



**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020; 12:30PM – 2:30PM
SOL CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM**

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Contreras at 12:36am

II. Roll Call

Present	Absent	Staff
Melanie Alvarez Rojas		Freddie Sánchez
Matthew Contreras (Chair)		
Albert Martinez		
Shaileen Martinez		
Alexandra Meza		
Denise Nguyen		

III. Approval of Agenda

M/S (M.Rojas/A.Meza) Motion to approve agenda for Monday, February 3, 2020.

M/S/P (M.Rojas/A.Meza) Add Action Item: Approval of Diversity & Inclusion Spring 2020 Meeting Schedule, Add Discussion Items: Discussion BOD Vacancies, DREAM Center Conversation

Amendment to the motion passed 5-0-0.

Amended motion passed 5-0-0.

IV. Approval of Committee Minutes

M/S/P (D.Nguyen/M.Alvarez) Motion to approve meeting minutes for December 9, 2019.

Motion Passed (5-0-0).

V. Chair’s Report

- A. The BOD approved the appointment of Dr. Carroll Brown. He’s going to be an asset to the BOD. Chair Contreras shared that he invited Dr. Brown to the D&I committee and hopes he will be able to attend at least one of the meetings this semester. He has experience working with homelessness and at-risk youth. Chair Contreras also shared that he’s working, as part of an internship, with Los Angeles Room & Board, a start-up non-profit and is working closely with the co-founders. They’ve sent a proposal to start the program at Pierce College and CSUN to utilize housing rooms that are not occupied to provide to homeless and housing insecure students. Chair Contreras shared that he’s very passionate about this project and could benefit

commuter students and any CSUN student in general who may face housing insecurity, he'll be sharing the proposal with the committee. Chair Contreras would like committee to review proposal and see if this something that the USU can support.

VI. Action Items

A. Approval of spring 2020 D&I committee Meetings.

M/S/P (M.Alvarez/S.Martinez) Motion to approve spring 2020 D&I Committee schedule as follows:

Monday, February 3, 2020

Monday, March 2, 2020

Monday, April 6, 2020

Monday, April 27, 2020

Motion Passed (5-0-0)

VII. Discussion Items

A. Ice Breaker/Welcome Back

- i. Committee members had a quick check-in:
 - a. Denise: Glad to be back in routine. Was not taking care of herself the previous week, had a research proposal due and it was submitted. Relaxing this week.
 - b. Shaileen: Getting ready to wrap-up with her master's degree. She moved into family housing. She wanted to see how it was to live on campus. She's concerned about working with Institutional Research Board (IRB) to do her research.
 - c. Albert: Feels a little overwhelmed as he works to complete applications for a masters program. He's concerned that he lost a scholarship because he is not a full-time student this semester.
 - d. Melanie: Is busy with internship, BOD Committee, academics and working on balancing all out. Considering at applying to law school or a Masters program, still working on a plan.
 - e. Alexandra: Producing a film with two deaf individuals. Has never done a movie before and is excited about working on this project for class.
 - f. Matthew: Started an internship at Planned Parenthood in Los Angeles. Managed to pull a 4.0 last semester and is excited about this semester and all the things he's working on.
 - g. Freddie: Working on Ph.D. and working on completing dissertation this Spring. Excited for all the possibilities this committee is working on.

B. Committee Goals & Expectations

- i. Chair Contreras expressed the importance of attending meetings and being present at all meetings.

C. BOD Committee Members:

- i. Chair Contreras shared that Richard and Jovetta are no longer part of the D&I committee; Jovetta graduated at the end of Fall and Richard wasn't able to make committee times. Will work on recruiting one or two new members. Chair Contreras encouraged committee members to have students apply.

D. Committee Research

- i. Chair Contreras asked committee if anyone followed-up on their research project. He encouraged everyone to expand on what it is we need to know. Will ask everyone to present in future meetings.
 - a. Alexandra: Reviewed CSUN with a Heart – and shared that it’s a great website but student don’t know about it. She asked how the USU can support this endeavor since it has great resources for students. Can this be added to the CSUN portal or CSUN app for easy access. Overall it’s a good student friendly app, it just need more exposure.

E. Jon the Town Hall Discussion

- i. On February 26th the Commission on Diversity & Inclusion is hosting a town hall from 3pm – 5pm. Debra will be present. Feel free to attend, all students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend. Alexandra asked if interpreters will be available since the flyer doesn’t offer interpreting services and it’s not deaf friendly. There is knew language NCOD provided for campus departments to use for advertisement.

F. Possible Committee Recommendations

- i. In Fall 2019, the committee met with various campus entities to understand their need from the USU. Chair Contreras and Co-Chair Alvarez are working on drafting recommendations for the Facilities & Commercial services committee. More to come on this.

G. DREAM Center Recommendations

- i. The DREAM Center will be presenting at a future meeting about their request for the USU to administratively oversee the DREAM Center. They are anticipated to present at the March Meeting.

VIII. Announcements

- A. Chair Contreras invited D&I Committee members to attend the Inclusive Language training on 2/10.
- B. Denise is working on a passion project and received funding from the Clinton Foundation to host Community Dinners. She would like to create community dinners with the USU. Community Dinners are especially important over the breaks when most of the campus eateries are closed, yet we have students who are still around and might not have a place to eat.

IX. Adjournment

- A. Chair Contreras adjourned meeting at 1:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Freddie Sanchez
Executive Secretary