Diversity and Social Justice Committee

Minutes

November 19, 2019

1:00 p.m.

Members in attendance:

Tim Melvin

Kim McFall

Lanai Jennings

Ruthann Arneson

Feon Smith

Wendi Dunham

Aju James

Tim requested a review of what this committee has accomplished since he is new to the committee. . He understood that Social Justice and Diversity had organized the Brown Bag Series for COEPD. Kim explained she had met the Dean and she supported 1-2 meetings per semester. The fall meeting had been held on both the South Charleston and Huntington campuses, featuring Aju.as the speaker. The South Charleston meeting had about 18 in attendance and the Huntington meeting had about 7. For spring semester it was felt that the series should have a faculty focus.

Discussion followed on other accomplishments in the of the committee: spring 2019 the committee partnered with the School Psych association, diversity trainings were held for faculty in October of 2018 in preparation for CAEP, and the group presented at the IPAD conference for new faculty in August. There had been discussion on this committee designing modules on Social Justice and Diversity that would be available to COEPD faculty.

Tim discussed that we could tap into experts at are available on campus. He suggested we use Shelby Campbell who is responsible for developing diversity and equity programs for the schools of medicine and pharmacy. She could help us develop micro trainings for faculty. That we could do something where faculty could earn badges for participating in the trainings and then have faculty recognized, maybe at the end of the year faculty training if they completed/participated in the trainings, or receive some kind of prize. Make it fun so faculty will want to participate.

Kim suggested this committee should do some training around Title IX to provide faculty information on it.

Lanai suggested that World Day of Social Justice is celebrated on February 20th. She suggested this was an opportunity for faculty to do some kind of project or assignment around social justice that day.

Another suggestion for the committee to take on included sponsoring ALLIES Training which the Autism Training Center provides. Wendi reported they had done training with her students and it was worthwhile. We have done Safe Space training, but maybe sponsor that again. Possibly ALLIED raining in January and Safe Space in March.

Discussion followed on the Tri State Diversity Conference which is held in September and will be At OU Southern this fall. Possible this group could present again as they did in the Fall of 2018. We could prepare something from the results of what was done to recognize World Day of Social Justice. Tim talked about another national conference where it may be possible to present at. Lanai will have her GA’s put together an announcement about the World Day of Social Justice and have it ready before the end of the semester.

Tim asked why this group does not have a student represented on this committee. Discussion followed and no one was sure why not but the Faculty Review Committee reviews committee responsibilities.

It was decided to meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 1:00. Tim will create a Microsoft Team for communication with the committee and he will talk with Shelby to see what we can do about putting together some modules.

Meeting was adjourned.