Faculty Diversity Committee Minutes March 24, 1999

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

C. Weisz called the meeting to order at 10:05. The minutes of the meeting held 3/10/99 were approved. C. Weisz noted that the subcommittee on admissions was scheduled to report today, but since Michele Birnbaum could not attend, the report would be postponed.

There followed a discussion of several of the core proposals made to the Faculty Senate. J. Dickson reported that he had talked to George Tomlin about his (George's) proposal. The proposal does not specifically address diversity or multiculturalism but it does provide for interdisciplinary, team-taught courses that could address these topics. C. Weisz commented that this does not specifically meet the goal of multiculturalism in the core.

- J. Dickson pointed out that team-taught courses change substantially whenever a member of the team changes; thus a different course is taught almost every time.
- D. Droge reported on his conversation with members of the Economics Department. Their proposal envisions a core of 7 units. With such a small core, a course devoted to diversity would not receive strong support. An overlay model would be better in this case.
- C. Weisz said that an overlay model has not been presented to the faculty for discussion. She also reported that Jim Evans has proposed a core with "distribution groupings". Students would pick a subset of courses in several different areas. Coverage of multiculturalism would be an option on the Society group. She also said that Terry Cooney has made a proposal that made no specific provision for multiculturalism.
- J. Dickson asked whether students could play a greater role in the discussion. After some discussion of the way in which this could happen, E. Campbell said she will discuss this with the Student Diversity Committee and contact John Finney about making an appearance at the Faculty Meeting on 4/12.
- C. Weisz said that no immediate action was required by the Committee before the next meeting.
- C. Weisz asked for volunteers to consider the two unassigned goals from the 1990 Report. D. Droge agreed to address item 1 in goal III (Diversity in Curriculum). P. Firman agreed to work on other items in goal III. R. Gibson agreed to work on goal V (Governance, Publicity, Monitoring, Accountability, etc.).

The meeting adjourned at 11:00. The next meeting will be held 4/7 in Library 134.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Hommel