

Pierce Diversity Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2020; 1:15pm-2:30pm

Attendance: Sierra Bledsoe, Kimhou Chhith, Lara Conrady, Mita Desai, Michael Gend, Michael Habata, Sally Kassamanian, Mario Macias, Jeremy Mason, Pauline Pham, Brian Pierson, Marcy Portillo, Denis Pra, Zoe Ramirez, Angelita Rovero, Meagan Truxal, Lisa Valdez, Claudia Velasco, Abigail Watson, Michael Williams.

1. Call to Order: 1:19pm

2. Check In:

- a. Went around and discussed how we are doing.
- b. We have a reporter from the Round Up in attendance.

3. Approve Agenda:

- a. Brian motioned; Sierra seconded.

4. Approve Minutes from October 2020

- a. Sierra motioned; Meagan seconded.

5. Old Items:

- a. Diversity Newsletter Spring 2021:
 - i. No updates
- b. Instagram accounts:
 - i. Mario is working on a post for Native American Heritage Month
 - ii. Mario and Sierra are still accepting member blurbs. Students like to see who is involved in things. The hope is to get more students involved and connected. Blurbs should include:
 1. Name, goals for the diversity committee/something you would like to work on or improve, and a fun fact or a book recommendation.
 - iii. Mario and Sierra have been reposting things from various LAPC Instagram accounts (ASO etc.).
 - iv. If anyone has ideas for social media collaborations with other LAPC groups, please reach out to Mario Macias or Sierra Bledsoe.

6. New Items:

- a. Anti-racism resolution at Academic Senate
 - i. Michael Gend shared the final approved draft in the chat
- b. Anti-Racism resources from LAPC library
 - i. The library is working on a list of resources (reading, video, podcast, etc.). Michael Habata shared the draft webpage. The webpage is not finished and has not been made public yet.

- ii. They are still looking for resources. If you have any great material that you would like added, please reach out to Mario or Michael Habata.

7. Multicultural Week debrief:

- a. The turnout was not what it would have been if we were in person, but it was good for an online setting. We had around 100 attendees in total. Michael Gend shared the numbers for their productions as comparisons.
- b. Overall, the committee feels like the event was successful.
- c. There were no disruptive attendees. There were some provocative questions during the Islam presentation, but nothing escalated to the point of removal and the presenter did a good job or respectfully answering.
- d. We did not have an evaluation after to gauge the presentations. We discussed if it is too late to send one out now and what kind of questions we could ask. Some potential questions member brought up were:
 - i. Would you be willing to attend more programs like this in the future?
 - ii. What was your overall opinion of this presentation?
 - iii. Was the event timely/relevant as it relates to our current social climate?
 - iv. Satisfactory level.
 - v. What sort of content would you like to see in the future?
 - vi. Michael will draft something up.
- e. We discussed the poll and survey functionality of Zoom for future evaluations.
- f. Michael Habata will draft up some questions to email to this year's attendees.
- g. One attendee from the Islam presentation asked for reference material. Habata has reached out the Imam for good resources and will add the committee website when received. He will also look for good resources on his own.
- h. We would like to find more ways to make the presentations engaging and fun.

8. Announcements and Upcoming Events

- a. We would like to put some sort of event on for Black History Month in February. There were concerns that we don't have a lot of time, as this is our last official meeting. Michael will try to plan something for December.
- b. We discussed the process for planning events and programming. We need to get more student voices, especially those that don't normally participate, in the conversation.

- i. Angelita shared the process for how she plans her events. She gets a lot of student input by brainstorming with MEChA, which includes some students from her classes.
- ii. It would be helpful if those members that had interactions with students could try to talk to their students about the kind of programming they would like to see.
- iii. We discussed the possibility of using Instagram/social media to poll students as well.
- iv. Lara will talk to ASO on Tuesday to get input for programming for Black History Month. They will partner with us for an event.
- c. One Book One Campus and UMOJA are planning a Black History Month events. We can try to collaborate with them.
 - i. They are streaming the documentary John Lewis: Good Trouble followed by a discussion.
 - ii. They also plan to do more town halls.
- d. Angelita suggested trying to get more faculty involvement and attendance. She has noticed that more students tend to show up if their professors are there.
- e. Mario suggested creating a Diversity Canvas shell with programming, resources, academic material, quizzes, etc. This could be incorporated by professors into their semester plans.
 - i. Overall, Mario would like to see some kind of institutional change that shows faculty, staff and students that DEI is important and needs to be incorporated into how we function as a college.
 - ii. Easily accessible Canvas modules could help with this by allowing professors to incorporate this material into their classes and make it a requirement as opposed to extra credit.
 - iii. Discussed the possibility of creating some sort of student requirement to partake in so many DEI events. Things like this usually begin at a higher level, and then the Community Colleges follow suit. This led to a FLEX hour discussion for faculty. Any changes would need to be brought to the faculty union (Brian Walsh or Fernando).
 - iv. Gend brought up the fact that many professors will most likely make these modules available to students without being required to if they are easily accessible.
- f. Michael Williams from the CTE department joined our meeting. He does a lot of marketing and promoting and said that he will help us promote. Email him with events: williams3@piercecollege.edu They have a very active Instagram account: https://www.instagram.com/pierce_college_cte/

9. Meeting Adjourned: 2:33 pm