Council on Diversity and Social Justice Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2008 · 1:00 PM
Autzen Room, UC
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Attending: Bob Hawkinson, Nacho Córdova, David Douglass, Keith Grimm, Alec Esquivel, Joshua Bilbrew, Tomoko Harpster, Gordy Toyama, Larkin Smith, Cliff Leek, Maria Blanco-Arnejo, Charlie Wallace, Will Nevius, Greg Felker

Old business:
1) Our latest budget information was distributed. Due to the economic situation, we’ve reduced our budget by $500 per President Pelton’s request. We have $2,437.69 left in the Hewlett grant. We have $7,853.75 left in the CDSJ account. See Charlie for more specific details.
2) Mini-grant update: We had 3 requests from the School of Education, and we granted them $1000 to split between the 3 projects. The next deadline will be the end of January. Cliff has details about outstanding grants and projects that are missing the final report/write-up from last year.
3) Website: Josh has successfully relocated the website, so it stands alone under the “council” link on the Willamette page. Josh spent time researching other schools’ pages and had some recommendations for our own project:
   - update the membership list as it is very outdated
   - outline the terms of membership (ex/1 year, 3 years)
   - create a “contact us” section
   - post minutes, annual reports, projects, accomplishments, updates in general
   - list our meeting schedules
   - create an internal portal for “members only” so that we can access certain resources
   - outline the way members are chosen
   - tighten our purpose and charge
Other ideas and clarifications from the group:
   - grad students are chosen by the appropriate deans
   - CLA students are recommended by Gordy
   - faculty serve 2 year terms
   - We should link the minutes to D-space with the library so they are keyword searchable
   - we should have a WISE site

New Business:
1) The MLK week Town Hall event is our project again this year. It will be held on Wednesday, January 21st starting at 4pm in the Cat Cavern. The Council discussed some issues from last year, what worked well, what didn’t work well. Charlie, Josh, Nacho, and Larkin will meet next week to start organizing and set up logistics. Some concerns:
   - less “reporting” and more conversation would be nice
   - need more time (we’ll have from 4-6ish this year)
   - we don’t want it to be a rewind, but rather a chance to briefly reflect and then move forward
   - we want to publicize the work of the council, but also solicit ideas and charge from the community
   - we might record it as a photo essay, find some way to document and share on the website
   - this could be the date we launch the new website!

2) Living Wage: Keith spoke about the Penn State living wage calculator that was published in the sustainability report, thinking this would be a good idea for Willamette [research project?!]. We’ll have a recommendation to discuss/support at the next meeting regarding a plan for living wage at Willamette. The Council’s “staff” committee now consists of David Douglass, Dan Craig, Keith Grimm, Cliff Leek, and Tomoko Harpster. We also briefly discussed health insurance, tabling it for next time as something to be thinking about.
3) **Delta Drywall/PNRCC**: Charlie will ask Lee about the next steps, letting him know that we’d like to be in on the process and discussion, as a body that supports and gives recommendation to the President on issues regarding diversity and social justice.

4) **Other new initiatives/ideas:**
   - **Larkin**: let’s connect with the Salem community (ex/local NAACP, Salem Speaks Up, American Association of University Women)
   - **Gordy**: perhaps we could host local/community events like Salem Speaks Up in the future
   - **Nacho**: we should discuss our membership, sub-groups and committees
   - **Charlie**: let’s start talking with Sustainability Council to pick their brains and think about overlap
   - **Gordy**: we could start sponsoring discussions over meals so that the Willamette community has a way to engage these issues informally and personally
   - **Josh**: make the Town Hall meeting the launch date for the website