Diversity Committee Minutes March 10, 1999

Present: G. Mills, M. Birnbaum, P. Firman, J. Davis, J. Dickson, J. Kay, E. Campbell, R. Gibson, C. Weisz, C. Washburn, D. Droge, M. Valentine

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M. A draft of minutes from the Feb. 24 meeting was distributed and approved.

Announcements:

George Mills spoke on the success of the "24 Hours of College" program. Carolyn Weisz informed us of the affirmative vote at the March 4 faculty meeting for inclusion of the "Passion Seminars" in a core package to be voted on at a future faculty meeting.

The second announcement led to an informal discussion of how to initiate faculty discussion of a diversity component as a part of the ongoing core debate. It was generally agreed that groundwork needs to be laid before proposing anything to the faculty as a whole at a future faculty meeting. Ideas discussed included an e-mail to the faculty and bringing the matter before a faculty meeting via the Faculty Senate. Of particular concern is the debate over global vs. domestic pluralism as a diversity component. It was decided to investigate the possibility of incorporating the idea into existing core proposals. Committee members volunteered to talk informally with proposers of various core plans which will be put forth for discussion at future faculty meetings. They will report back to the Diversity Committee on the possibility of including a diversity component in such proposals.

Faculty and Staff Recruitment Goals Subcommittee Report:

Rosa Beth Gibson distributed a draft of the subcommittee's report on President Phibbs' 1990 diversity-related charges in the area of faculty and staff recruitment and progress made in each of these areas in the past decade. A discussion followed as to whether the Diversity Committee should be examining progress made with regard to President Phibbs" charges to faculty and staff based on the 1990 report of the UPS Diversity Committee or on all recommendations from the original report. It was also suggested that the committee look forward to what the University should focus on in the future. Several committee to produce by year's end. It was agreed that Carolyn Weisz should ask the Senate for clarification of their charge to the Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 A.M.

The next meeting of the Diversity Committee will be Wednesday, March 24 at 10:00 A.M. in Library 134.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Valentine