

Multicultural Student Center Committee Meeting Summary
Thursday, September 14, 2006
1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Bolton 196

Welcome and Introduction

Linda welcomed the continuing committee members, new student representatives, and Interim Vice Chancellor Jim Hill and Associate Vice Chancellor Ruth Williams to the meeting.

Announcements/comments:

- All meeting dates and list of committee members are on the MSC website.
- Student Association will appoint either the Diversity Director or Multicultural Affairs Director to the committee. Nicole suggested Sergio Piceno, who is the SA Diversity Director.
- Per suggestion from Diane, MSC ordered a banner, which is currently hanging in the Union Concourse, about our new location and the Lounge.
- Ruth Williams requested that the offices not close their window/door blinds unless staff is working late at night.

Multicultural Conference Room Decoration/Policy Committee

Linda mentioned that the committee met and drafted a Policy and Procedures for the utilization of Bolton 196. The committee members are interested in having a multicultural mural painted on the east wall of the room. The only requirement is to have the design approved by the Physical Plant Services ahead of time. Any suggested revisions to the Policy and Procedures should be forwarded to Linda.

Making the Connection Program

Ramona described the program that was implemented for new freshmen of color from August 21 through September 1. She offered two sessions a day for a total of 52 students and parents/grandparents. The two-hour session included meeting students in the Multicultural Student Lounge; buying textbooks from the bookstores; touring classrooms on students' schedules; and talking about the importance of attending classes, connecting with professors, and studying. This program provided an excellent opportunity for the MSC advisor to be connected with new freshmen of color. Committee members suggested the implementation of a follow-up connection program for students.

Multicultural Open House

There have been discussions regarding a joint open house on the first floor of Bolton Hall. Suggestions were made to plan it after the signs and panels for the marquees are installed, and perhaps to hold it in conjunction with the UWM Open House.

A subcommittee was established to discuss and decide on the open house logistics. Subcommittee members are: Edwin, Ramona, Channy, Diane, and Susan. Edwin will chair and convene the first subcommittee meeting. Both "Chapman Hall" and Career Development Center will contribute funds toward this event.

MSC Fall 2006 Activities – Update

Multicultural Student Lounge – Linda mentioned that the sign has finally been changed! Ramona reported that she has seen an increase in the Lounge usage. For example, a total of 120 students visited the Lounge last week, with as many as 47 students in one day. This may be a result of the Making the Connection Program. For student-sponsored events that are held in the Lounge after 4 p.m., it's possible that MSC can help with publicizing the activity.

Myriad magazine – Linda passed around a draft mockup of the magazine, which will be distributed to the campus community during the week of October 9.

Workshop and events – Victoria talked about the workshops and events planned for fall 2006. A copy of the flyer was distributed. The first workshop was held today, with 15 students in attendance.

Alice also talked about the many events that are sponsored by the Union Sociocultural Programming. These events include the Lyrical Sanctuary series, Let It Out series, and the Holistic Healing series. For the first Lyrical Sanctuary's Writers Workshop, there were 30 people in attendance. Copies of the fall 2006 calendar were distributed.

Ruth Williams asked students for the best way to communicate information. Everyone said that e-mails are good, but word of mouth is the best way. It was also suggested that MSC links its events website to Alice's calendar website, and vice versa.

AMSLC conference – Victoria updated everyone on the keynote speakers. They are: Jackie Guerra, Steve Birdine, and Mark Denning. Currently, there are approximately 10 confirmed workshop presenters, and 60 student presenters. Nicole suggested a Hmong workshop speaker, Bounnging Her. Over 200 students and staff/chaperones have registered for the conference. About 20 volunteers are needed.

Friday night events include Intercultural Night, Latino band, and ethnic food tasting. The conference will end on Sunday morning with a performance by the Mango Tribe, which is free and open to the public.

Other

Susan questioned the purpose of the advisory committee. Advisory committee is supposed to meet only 2-3 times a year. Since this committee meets on a monthly basis, it functions more as an information-sharing group. It was decided that the 2006-07 committee will be called the "MSC Committee," and will continue to meet once a month.

Round Robin

Ruth R. – AOC has an event/open house for its students on September 27 from 11 to 1 p.m.

Diane – AISS and AISA have a potluck for students on September 20, and their annual Pow Wow will be held on October 7.

Edwin – RHC is celebrating the Hispanic History Month, which includes a dance on September 15, a Latino Culture Day with Flamenco Dancers on September 26, and many other events.