Minutes

1. Call to Order

11:19 AM:  Sean, Lora, Deanna, Philip, Cindy, Valerie, Dave

2. Introductions and Public Comments: Members of the audience are invited to make comments regarding any subject appropriate to the Multicultural and Diversity Committee.

None

3. Approve the February 7, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Cindy moved, Deanna second. Approved as written.

4. Action Items

No action items at this time.

5. Discussion

5.1 Program Review Funding for Multicultural Center Periodicals, Philip Mancus (Attachment)

The item of ordering periodicals for the Student Multicultural Center was addressed. Valerie reported that ASCR wanted to know MDCs involvement with ordering periodicals. Since the request went through program review of the VPISD, and since ASCR and Ruth Moon are already prepared to work together, it was clarified that the MDC did not play a direct role. In the future, ASCR and the librarian will work together. MDC is available in an advisory capacity should ASCR request it.

5.2 Recognizing Black History Month.

The question of why CR does not honor multiculturalism and diversity in its academic calendar was raised. Lora wondered why no connection between CR and HSU, when there are existing examples of such coordination in other areas: Book of the Year, Latino Film Festival. The answer: HSU has paid staff dedicated full time to put on and promote these events. Deanna suggested BOTY could be more diversity minded. Dave suggested working with existing CR structure. The consensus was for an annual diversity calendar. Sean: ASCR and Vet Center are sponsoring events. Leadership needs to come out of student services. Faculty or academic senate cannot generate the momentum. Keith’s office could set the tone. The driver has to be student services. Dave: proposal should be simple, inform the senate of work to follow up on persistence, forwarded to the VP and inform the senate. We are taking our meeting to your office. Deanna wants to go through research on persistence, start there. The committee agreed that the chair should contact the VPISD and request that heritage months be included in the academic calendar as one piece in a larger strategy toward creating an inclusive campus climate and enhancing persistence.
5.3 Recommendations to Support ESL Student Success

Julie is contacting other community colleges about ESL student success. She can bring that research to our attention. Lora inquired if this was within Julie’s new job description. Julie: yes. Current ESL priority is placement. Next ranking includes facilitating student success; to know and identify ESL eligible students and communicate the services available to them. For instance, special tutoring services.

Deanna: does your job include outreach to community centers? Julie: outreach for noncredit exists, and she is using this practice to inform her for credit outreach, but the demographics between the two are different, with some overlap. The committee decided that the MDC should strongly endorse Julie’s activities, including the need to allocate BSI funds for ESL curriculum development. Second recommendation: draw on the Carrasco research to make the case that faculty need to be cognizant of ESL student marginalization in the all classrooms, with the intent of broadening the discussion to the level of addressing underprepared students. Julie will forward to the chair any information she has to help in drafting the recommendation.

6. Reports

6.1 Student Equity Planning Committee Report, Philip Mancus
The chair reported that the SEPC will hold its first meeting March 28.

6.2 Report from the Academic Senate, Philip Mancus
The chair reported that at the request of the MDC the proposed General Education requirement in Multicultural Understanding was brought back to the senate agenda and will be discussed and potentially voted on as an action item.

7. Announcements/Open Forum

7.1 California Community College Database Consortium (Attachment)

8. Adjournment

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Next Meeting:
Friday March 7, 2014 at 11:15 AM