

Multicultural Student Center Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Thursday, June 22, 2006

11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Greene Hall

Welcome/Introduction

Linda welcomed and thanked committee members and staff for their support during the past academic year. MSC could not have functioned as well as it did without everyone's help.

Diversity & Climate

Dr. Anthony Lemelle, associate vice chancellor for diversity & climate, shared some findings on data collected via the Equity Scorecard Project. As the team leader, Dr. Lemelle is in the process of drafting a preliminary report on Access, which is the first of the four components in the project.

The Equity Scorecard Project is a UW System initiative that helps campuses understand their recruitment and retention data on students of color. The intent is to identify issues, and determine what institutions can do (strategies and recommendations) to facilitate access and success of students of color at the postsecondary level. UWM is one of the six UWS campuses participating in this pilot project.

Dr. Lemelle also shared information on listings of minority baccalaureate degree producing institutions from the Diverse: Issues in Higher Education. UWM ranked very low on the lists, except for producing American Indian bachelor's degrees (ranked #84 in 2005).

Recap of 2005-06 Events/Activities

Victoria reported on the various spring 2006 activities. She is currently working on finalizing the fall 2006 activities and events, which will be included in the Union Sociocultural Programming calendar.

Ramona reported on the Multicultural Student Lounge usage. The Lounge usage data was distributed, and the committee members suggested the inclusion of notations that explain how the numbers were collected.

Linda reported on the new freshmen contacts that were conducted in late November and December 2005. If this project was to be repeated, it should be initiated earlier in fall 2006. Linda also reported on the prospective student contacts and thanked everyone for taking the time to complete contact forms, and sending them to MSC. A few preliminary reports had been produced from this data. A final summary report will be generated in fall 2006.

2006-07 Events/Programs

Victoria talked about the list of workshops planned for fall 2006, as well as some of the programming and co-sponsors for AMSLC. For *Myriad*, Victoria requested a brief description and a photo from each unit for inclusion in an article.

The subject of a combined Open House for late September 2006 was discussed. The Career Development Center is very interested in joining this effort. Because everyone was unsure of the moving schedule (to Bolton Hall), it was suggested that the Open House be held in spring 2007. Victoria will get back to CDC regarding this decision.

Alice reported on the events for Union Sociocultural Programming. Several new programs have been added to the fall 06 activities that include workshops on racial identity, speaking in tongues, Lyrical Sanctuary series, cultural significance of celebrating Thanksgiving, etc.

MSC would like to initiate a textbook loan program. It was suggested that we look at the UW-Whitewater model, which was administered through the library.

Linda mentioned that the multicultural computer lab in Bolton 184 would not be operational until spring 2007 or fall 2007. The hours and number of computers are not yet determined. Ruth suggested some extended hours for students who attend classes in the evening.

Ramona proposed a series of sessions for incoming new freshmen that will be held two weeks before school starts. The program is to help students buy textbooks and show them where their classrooms are. The committee members were very supportive of this program. Linda is to inform Jan Ford of this initiative and see if we can plug into any Panther Pawlooza activities that are held at the same time.

Spanish-Speaking Capability of MSC Staff

Edwin mentioned that Enrique would like MSC to consider hiring a Spanish-speaking staff. Susan suggested that MSC could hire a diverse group of student workers. Linda said that the current office manager position is a temporary hire. When the position is opened for permanent recruitment, all possibilities will be considered.

2006-07 Meeting Logistics

Linda will contact student organizations (BSU, LSU, AISA, LSO, HSA, SA) to request one representative from each organization to serve on the advisory committee.

Linda requested that the 2006-07 meetings be held on second Thursdays of each month since the third Thursdays are busy for many people. The first meeting in fall 2006 will be on September 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Other Suggestions/Comments

- Diane suggested that MSC order a banner for the Union Concourse about the move.
- Linda will contact Fran Jasper again to change signage for MSL.
- There needs to be more RAs of color in residence halls.