

Multicultural Student Center Committee Meeting Summary

December 14, 2006

2:00 p.m., Bolton 196

Present: Diane Amour, Dao Vang, Susan Fields, Nicole Stroobants, Sergio Piceno, Edwin Maldonado, Antonio Ramirez, Victoria Pryor, Ramona Sledge, Nequnda Jones, Linda Huang

Brief Announcements

- **UWS OADD Diversity Program Development & Assessment Institute** – The Institute will conduct a regional workshop on February 9, 2007 (date changed to March 9, 2007) at UW-Milwaukee. There are a total of six regional sites hosted by various UW campuses. The purpose of the workshop is to advance *Plan 2008* initiatives. UWM will assemble a team of 5-7 administrators, faculty, and staff to attend this workshop.
- **WI Legislative Committee's Special Committee on Affirmative Action** – Vicki Washington, who sits on the special committee, was concerned with committee's intention to propose legislation to ban affirmative action in university admissions, state purchasing and construction contracts in Wisconsin. For its next meeting on December 19th, the committee has invited Ward Connerly of the American Civil Rights Institute as its guest speaker. Public is invited to attend the meeting, but cannot speak at the event. The committee is chaired by Senator Glenn Grothman.
- **Wisconsin Covenant** – The Covenant was announced by Governor Doyle at his State of the Union speech in January 2006. The program will be implemented in spring 07 targeting all 8th graders. Participating students will sign a pledge and will become Wisconsin Covenant Scholars four years later if they meet the following criteria: receive a high school diploma, be a good citizen in the community, take high school/college prep curriculum, earned at least a B average in high school, and apply for financial aid. Wisconsin Covenant Scholars will attend Wisconsin universities free of charge. They will receive a combination of financial aid and scholarships. The governor will propose legislation to fund covenant scholarships. This program is modeled after Indiana's 21st Century Scholar program, which is a need-based program.
- **UWM Enrollment Management Strategic Plan** – Copies of the plan was distributed and discussed at the meeting. It includes the goal to recruit a diverse student population where 20% of the new freshman class will be students of color. Included also in the plan is a large amount of scholarships needed to recruit students of color and high achievers.

Multicultural Resource Materials

Following up on Antonio's suggestion (at the last meeting) that MSC create a library of multicultural resource materials, Ramona will convene a meeting of the subcommittee, comprised of student reps, to work on this project, as well as a textbook loan program.

Bolton 184 – multicultural computer room

Linda mentioned that remodeling for Bolton 184 will be completed by the end of January 2007. We will purchase furniture and computers for that room in spring and summer 2007 to ensure

that it will be operational by fall 2007. Students suggested that resume samples and other resources be made available in that room.

Multicultural Open House – Edwin Maldonado

All m/d offices' marquees should be completed and reception furniture delivered by January 22, 2007 so our open house can be held in mid-February (proposed date is February 14th). If those things would not be in place by mid-February, it was proposed that the open house be delayed until fall 2007. The open house committee will meet again to finalize a date.

Linda offered \$2,500 to pay for open house expenses if it's held in February because MSC is not planning a Welcome Back Fest in the Lounge. If the open house is moved to fall 2007, this money may be available depending on availability of funds for next fiscal year.

Access to Success Retreat – student nominations

Linda announced that, through Ramona's recommendation, MSC has nominated two African American students for the Access to Success Retreat's student panel. She encouraged other offices to nominate students of color for the panel.

Dao mentioned that the Southeast Asian student retention has decreased about five percent per year.

Round Robin

Dao – The Milwaukee Hmong New Year will be held on December 16 and 17 at the State Fair grounds. Admission is \$1.

Diane – Next week is snack week; stew will be served next Tuesday.

Nicole – The Success Conference will be held on January 24, 2007 (date changed to February 12, 2007) targeting new students, though all students are included. There may be workshops, keynote speakers, and a resource fair in the afternoon. All offices should participate in the conference.