

## MINUTES

### Shepherd University Diversity and Equity Committee September 14, 2016 at 3:10 p.m. Rumsey Gallery – Student Center

Present: Amelia Carte, Tammy Gill, Karen Green, Dr. Heidi Hanrahan, Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic, Dr. Taylor Perry, Arthena Roper, Dr. Thomas Segar, Katlyn Simmons, Dr. Richard Stevens,

Absent: Dr. Scott Beard, Yee Lea Cho, Dr. Marie DeWalt, Larry Dowdy, Dr. c. lynne Hannah, Dr. James Lewin, Alan Perdue, Wanda Smith, Shanan Spencer

Dr. Segar called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

- I. Introductions: Members of the committee introduced themselves and their role at the institution.
- II. Election of Committee Chair: Dr. Richard Stevens nominated Dr. Thomas Segar as the Committee Chair. All Committee members approved the nomination.
- III. Approval of February 10, 2016 minutes: The meeting minutes were approved as distributed.
- IV. Recorder for Minutes: Tammy Gill
- V. Agenda Items:
  - A. **Funding Request for Guinea Ambassador H.E. Mamady Conde Visit to Shepherd University:** Siriki Diabate, Graduate Student with the Pan African Student Union attended the meeting to request funding in the amount of \$250 for the upcoming Guinea Ambassador visit scheduled on October 18, 2016. Siriki explained an overview of the event that will include a lecture by the Ambassador about Guinean culture, economics and politics. The lecture will be followed by a reception with traditional African food and music based on the Guinean culture. Pan African students will give presentations about their experiences. The committee agreed to grant \$250 to this event. The committee also approved \$500 to go towards the Homecoming Multi-Cultural Reception and \$100 was set aside for training the Civility Response Team later in the semester.
  - B. **Updates:**
    - **Office of Multicultural Student Affairs** – Katlyn Simmons reported that the Multicultural Student Affairs team recently had a team building event. Ms. Simmons also provided an overview of events planned in the future.
    - **Local Community** – Dr. Perry informed the committee that the NAACP State Conference will be held on October 28, 2016 at the Caperton Building in Clarksburg, WV.

- **Civility Response Team** – Dr. Hanrahan reported that the Civility Response Team (CRT) is currently trying to get more members and all members will go through training soon. They are also working on scheduling the first meeting of the semester in the coming weeks.

**C. Diversity Trainer Mauricio Velasquez Scheduled to Visit Shepherd on Monday, October 31, 2016:** Dr. Segar reported that Mauricio wants to get a better sense from our students of their experience here at Shepherd prior to his next scheduled Diversity Training session. Mauricio planned to be on campus to visit with various student groups on September 22, 2016. Two Diversity Training sessions will be offered on campus for staff and faculty employees on October 31, 2016 – one from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and another from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Dr. Segar will send out an announcement about the training to the campus soon.

**D. Storer College Faculty Award:** Dr. Stevens reported that the Storer College Faculty Award nomination announcement will be sent out soon. Nominations will go to MaryBeth Myers in Student Affairs and the committee will review them.

**E. Update on Diversity and Equity Charge:** Dr. Segar reported that Dr. Hendrix approved the new committee charge. The charge was also provided to Alan Perdue to update our Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Plan policies.

**F. Committee Goals for 2016-2017:** Dr. Segar reported that he will send out a survey to the committee to solicit ideas for committee initiatives.

**G. New Business:** Dr. Stevens asked if we can increase the budget for the committee as there is interest in supporting other initiatives. Dr. Segar agreed to discuss this request with Dr. Hendrix.

Dr. Segar stated that he would like the committee to create a Diversity and Equity website to communicate events, meeting minutes, initiatives etc. Ms. Gill and Dr. Howard-Bostic agreed to help create this website.

Ms. Roper asked if Shepherd could have students come to the schools again to talk about their culture. Dr. Segar agreed to this request.

The next Diversity and Equity Committee meeting is scheduled on November 9, 2016 at 3:10 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Gill