REDWOODS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Meeting of the
Multicultural and Diversity Committee
Of the Academic Senate

Eureka: 7351 Tompkins Hill Road, CA100
900 Alpha Street, Eureka 95503
41341 Harris Ranch Road, Point Arena, CA 95468

Friday, October 18, 2013
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Minutes

1. Call to Order
The chair called the meeting to order at 11:19 AM with the following members present: Kristy, Deanna, Justine, Toby, Philip (Chair), Lora. Julie arrived at 11:30 AM. Absent: Dave, Cindy, Ryan

2. Introductions and Public Comments: Members of the audience are invited to make comments regarding any subject appropriate to the Multicultural and Diversity Committee.
Justine Shaw informed the committee about work that is in progress in receiving a donation to CR of masks from New Guinea made by a local community member. Justine is working with Tracey Thomas to facilitate this happening.

3. Approve the October 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes
Deanna moved to approve, Justine seconded. Minutes were approved as written.

4. Action Items
4.1 Approval of Recommended Changes to the MDC Bylaws (Attachment)
Julie moved to approve, Lora seconded. No discussion. Roll call vote: Toby Green: y, Justine Shaw: Y, Julie Raich: Deanna Herrera-Thomas: y, Lora Bristow: y, Kristy Carlsen: y. The motion passed and the proposed changes to the bylaws will be forwarded to the Academic Senate.

5. Discussion Items
5.1 Review of Curriculum Offerings in Accordance with the Strategic Equity in Hiring Plan (Attachment)
Julie reported discussing Spanish 99 with Erin Wall with the request that Erin not close the class in Spring 2014. The recommendation was to instead change the minimum qualifications of the course and also to note that staffing it must take into consideration that the existing Spanish faculty will already be at their maximum load spring semester. It was suggested that MDC recommendations to the EMC should reiterate the importance of Span 99 because of its role as a companion class to the Latino Film Festival, which in the president’s recent letter to the ACCJC is documented as one of the college’s committed initiatives in meeting student equity goals. Funding would need to come from either an academic pool or an administrative pool. The film festival gives an academic unit. Like ESL, the instructor gets paid.
Further discussion centered on comparisons to HSU’s catalog of offerings, including the question as to what gaps exist between CR and HSU’s offerings and with regard to programs at CR that have low diversity enrollment or high diversity enrollment. Committee members suggested courses to add to the list, including AG 35 (sales and communication) if it is not already protected as part of a certificate or degree program; ESL 202B, with the particular recommendation to add it to the offerings at the Mendocino and Del Norte centers secondary to the success at Eureka; expanding NAS offerings in
general, particularly at the centers; GEOG 3, and an unspecified ART course (formerly known as “Introduction to Tribal Art”).

The committee also discussed making recommendations to the faculty regarding additional course subjects not yet written which may enhance diversity, including nursing or health education courses addressing inequalities in health; administration of justice courses addressing race; explicit multicultural literature offerings; courses that focus on gender, race, sex, and class that could be cross-listed in several different programs similar to what is done at HSU; the history of Latin American up to and after independence; African American history; and courses specifically geared toward heritage speakers of Spanish. The chair noted that making such a recommendation might need to be routed to the Curriculum Committee rather than the Enrollment Management Committee. A further issue arose as to the potential need to address patterns in English enrollments with high representation of ethnic minorities in remedial and conversely, low representation in transfer courses. The committee agreed to once again examine course offerings and listings in order to make a final set of recommendations to forward to the EMC.

5.2 Guide for New Members (Attachment) ...

The chair noted the newly created Guide for New Members crafted by request. There was no discussion.

6. Reports
   6.1 ASCR report
       Ryan was not present to make a report.

   6.2 MDC website update
       The chair reported that Brian Van Pelt is in the process of transferring committee specific information from the MDC’s website to the new webpage template adopted by the college for use with all Academic Senate committees. Once this is done he will confer with MDC members on putting together a new resource-based website (up to potentially 1 Gigabyte of information per Brian) that could serve as the virtual component of the planned Multicultural and Diversity Resource center (a directive from the Strategic Equity Plan 2012-13).

6.3 Planning committee reports
   EEOAC – no report due the representative having left the meeting
   SEP – nothing new to report other than ongoing exchanges between the MDC representative Tracey Thomas and Keith Snow-flamer on getting a meeting off the ground

7. Announcements/Open Forum
   No announcements.

8. Adjournment
   Meeting adjourned at 12:49 PM

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Next Meeting:
Friday November 1, 2013