

Diversity Committee Minutes
January 26, 2016

Present: Dr. Osaro Airen, Dr. Linda Black, Dr. Brandon Fox, Dr. Gina Causin (via Skype), Dr. Jane Grayson, Dr. Ali Hachem, Dr. Heather Munro, Dr. Jannah Nerren, Dr. Tingting Xu

Unable to Attend: Dr. Sarah Drake (out on leave), Dr. Frank Mullins, Dr. Heather Samuelson

The meeting began with a discussion regarding Dr. Airen's departure from the committee as he is taking another position elsewhere. The committee discussed the urgency of replacing Dr. Airen with the new director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs as soon as that person is appointed. It was also decided that the interim director would be immediately asked to join the committee. This person has not yet been named.

The committee discussed the selection of a new committee co-chair to replace Dr. Airen. It was decided that the nominees from the 15-16 election should be given the opportunity to serve as co-chair the remainder of the year. Dr. Fox declined this opportunity due to other obligations, and Dr. Hachem accepted the position.

*Dr. Hachem will serve as co-chair the remainder of the 15-16 academic year.

Dr. Airen provided an update on the Diversity Faculty Climate Survey. To date, there were 83 respondents, and those respondents reflect the diversity of the college. They were:

- 70 White
- 1 Asian
- 4 Black
- 4 Bi-racial
- 4 did not identify
- Total: 83

Dr. Nerren will continue to send out survey reminders through the month of February. Dr. Airen will continue to work with the committee on the survey until it is completed. At the culmination of the survey, the committee will produce a paper for the college on the results and implications.

Dr. Nerren provided an update on SEEL search postings. The search will be posted on several of the sites suggested by the committee, including the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education and the Journal of Latinos and Education.

The committee will meet next in early March to discuss the final survey results and implement action steps using the results.

Submitted by Jannah Nerren
February 3, 2016