

Centenary College of Louisiana
Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes
7 November 2016

Don Hooper presiding.

Meeting began at 4:05

Present: Andia Augustin-Billy, Chris Brown, Simone Byrd, Ashlie Daigle, Ben Green, Ayanna Griffin, LaToya Hemphill, Don Hooper, Dana Kress, Mark Leeper, Anzhanne Mackyeon, Cordara Newson, Chandra Pokhrel, Deborah Scarlato

Absent: Edie Cummings, Heather Boucher, Ramanda James, Montgomery Mewers, Monica Powell, Cecilia Rodriguez

Welcome and Introductions:

Minutes: The minutes for the 31 October 2016 meeting were accepted as written.

Dream Week: Dana Kress reported that he had given an invitation to **Keith Plessy and Phoebe Ferguson** to speak at Centenary. He had not gotten a response. Dana made sure that we were planning for a Thursday morning Convocation. That was confirmed. He will also see if the guests can visit classrooms on Wednesday and a movie at the Robinson on Wednesday evening. Discussion was held on providing money for travel, hotel, and honorarium for the speakers.

A motion was made and seconded to provide funding for the above mentioned items for Plessy & Ferguson to speak at Convocation and meet with students. Vote passed.

Note: Dana sent an email out Monday evening 7 November 2016 letting us know that we have our speakers, Keith Plessy and Phoebe Ferguson, for Dream Week Convocation.

Ashlie Daigle reached out to Chief Eddie Walker about being part of the **Roundtable Discussion**. Ashlie also booked the Whited Room for Thursday of Dream Week.

Staff Climate Survey: Discussion was held on how to administer the survey to staff. It was decided that we would attend 2 consecutive regular scheduled meetings of both the National Staff and the Sodexo Staff to introduce the survey and let the employees have until the next meeting to fill out the survey. We would make time during the second meeting for staff members to complete the survey if they did not bring the first one back. We would launch the survey early in January.

Don will reach out to Sodexo
Montgomery will reach out to National
Mark will make revisions to survey

Changes were suggested to the draft of the Introduction email for Staff Climate Assessment Survey.

It was mentioned that the Centenary Staff could use Survey Monkey as their way of submitting the survey.

Discussion was held as to if we would include student workers in the staff survey. It was decided that we would include student workers since the information on the Staff Survey is different from the information on the Student Survey. It would be helpful to also have that perspective.

“What Not To Say”: Don would reach out to SRAC (Shreveport Regional Arts Council) to see if there is a venue to use our What Not To Say posters.

Inappropriate Speech: The Ambassador situation with using inappropriate language in a group text has “gone up the food chain”. The Cabinet level is aware of the situation and is addressing to issue. The Diversity Committee is interested in a change of behavior and the Admissions Staff is addressing the needed change.

Diversity Advocate Proposal: Dana reported that Dr. Rowe did not put into practice/policy the Diversity Advocate Proposal. We need to revisit that and take it forward to Dr. Holoman.

Upcoming Events:

Tonight – Monday November 7, 2016 is Open Mic Night in Kilpatrick beginning at 7:30pm. MSA presents Italian-American Cultural Event November 9, 2016 in Kilpatrick from 7:30-9pm.

SODEXO is presenting International Food Day at lunch on November 8, 2016 from 11-1.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55

Next Meeting: 28 November 2016 (Faculty Meeting on 21 November)