on transformative justice 1:30 – 4:30
  - o Lecture on disability justice 7:00

Grace provided some detail on new African American Studies major planned to come online 2016-2017 academic year.

Michael Benitez

- Brief description of the new COHORT program that brings students from the summer SAC Program to Puget Sound, provides faculty mentors, and covers their unmet financial need. Closely related to the COHORT program, we also have several students from Tacoma Public Schools who will participate in at least some of the COHORT activities.
- Description of the POSSE Program, and national program to bring underrepresented students to college campuses. We will begin UPS's association with the Bay Area POSSE program in 2016-2017 academic year.
- A brief summary of efforts to diversify the faculty and staff through institutional framework using Targeted Opportunity to recruit and retain qualified faculty and staff from underrepresented groups.
- ACCESS CORPS, a Washington campus contract group will be recruiting volunteers from UPS to recruit local high school students to Puget Sound. This may be expanded to larger areas of western Washington.

- TITLE IX activities and how these relate to campus groups like BHERT and issues of academic freedom.

Alex, as a student and new member of the committee, asked about the role of the student representative to the CoD. Discussion of student role ensued.

It was decided that we will next meet in three weeks. Meanwhile the chair will gather information on members' schedules and availability.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 pm

Respectfully submitted by Mike Valentine.