

Senate Diversity Committee Meeting

February 6, 2018

10:30 AM-12 pm

In Attendance: Dorothea Anagnostopoulos, Edith Barrett (on the phone), Zachary Corolla, Sandy Bushmich, Maria Luz Fernandez (Chair), Donna Korbel, Josh LaPorte (on the phone), Lisa Pane, Joelle Murchison, Willena K. Price, Christina Rivera, Susana Ulloa.

1. The minutes from our last meeting on December 7 and the summary of the Metanoia event on November 8 were approved.
2. During the meeting, the committee discussed our number 1 topic of our Agenda for the year, which was to have a member representing diversity in Search Committees for higher administration positions. Following the discussion, it was decided that this diversity representative should be not just an ex officio member but a voting member of these Search Committees and therefore participate in the selection and interview of the candidates. Also, it was decided that the person should be a member of the Senate Diversity Committee. Maria Luz Fernandez said that she would work on the resolution narrative with the input of the Committee and will bring it to the Senate Chairs' lunch, which will be held on February 23rd for further discussion.
3. The Committee then discussed other items in the agenda to determine which ones would be feasible to do this spring. Joelle Murchison mentioned that she will take care of having a UConn.edu link on diversity so that potential applicants for positions at UConn who wish to know what the University is doing in terms of diversity, can have a quick access to these issues.
4. Other topic that were discussed regarding the agenda included training on diversity for PTR Committees, which apparently is being done in some Colleges as well as training all employees on implicit bias. The Exit Interviews is another topic that was brought into the discussion. Members of the Committee decided to find out what is being done in other Universities regarding this practices.
5. A discussion followed on some of the events occurring on Campus including the letter to the editor published on the *Daily Campus* about Residential Life's actions against pronoun expression. From the discussion that ensued, there seemed to be a lack of direct communication from Residential Life to students. It is recommended that students are informed of these events in a timely manner to avoid conflict. Joelle Murchison is aware of all these issues and is putting her efforts in avoiding the occurrence of these situations in the future.
6. We will meet next month and continue revisiting our agenda for the Spring semester
7. Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm

Respectfully submitted

Maria Luz Fernandez, PhD

Chair, Senate Diversity Committee