

DIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2017

Corrected November 7, 2017

Agenda

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:20 pm by Chair of Diversity Council Hector Sanchez.

Roll Call:

Carol Fonseca – Hispanic Faculty Staff Caucus, Abby Nayra – Honors College, Michael Ray- American Indian Programs, Hector Sanchez – Military and Veterans Programs, Zoey Sophia Pook, LGBT Programs, Maria Rocha-Hall – Athletics, John Idowu – College of Aces, Stephanie Carter – University Library, Laura Gutierrez-Spencer – Chicano Programs, Trudy Luken – Student Accessibility Services, Jeanelle Chavez – Indian Resource Development Program, Keith Mandabach – Employee Council, Laura Williams – College of Arts and Sciences, Donovan Olvera – ASNMSU, Carley Casey – ASNMSU, Cynthia Bejarano – CAMP, Elba Serrano – Faculty Senate, Festus Addo-Yobo – Black Programs, Juan Garcia – NMSU Alamogordo, Zoey – LGBT Programs, Carol B. Hicks – SAEM

Diversity Council Vacancies: Tribal Voices Working Group, College of Engineering, College of Health and Social Sciences, Graduate School Council, NMSU-Grants.

Guest: Dr. Greg Fant, Associate Vice President and Deputy Provost

Dr. Fant came in to speak about the hiring of Chief Diversity Officer. This position will report to the Provost Office. President and Provost are prepared to move forward with position.

- Position will be at the Associate Provost level – Possible Title: Chief Diversity Officer, Associate Provost for Diversity and Inclusion
 - Would like to do an internal search for talent, to give people an opportunity
 - Concerned about the level of funding/budget concerns/make the move to invest the money in divisions/ programs as opposed to Diversity Officer
 - Moving forward to establish position as a good long term decision for the university
 - 2020 Strategic Plan talks about Diversity, Assurance document for re-accreditation Diversity plays an important part
 - Important to have the position interact with President, Deans, Department, Divisions, to make sure diversity is explored on all levels
 - Hiring Process: Affirmative Action Plan – Underutilization/Office of Institutional Equity are major players
 - Diversity is not about numbers
 - What influence will Chief Diversity Officer have? They will have a voice to make sure things are not overlooked
 - Will the Diversity Officer position have any impact on the Presidential search?
 - RFP for search firm – Search should be indicative of the diversity representation on campus. Email Provost or Dr. Fant directly with other thoughts. Email sooner than later
 - When will the position post? There is an internal desire to post by the end of the year
 - Is the refunding for Director and staff – did not know the details or funding – Provost and Chancellor has to discuss
- Dr. Fant thanked the committee on the work that was being done around campus.

I. Old Business

- Letter sent to Board of Regents for Search Committee for NMSU Chancellor
- Received a reply from Regents

II. New Business

a. Homecoming Theme Dr. Laura Gutierrez-Spencer

- Theme: El Dia de los Aggies
- Completed housing presentation about the history and influence
- Faculty member shocked about theme
- Anglo student shared concern about theme, not their culture and don't want to be disrespectful
- Talked to ASNMSU and meeting with Dean Jasek forthcoming
- Panhellenic Council Association asking for presentation
- Good opportunity for campus to discuss cultural interest. Afraid of stereotypes. Conversation is also important in the community.
- Good time to address feeling and concerns during homecoming, so holidays are not misconstrued.
- Fraternities and Sororities are concerned because they will be judged.

III. Announcements/Updates

a. DACA – Dr. Laura Gutierrez-Spencer – DACA Website up – Chicano Studies. Did workshops in the community. Students are fearful.

- **Native American Heritage Month** - November
- **Military and Veterans Programs** – Military and Veterans Appreciation Week – November 6-12, 2017
- **LBGTQ** - National Coming Out Day – October 11, 2017 prom event in ballroom tonight
- **Honors College** - Common Reading Project – “Into the Beautiful North” Luis Urrea. Friday, March 13, 2018
- Faculty Senate Meeting – First Thursday of month /open
- **Employee Council** - meeting – Milton Hall 2:30, October 11, 2017
- Ground breaking for the Hotel and Convention Center on the NMSU Campus – October 11, 2017, 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm
- **ASNMSU** - Making State Great – October 21, 2017 – before homecoming
- **Black Programs** - NAACP Banquet, October 28, 2017 – Dean Pope Davis speaker – tickets \$50.00
- Celebration of Indigenous People day here at UTEP – October 12, 2017

Meeting adjourned: 2:40 pm