

COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND DIVERSITY
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2013
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
GRADUATE LIFE CENTER ROOM B

Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Aaron Bond, Tom Brown, Sam Cook, Catherine Cotrupi, Ross Edmonds, Amer Fayad, Amy Hogan, Jermaine Holmes, Marwa Abdel Latif, Lesley Moyo, Wornie Reed, Susan Rosebrough, Laura Rugless, Emily Satterwhite, Guy Sims, Yannis Stivachtis, Jody Thompson, Mary Ellen Verdu

ABSENT: Chris Atkins, Rick Barrow, Dannette Gomez-Beane, Nicole DaDamio, Hal Irvin, William Lewis (with notice), Mark Managuio, Corinne Noiro, Jacqueline Nottingham, Bill Ortega, Sue Ott Rowlands (with notice), Sherri Simmons, Cris Thompson, Leighton Vila, Alasia Washington

GUESTS: Susan Angle, Suzanne Baker, Marcie Bishop, Samantha Boyd, Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Pamela Linkous, Bridget Brugger McSorley, Pamela Vickers

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chair Yannis Stivachtis.

II. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE AND POSTING OF MINUTES

Motion to accept minutes for April 22nd, 2013 were approved.

III. VOTING RESULTS

Voting on the working group proposals will be extended to the fall semester.

IV. UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Marwa Abdel Latif provided an update on the meeting held with Dr. Lewis in April, regarding Graduate Students and Diversity. Virginia Tech provides a wide variety of events that highlights the principles of community and the diversity of Virginia Tech students. The low involvement, the lack of memberships, and the shortage in volunteers are major concerns to the international body and other offices on campus. Discussed at the meeting were some approaches to increase the involvement of Virginia Tech students at these events.

V. CRANWELL INTERNATIONAL CENTER PRESENTATION AND Q&A

Suzanne Baker, Assistant Director, Cranwell International Center SCA, shared a power point presentation with CEOD members, The Cranwell Chronicles. Suzanne provided to members

the services that the center provides to undergraduates, graduates, researchers/scholars, and the wider community.

Suzanne talked about upcoming changes and goals to increase intercultural exchange between domestic and international students through purposeful programming and partnership with new student programs, International Orientation, Inclusion of Domestic Students in Wilderness Adventure and Graduate Getaway.

Suzanne discussed plans for a greater involvement in diversity and inclusion discussions.

She talked about some of the challenges the center had encountered.

Suzanne welcomed and answered questions from CEOD members.

VI. AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENTATION AND Q&A

Dr. Samuel R. Cook, Director American Indian Studies, handed out a hard copy to members regarding Virginia Tech's American Indian Studies (AINS) program which is housed within the Department of Sociology. Currently, the Sociology Department offers several courses, as well as a Minor, in American Indian Studies. The required courses were listed on the hard copy.

Dr. Cook provided the purpose of the American Indian studies Program. In keeping with Virginia Tech's status and mission as a land grant institution, we strive to serve our indigenous constituency, both as educators and as partners. In short, we embrace a holistic, collaborative approach to American Indian Studies in which university faculty and students develop and maintain meaningful partnerships. We maintain a tribal advisory board consisting of elders and leaders of all of Virginia's eight Indian nations.

Dr. Samuel Cook welcomed questions from members and provided the program's website containing more information: <http://www.sociology.vt.edu/AINS/>

VII. APPALACHIAN STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENTATION AND Q&A

Dr. Anita Puckett, Director, Appalachian Studies Program, Department of Religion and Culture at Virginia Tech presented a power point to CEOD members. The Appalachian Studies Program manages and is housed in the restored plantation house of Solitude, located by the Duck Pond. The building provides classroom space for small Appalachian Studies classes, hosts small events for community and campus organizations, and gives tours of the building as possible, along with other great services.

Dr. Puckett's power point provided additional information regarding Outreach and Engagement Activities, Teaching Statistics, Faculty Statistics, Minor Accomplishments, and how CEOD could assist and support the program.

Dr. Puckett welcomed and answered questions from CEOD members.

VIII. COMMITTEE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN ATHLETICS (CEOA) REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Pamela Linkous, Director, Human Resources and Diversity Management, Athletic Department presented to members the Committee on Equal Opportunity in Athletics Annual Report for the Academic Year 2012-2013. Pamela provided that the information in the report was based on a set of requirements determined by the NCAA, a set of plans produced by the campus community for the Department of Athletics to address those requirements (the

Minority Opportunity Plan), and a set of recommendations from the Committee on Equal Opportunity in Athletics (CEOA) as a result of reviewing the Minority Opportunity Plan. Pamela discussed all requirements determined by the NCAA, and the plans and actions taken during each review period.

The UAC Subcommittee Report 2011-2012, and the UAC Office of Student Life Annual Report 2011-2012, are posted to the Scholar site for viewing.

ADA'S MEMBERSHIP REQUEST

Susan Angle's request to add an ADA representative to CEOD as an ex-officio member was accepted by CEOD. However, change in CEOD membership requires the approval of the University Council. As a result, the matter will be brought to the attention of the council next year. Meanwhile, ADA can informally attend the CEOD meetings as an ex-officio.

CHANGE OF CHAIRS

Yannis Stivachtis welcomed Lesley Moyo as chair to CEOD. Lesley thanked Yannis for his work and support. In chairing the remainder of the meeting, Lesley made some remarks on some of the concerns and issues that had been brought forth to the CEOD in the past year, pledging and encouraging members to join her in taking these issues forward. She commented that her effectiveness depends on participation of all members on the commission.

Lesley, in turn, welcomed Jermaine Holmes as incoming vice chair elect, and cited some useful ideas that he had suggested for future enhancement of CEOD meetings. Jermaine commented that he was happy to take on this role.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am. This was the final meeting for the spring semester. The schedule for the fall semester will be posted to the scholar site.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcie Bishop
Recording Secretary, Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

