

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Council for the University

MINUTES

Date OF MEETING: August 23, 2023

Time: 11:00

Location: Chasteen, Room 104 or zoom:

<https://athens.zoom.us/j/84767383150?pwd=NWg0dUUzMVJJOZTVRY2t3cDdBSGJXdz09>

Committee Chair: Dr. Turner-White Faculty-at-large (COE), **Vice Chair,** Dr. Stevenson Faculty-at-large (COAS)

Members:

Faculty Senate- Dr. Hugh Long

Director of Student Inclusion Initiatives - Richard Collie

PO Staff Senate – Beth Jenkins

SGA President – Jonathan Williams

Faculty-at-large (COB) – Dr. Elmer Ragus

Staff-at-large – Assanti Miller

HR Rep-at-large – Kathryn Doaty

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY DR. TURNER-WHITE

OLD BUSINESS

- Review the DEIJA plan
- Action Items for Fall Semester
 - University Calendar

NEW BUSINESS

- Welcome to Amy Garrison who will joining DEIJA.
 - Voice for the students
 - Will bring her expertise and awareness and different ways to communicate across campus.
- Finalize the DEIJA Plan
 - Everybody present in the meeting in agreement to move forward with the plan

- Will ask Dr. Wehlburg how we want to share this information and to introduce ourselves to the university as representatives of this plan.
 - Website?
- Action items for the fall 2023
 - Open invitation to Department Leaders to Share University Events and Activities
 - Invite our department heads; have them tell us what's on the Calendar, especially when it comes to events involving students.
 - How can we support each other?
 - Ensure students are aware of these events.
 - Centralize events in one place so we can all see it.
 - Currently, it is a challenge to know all the different events going on.
 - If we're able to come together more easily as a community because we know what's going on and can be prepared to support each other better, imagine the impact we can have.
 - Going with names from those invited last year
 - Let Dr. Turner-White if there is anybody else you want to invite.
 - We want to give at least two weeks' notice.
 - Take back to our department heads what we're doing.
 - Amy Garrison
 - Teambuilding.com events – <https://teambuilding.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Teambuilding-Events-Catalog-Aaron.pdf>
 - Teambuilding.com provides virtual, hybrid, and interactive options so that all students have the option of being included in student activities.
 - We can use this same format to support what we want to do.
 - CEED grand opening 8/26 – Men of Kennis hosting
 - Campus Survey – Ms. Doaty will check with Jeff Guenther
 - Jeff wanted to get through with the service awards before meeting with the president to see how he's going to roll everything out.
 - Ask Dr. Wehlburg for a budget.
 - We need training to know best practices.
 - Be empowered to help.
 - Structured training / formal training
 - Create a support system.
 - Provide opportunities for everyone – inclusion.
 - One of our major objectives is bringing awareness.
 - We are wrangling with communication across campus.
 - Athens State is a well-kept secret.

- Dr. Long – Faculty Senate would be a great place to bring awareness. The Faculty Senate is having the same conversations with the Provost and President about communication across campus.
- Events going on between now and next meeting.
 - Dr. Long
 - Laramie Project, auditions Fri, 8/25 and Sat, 8/26
 - The head of the Southeastern Diversity Project, a local nonprofit out of Morgan County could be invited to speak at the university.
 - Dr. Ragus
 - ACHE will meet 9/8 about approving the new Bachelor of Science in Marketing & Analytics
 - If it gets approved, marketing students can help with DEIJA's efforts to market itself.
 - Sep 9th – 9 am to 12 pm, Empowerment Workshop
 - Leadership for men of color
 - Laken Smith
 - “Land and Labor Acknowledgments are common in the library/archives field. Our Archives has wanted to do one for a while, but it takes a lot of time and research to put together. The draft that I sent to Dr. Turner-White is a first draft that the Archives plans to use on its website and the Archives Equity Initiative webpage.

Toni Carter, the library director, suggested sharing it with the DEIJA Council and getting your thoughts, etc. about the document. She also thinks that the Council's support would help us as we're trying to diversify our history and tell a more comprehensive narrative than we have today.

Like I said, this is a draft; we're still trying to figure out what's most appropriate, i.e., should we keep the two Acknowledgments together or separate them.

Regardless, any feedback the council members could provide is greatly appreciated. If anyone wants to know more about the documents, they can email and/or call me and I'd be glad to speak with them.”

Next Meeting

Date | Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 11 a.m., Chasteen Hall room