



President's Committee on Diversity
MINUTES
September 21, 2018

I. Call to order – Jessica Cruz

Cruz called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

Present: Bertossi, Boyd, Brozzo, Compton, Gorton, Harris, Hetler, Hightower, Koski, Leonhardt, Ngafeeson, Stulz, Wiles, Jessica Cruz, Marlina Martínez.

Absent: Essila, Mendoza, Nicholas

II. Approval of agenda and minutes

- a. Approval of agenda for 9/21/2018

Motion by Boyd, second by Stulz; motion approved.

- b. Approval of minutes for 4/20/2018

Motion by Stulz, second by Bertossi; motion approved.

III. Office of Diversity and Inclusion Update

- Cruz shared information that she shared with the Board of Trustees EXHIBIT A
 - Highlights included the enrollment data, and the number of underrepresented students
- The number of students who need disability services has been increasing, thus the need to listen to their voices.
- Cruz stated the importance of highlighting the initiatives/work/goals that PCOD has been a part of for the different constituents.
- Cruz is working to increase awareness and understanding of the need to have faculty of diverse backgrounds on staff.
- Alumni Awards are a great opportunity to reach out to a wide variety of alumni to make sure they are given the recognition that their work deserves. Please put some focused thought into the possibility of nominating an alumna/nus for one of these awards. More information on the website.
- Additionally, ideas for commencement speakers are sought.

- Diversity Alumni Association – Cruz working to establish a diversity alumni association (alumni Rachel McCaffrey, Lani Gahiji, Jamie Glenn as well as Robyn Stille-Executive Director of Alumni Relations, and Lindsay Demske-Alumni Association rep.) discussed Alumni Awards, working on jobs/internships, speakers
- Latino Student Union (LSU) had approx. 20 students attend first meeting of the semester (approx. 5 students attended in the past two years). Participating in the statewide Latino graduation celebration in Lansing has helped re-energize the group. After their first meeting, LSU approached Cruz to host a Baile (dance) with live music from Latin America. Cruz is looking into bands in the Grand Rapids area.
- Cruz may have a campus visit lined up in the near future and will coordinate with the Baile if it is confirmed.
- Discussed the possibility of a visit to the Jim Crow Museum (Ferris). Would possibly include administration, student orgs, PCOD members.
- Cruz shared the Committee’s motion with President Erickson. He verbally expressed support. Cruz will follow up on next steps. (**Motion:** The President’s Committee on Diversity recommends adding a member to the Campus Master Planning Committee who is differently-abled and/or who has significant knowledge to ensure proper representation of those with special needs).
- Aim North students took EN 111 and NAS 101 during the summer. ODI will be following up in southwest Michigan (Dowagiac) and possibly northwest Wisconsin (Oneida).

IV. PCOD Membership

- Due to time constraints, the vetting/voting for the new committee members will be done online using Share@NMU and Qualtrics, with a tentative due date of October 2.

V. PCOD Subcommittees

- Subcommittees will have a chance to work on more tasks together this year.

VI. Programming

- a. Past events
- b. Upcoming events
 - i. UNITED – Sept 24-25
 - ii. It’s On Us Week
 - iii. Hightower announced a new MSW program beginning next Fall.

VII. Good of the Order

- It was suggested that Committee members receive nametags so that they are recognizable when attending NMU and other related functions/events.

VIII. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m. so that members could attend the Wildcat statue unveiling at Jamrich.

Submitted by Marlina Martínez, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, 10/4/18