President’s Commission on DAEI

Thursday, April 4, 2013
Commission Members Present: Dr. John Bello-Ogunu, Sr. and Dr. Joe Kelly, Co-Chairs
Erica Arbetter, Daron-Lee Calhoun, Dr. Raul Carrillo-Arciniega, Dr. Angela Cozart, Dr. Beverly Diamond,
Dr. Godfrey Gibbison, Clara Hodges, Dr. Brian McGee, Evelyn Nadel, Dr. Alison Piepmeier, Dr. Andrew Sobiesuo,
Suzette Stille, Prof. Maricela Villalobos and Marcia White

2010-2012 Commission Member Present: Dr. Andrew Lewis and Dr. Fran Welch
Commission Members Absent: Dr. Conseula Francis, Herbert Frasier, Damon Hilton, Elizabeth Kassebaum,
Dr. Nam Jin Lee, Dr. Patricia Williams Lessane, Deborah Mihal, Denise Mitchell, Ed Pope, Dr. Bernard Powers,
Jonathan Ray, Dr. Teresa Smith, Paul Verrecchia and Marlene Williams

Note taker & Timekeeper: Rochelle Johnson

MEETING MINUTES

Opening Remarks by Dr. John Bello-Ogunu
  • The President’s Commission on Diversity (PCD) meeting was called to order by Dr. Bello-Ogunu. He
welcomed the PCD members to the final meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year. Dr. Bello-Ogunu
informed the members that President Benson will attend this meeting to formally thank all Commission
members for their service.

Approval of February 14, 2013 Minutes
  • Dr. Bello-Ogunu made a motion to the Commission Members requesting February 14, 2013 minutes be
approved. The motion was seconded by Dr. Sobiesuo and unanimously approved by Commission Members.

Update on the 2013-2014 Diversity Action Plan - Dr. Joe Kelly
  • The Co-chairs are currently compiling data on the 2012-2013 Diversity Strategic Plan (DSP) tactics. The
information will be available online by May.
  • Dr. Bello-Ogunu stated the 2013-2014 Diversity Action Plan has been sent to President Benson and the
Board of Trustees as required by the DSP.

Individual Progress Report on the funded 2012-2013 Action Plan Diversity Initiatives (will be provided at the
PCD’s 1st Fall 2013 meeting): - Dr. John Bello-Ogunu
1. Faculty Line for African American Studies: ($113,050, including fringe benefits) — [Bev Diamond/Conseula
Francis: Provost’s Office--Academic Affairs]
   The search for a faculty member did not succeed; the plan now is to hire someone on a temporary basis for
the coming year and renew the search in the Fall of 2013. As for how the $113,050 was spent—it was not
spent on this position. Further report will be provided after the position has been filled.

2. Columbia-Based (Temporary) Minority Recruitment Officer position—($65,500, including fringe
benefits)—[Suzette Stille: Admissions--Academic Affairs]

3. Expansion of Senior Projects ($46,200) — [Suzette Stille: Admissions--Academic Affairs]

4. Seed Money for Gender Resource Center ($15,000) — [Alison Piepmeier: Women and Gender Studies--
Academic Affairs]

5. Marketing to Minority and International Students ($29,050)—[Andrew Sobiesuo/Suzette Stille: Admissions
Office/Office of International Education--Academic Affairs]

6. Expansion of MSPS Tutoring Services ($19,000)—[Teresa Smith: Office of Multicultural Student Programs
and Services--Student Affairs]
MSPS continues to tutor students in Math, Science, Biology and Chemistry and Spanish, even though we have not yet received the additional funds that have been approved for this academic support service. We will be ramping up the tutoring program with Dr. Jocelyn Evans’ assistance. Dr. Evans has identified 3 students in Statistics who have very strong Math skills to assist MSPS with tutoring services during the summer, beginning with the SPECTRA program and continues into the next academic year.

7. Develop STAAS (Steps Toward Achieving Academic Success) Minority Student Retention Program ($66,950)—[John O. Bello-Ogunu, Sr.: Office of Institutional Diversity/President’s Office]

PCD members were asked to review the draft proposal for the program and provide feedback to the AVP/CDO. Final approval has been given to recruit a Temporary Coordinator for the STAAS Program. A position description for the coordinator will be submitted to Human Resources and the search process is expected to begin in early fall semester 2013.

Action Items for Co-Chairs:

- Include the effect of the 2011 Gateway Scholarships in the Year End Progress Report. Include the retention numbers of the Gateway Scholars. And, note in the report that the scholarship summary is not a part of the DSP Action Plan Initiative.
- The Co-Chairs will meet with Suzette Stille (Admissions) to draft a brief summary statement that would ask analytical questions (i.e., why students aren’t coming to CoC, what College did they select) that will help the PCD figure out strategy for adjustments. This report will be reviewed yearly.
- Update 2012-13 DSP Initiatives: Compiled data on tactics will be available online by May. (Joe Kelly)

“Special Remarks” by President Benson/Chief of Staff to the President – Dr. Brian McGee

- President Benson is deeply appreciative of all of the Commission Members hard work and would like to thank you for your service to the College and the President’s Commission on Diversity. President Benson regrets not being able to attend because of a previous commitment.

Service Award Presentation – John Bello-Ogunu

On behalf of President Benson, the Office of Institutional Diversity, and the President’s Commission on Diversity, Dr. Kelly and I would like to recognize the outgoing original members of the Commission who served the College from 2010-2012.

- Certificates of recognition were presented to: Dr. Angela Cozart, Dr. Beverly Diamond, Dr. Conseula Francis, Ms. Clara Hodges, Ms. Elizabeth Kassebaum, Dr. Brian McGee, Ms. Deni Mitchell, Ms. Evie Nadel, Mr. Isaiah Nelson, Ms. Erica Arbetter, Dr. Alison Piepmeier, Dr. Bernard Powers, Dr. Fran Welch, Dr. Andrew Lewis, Dr. Darryl Philips, Dr. Larry Kranosoff, Mr. Jonathan Ray, Dr. Teresa Smith, Mr. Paul Verrecchia, Ms. Marcia White, Dr. Patricia Williams Lessane, Ms. Marlene Williams, Mr. Herbert Frasier, Ms. Katherine “Tracey” Bible, Mr. Jimmie Foster, Dr. Guoli Liu, Ms. Marjorie Thomas, Mr. Grant Vatter

President’s Commission on Diversity’s Official Charge: Beyond “Diversity Strategic Plan” & Other Business – Dr. John Bello-Ogunu

- Bring any issues relating to diversity to the Commission. Send them to Rochelle to be included in the agenda for our next meeting in September.
- Ms. Carla Arbetter, current SGA President, introduced Ms. Jordan Hensley as the newly elected SGA President. Ms. Hensley’s term will begin on April 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.