

**Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
Monday, April 19th – Graduate Life Center – Room B
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Kim Beisecker, Jean Brickey, Virgilio Centeno, Ross Edmonds, Bruce Hayden, Hal Irvin, Maxine Lyons, Michelle McLeese, Sue Ott Rowlands (represented by Fred Piercy), Ray Plaza, Keisha Riley, Karen Eley Sanders, Guy Sims, Melissa Simpkins, Maggie Sloane, Christine Snider, Jim Snyder, Mikhelle Taylor, Ray Williams

Absent: Craig Brians (with notice), Paul Deyerle, Shivani Handa, Stevan Jackson, Aditya Johri, Brad Klein, Meghan Kuhn, Anna LoMascolo (with notice), Bhanu Peddi, Daphne Rainey-Wittich, Chris Ramos, Amy Sorenson, Ethan Wechtaluk, Dennis Welch (with notice)

Guests: Robyn L. Hudson, Jennie Reilly, Nathan Lavinka

I. Call to Order

Guy Sims, Chair of CEOD, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Guy opened the meeting with congratulations to Michelle McLeese on her singing performance at the Odd Fellows Hall dedication and for being selected Graduate Student of the Year. Guy commented on the strong interest and positive feedback on the recent International Street Fair which drew nearly 14,000 visitors. Guy also acknowledged recent remembrance activities related to April 16th.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 29th meeting were approved.

III. Update on Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion Search – Guy Sims

Guy updated the commission that the position for Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion is being advertised and that review of applications will begin in May. Michelle Simpkins noted a typo in the position description.

IV. Old Business

Perry Martin presented nominees from the Nominating Committee for open slots on the CEOD. The committee is recommending to the President, Jody Thompson to serve in the vacant at-large position. The committee also recommends Keisha Riley and Justin Graves to serve as CEOD representatives to University Council. The slate of nominees and representatives were approved to be presented to the President.

V. New Business/Announcements

Michelle McLeese discussed the direction of the Campus Climate Task Force. Eight individuals met at a recent meeting to discuss the role of the Task Force. The individuals attending wanted to look back at the previous work of the Task Force. Questions on whether the Task Force should fall under the commission were raised and there was a suggestion to review the membership of the commission and have further discussion in the summer.

Discussion was held on the role of CEOD and the role that CEOD should play with policy making and programming. Several members shared concerns as to the primary role of CEOD and whether the quantity of meetings was appropriate. Jean shared some of the background of the Commission and noted many of the accomplishments of the CEOD related to the Principles of Community and earlier policy formation. Several members spoke about the need for greater understanding on what is expected of CEOD members and to provide a better orientation to members.

Ross expressed concern over minimal attendance by some members. Maggie spoke about need to understand why some commission members choose not to attend. Mikhelle also talked about challenges in determining and communicating with constituency groups.

Guy noted the uniqueness of the commission and that many points in the discussion had been brought up before. He suggested the development of a summer working group to make recommendations on the future of CEOD and that he would work with Karen Eley Sanders to develop and action plan.

Comments on this working group included the need to develop a strong orientation for new members, to examine the content of commission meetings, to review the charge of the commission, to review the size of the commission, the frequency of meetings, to understand basic governance structures and procedures, and to map out the focus areas of the campus departments and offices that contribute to the commission.

Ross asked that Task Forces provide any updates at the May 3rd meeting and/or submit reports on their efforts.

Michelle announced an upcoming transportation and parking forum on April 28th. She also announced upcoming CSA and GSA meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry D. Martin
Secretary to the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity