



Multicultural Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2023
11:00am via Zoom

Attendees:

Dr. Jeffrey Cornelius (Chair), Dr. Rebecca Hopkins (Vice-Chair), Dr. Rachel Winston, Ms. Vickie Green, Dr. Lindsey Sherrill, Ms. Tammy Rhodes, Dr. Ron Patterson, Mr. Dhrumil Patel, Mr. Bishop Alexander, Dr. Shinika Byrd, and Ms. Cala Flippo.
Dr. Jeffrey Cornelius presided.

Call of Meeting to Order

Dr. Jeffrey Cornelius called the meeting to order at 11:00am and welcomed attendees.

Agenda Items

- I. Motion to Approve Agenda 3-2-2023 – Rachel Winston, Lindsey Sherrill. Vote - Motion Approved.
- II. Motion to Approve Minutes 1-12-2023 – Cala Flippo, Shinika Byrd. Vote - Motion Approved.
- III. Committee Charge – Dr. Cornelius noted and referred to the charge of this Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC).
- IV. New Business –
 - Approval of President’s Diversity Award(s) from subcommittee
 - Motion to consider the award nominees – Rachel Winston, Bishop Alexander- Moved to approve the three names provided by the subcommittee. Vote – Approved unanimous for the following recipients:
 - Michael Reutter (Faculty)
 - Jeremy Martin (Staff)
 - Kayla Holman (Student)
 - Dr. Ron Patterson
 - President’s Diversity Award – *Discussion*
 - A \$500 stipend will be provided to each of the three award recipients
 - Timing for the award deadline has traditionally been February 28th. Rachel Winston and Rebecca Hopkins spoke on behalf of the subcommittee to recommend pushing back the deadline by 1-2 weeks to allow more time to review the nominees. Dr. Patterson noted and agreed to look into making this change of nomination deadline.
 - Major Dewayne Williams Memorial Scholarship – *Discussion*
 - Mr. Patterson noted the deadline for nominations is April 17th and the final award recipient(s) must be chosen by June 1st, 2023.
 - The scholarship amount has typically been around \$1000. The number of awardees has differed. Dr. Patterson will confirm with Financial Aid on the number of recipients allowed for the MDWM scholarship and report back to the committee.
 - Rachel Winston asked is this in an endowed scholarship – Dr. Patterson confirmed that it is. Dr. Patterson also indicated the university wanted to allow incoming freshman the opportunity to apply for this scholarship, which is why the date was moved to June.
 - Dr. Cornelius and Dr. Hopkins inquired about how these MDWM scholarship nominees will be provided to the subcommittee for review. Dr. Patterson responded their office will filter the information on a spreadsheet to narrow down those who qualify and then pass along the qualifying nominees to the committee.

- Shinika Byrd inquired about how students know when the deadline is to apply. Dr. Patterson noted it is through the Admissions office.
 - Dr. Patterson brought one more item to the committee – Mr. Andre Barnes, Director of Public Safety and University Police Services, is aiming to create a new university policing model on-campus. Mr. Barnes has requested to meet with the committee along with the Campus Diversity Liaison group in order to gain our perspectives and insights on the policing model. Dr. Cornelius suggested we add Mr. Barnes to the agenda for our last meeting. Dr. Patterson agreed and will contact Mr. Barnes to confirm. Dr. Cornelius will add to the next agenda – Public Safety & Community Policing.
- Dr. Jeff Cornelius on behalf of Yaslin Perez (Student Govt. Assoc. Senator)
 - SGA/MAC partnership for upcoming year - *Discussion*
 - The committee was asked to consider the possibility of SGA sending scholarship opportunities directly to students' email. The SGA marketing coordinator could make flyers for social media to better reach students of these scholarship opportunities. Dr. Patterson noted that this is coordinated through the Office of Student Financial Aid and that currently the awards opportunities go out through the UNA Digest. Dr. Alexander suggested that SGA may consider having a conversation with the Student Engagement Center as a resource to help reach all students. Dr. Patterson added that the Campus Groups platform might also be a way to spread the word to students. Dr. Cornelius will report this back to Yasmin Perez for the SGA to consider.
- Date/time for final meeting - *Discussion*
 - Dr. Winston inquired about how many applicants there will be for the scholarship. Dr. Patterson noted there have been hundreds of applicants in the past.
 - Dr. Hopkins inquired as to when the applicants would be provided to the subcommittee. Dr. Patterson noted they will be provided to the committee by Friday April 21st.
 - The committee agreed to meet next on May 4th

Questions & Comments

NA

Motion to Adjourn (Rachel Winston, Cala Flippo)

There being no additional questions or items of information, the meeting adjourned at 11:31am.

/rh