JEDI Committee Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021 Meeting
Meeting over WebEx

1. Attendance
   a. Present: Margaret Rubega, Eleanor Ouimet, Kathryn Weber-Hottle, Julie
      Guild, Audrey Silva, Sarah Wilen, Josianne Hamilton, Maryann Markowski,
      Christine Kirchhoff, Wilena Price, Cinnamon Adams, Frank Tuitt, Diane Lilo-
      Martin, Alison Paul, Michael Rodriguez, Claudia Pina, Kristen Govoni, Caitilin
      Elsaesser, Clarissa Ceglio, Magdalena Silver, Stephany Santos, Christina
      Irizarry

2. Message from Frank Tuitt
   a. Last year, there were conversations about how UConn can move closer to
      becoming an anti-racist institution.
   b. This year will be receiving feedback regarding our mission statement to see if
      there is anything we need to update.
   c. A DEI website will be launching this fall. It will become the landing page for
      everything DEI at the university.
   d. We are bringing together a group of 5 faculty members this year to help us
      think about a variety of DEI projects.
   e. We will have two people stepping in to help support Native American and
      Middle Eastern students at the Cultural Centers.
   f. We have been studying what other public universities are doing about DEI
      and trying to implement things we like into our university.

3. Questions for Frank Tuitt
   a. Is there going to be a DEI resource online for staff to use?
      i. Yes, there will be a similar one given to staff that the faculty currently
         have.
   b. Is there any updates/progress on JEDI wording to be implemented into job
      posts?
      i. Discussion about language for job posts have been occurring in HR.
         We will be looking at this draft language soon.
   c. How can people submit their ideas for community initiatives?
      i. We will communicate with the community about how to submit their
         proposals sometime during this year.
   d. Can the JEDI group help with anything that is due soon?
      i. There is a set of recommendations in the campus climate assessment
         that would be great to get more feedback on from this group.
ii. Reports about student onboarding and DEI training will be brought to this group as well.

4. **Overview of the JEDI Committee**
   a. Our committee focuses on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion on campus.
   b. We are the main channel for creating systemic change at the University.
   c. We have a role of checking in with other committees and act as a review committee for proposals being brought forward at the senate.

5. **Increasing Staff Size on the Senate**
   a. There are 70 seats on the Senate, and only 3 seats are filled by staff. The rest is filled by faculty.
   b. We are trying to increase the number of staff on the Senate because staff is three times the size of faculty.
   c. This has been postponed because the student organization and grad student organization wanted to wait until the new administration came in.
   d. This will be discussed at the Senate meeting in October.
   e. Is there a specific percentage we are trying to increase staff by?
      i. No answer to this at this moment.

6. **General Education Requirement**
   a. We had discussions last year about having a new general education requirement added for students. This course would be an anti-racism course.
   b. Take a look at the Delta GE2 new general education proposal!

7. **UConn Supplying Services and Sources**
   a. Towards the end of the Spring 2021 semester, there was a concern that UConn is using prison labor to supply materials and services.
   b. This contract still exists and it is still being used.
   c. If there is any interest in creating a subcommittee, please contact Maryann Markowski.

8. **Disability rights**
   a. Please reach out to Margaret if you have any interest in joining this subcommittee.
   b. We are trying to create more communication and inclusion for people with disabilities on campus.

9. **Final Thoughts/Questions**
a. Was there any progress from the subcommittee about the Board of Trustees selection process?
   i. Yes, the work is completely done now. The final result was that the selection committee should be reduced.

b. Are we still going to be using Microsoft Teams this semester for communication?
   i. For now, we will continue to try to use Teams, though we had weak uptake with teams last year.
   ii. In order to have committee members join sub-committees, we will create a Google Poll, and add committee members to the appropriate Teams channel as they express interest.