

Multicultural Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 20th, 10:30am online via Teams

Committee Members: Alexander, Justin; **Butler, Juliette**; Byrd, Shinika; **Cornelius, Jeffrey**; **Deamues, Kennedy**; **Ellis, Minnette**; **Flippo, Cala**; Jones, Krimsyn; **Looser, Melanie**; **Hopkins, Rebecca**; **Patel, Dhrumil**; Rhodes, Tammy; Sherrill, Lindsey; Zelaya, Karla; **Zills, Grace**

- I. Approval of today's Agenda First C. (Flippo/Cornelius)
- II. Approval of Minutes from November 17th, 2023 meeting (Cornelius/Butler)
- III. Today's Business:

a) **President's Diversity Award:**

- Nomination Deadline (extended 1 week) - Friday February 23rd, 2024
 - M. Ellis shared she spoke with T. Jeffreys, who does the Awards Gala, and she allowed another week to turn in names.
- Selected Awardees are due to University Awards Gala Committee – **March 8th**
- **Subcommittee to review nominees:** Shinika Byrd, Jeff Cornelius, Melanie Looser, Grace Zills, and Juliette Butler
 - Review the nominees provide by Minnette Ellis
 - **Select 2 Awardees** to each receive the \$500 award
 1. Student / Student group or club
 2. Faculty or Staff / Faculty group, program, etc
 - Sub-committee will use selection criteria (see below) to narrow down nominees
 - Sub-committee will submit the names of two awardees to the MAC Chair (Rebecca Hopkins) by March 6th.
 - Names will then be sent out to the MAC committee via email to approve via a vote.
 - This vote will be due by end of day March 7th. This will allow one extra day if there needs to be any discussion or further review of nominees.
 - The MAC Chair will email results to the University Awards Gala Committee on March 8th.
- Selection Criteria – [President's Diversity Award \(una.edu\)](#)
 - **Significance:** How has the nominee(s) demonstrated superior leadership and commitment to the enhancement, development, and sustainability of diversity and inclusive excellence?
 - **Innovation:** How has the nominee(s) contribution uniquely addressed key issues of diversity and inclusion throughout the UNA community? How is this contribution different from existing activities and projects that address diversity and inclusion?
 - **Impact:** What have been the measurable outcomes? Has this project/program/activity been replicated at other institutions? How has this project/program/activity "moved the needle" in addressing issues of diversity and inclusion throughout the UNA community?
 - ✚ Flippo asked if no students applied what happens then. M. Ellis recommended that if no one in that category applies we do not have to award that category. M. Ellis will provide clarification on how to divide the award depending on the application pool.
 - ✚ R. Hopkins asked if only one faculty awarded then will they get full amount?
 - ✚ R. Hopkins offered thanks to Minnette.

- ✚ R. Hopkins will send reminder to subcommittee to vote on the award recipient via email

b) **Major Dewayne Williams Scholarship:**

Recipients of the scholarship must meet the following qualifications:

To the extent permitted by law, priority of consideration shall be given to a student that it is ***an incoming freshman whose enrollment would enhance the diversity*** of the University's student population, thereby improving the quality of the University's education experience and product. Or a ***current enrolled student with a minimum 2.5 GPA whose admittance enhances the diversity*** at UNA.

- MDW Application for 2024-2025 opened for students on November 1, 2023.
- Application Deadline for students is March 1st, 2024
- Ms. Hannah Littrell, Scholarship Manager, aims to have the list of applications to MAC by approximately March 18, 2024
- **MAC Role: Select 2 scholarship recipients:** 1 incoming freshman *and* 1 currently enrolled student
 - Scholarship recipient names must be submitted to Ms. Littrell by May 1st, 2024

➤ **Subcommittee volunteers for MDW Award:**

- R. Hopkins offered to wait to name this subcommittee until the next meeting with a unanimous vote from the attendees.

- **Ideas for Filtering the MDW Applications** from last meeting discussion –
 - Identify what “diversity” the committee is looking for
 - What diversity is each college looking for?
 - Filter by students who already have scholarships and those who have not received any.
 - Filter by who is actually committed to UNA
- **R. Hopkins will check in with Lindsey Sherril who has offered to look into this scholarship?**

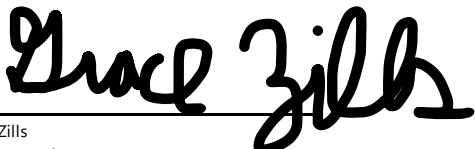
c) Discussion:

- -L. Sherrill offered to help narrow down and R. Hopkins will check in with her.
- Flippo brought up Discussion on how to narrow names because some of the applicants are not committed to UNA.
- G. Zills brought up in the minutes we had discussed R. Hopkins emailing each dean and leader of the diversity and equity committee for each college to ask what diversity they are looking for.
- M. Ellis will discuss financial aid to see what applicants already have scholarships and who are committed to UNA.

d) Schedule of next MAC Meeting – to discuss MDW award – Tuesday, March 12th at 10:30

IV. Adjourn 11:02 (Ellis/Flippo)

Respectfully submitted by Vice Chair MAC Dr. Grace Zills, DNP, FNP-BC

X 

Grace Zills
Assistant Professor