Multicultural Coordinating Committee Meeting  
Thursday, March 11, 2010  
1:30pm, Bolton 196

Present:  Sonya Martin, Carla Cadet, Ahmed Kraima, Dao Vang, Susan Fields, Diane Amour, Carmen Cepeda, Edwin Madonado, Ramona Sledge, Linda Huang, Victoria Pryor, Kris World Heil (guest), Patrice Petro (guest)

Brief Updates

Linda briefed everyone on what has been happening on campus – in the following areas:

- Interim provost position
- Three administrative search and screen committees
- Graduate School reorganization
- Master Planning – Columbia/St. Mary and Freshwater locations
- Potential parking increases

Multicultural Programming Collaboration Discussion

Carla wants to know how to include multicultural offices in the planning of Union Sociocultural Programming (USP) events – collaborating from the beginning, rather than co-sponsorship or coming aboard at the end. USP is currently surveying students as to what types of programming they would like to see on campus. If Carla emails the survey to multicultural offices, they will be willing to forward it to their students.

Susan stated that the multicultural offices look toward USP for leads in multicultural programming. Diane offered for USP to meet with AISA students to talk about and plan programs collaboratively.

Center for International Education

Patrice mentioned that she attended a conference with Michael and Rita to bridge gap between the two worlds – that of diversity and international worlds. They should work collaboratively together, rather than independently or separately.

A Task Force on Study Abroad was created a while back to look into having more students of color participate in the study abroad program. Study abroad is a transformative experience for students and studies have shown that these students receive higher grades. Yomarie Tejada from CIE has done a wonderful job outreaching to various programs on campus.

Funds are available for short-term, semester-long, and year-long programs. CIE would like to work with advisors since they are the front-line workers with students. Some examples of collaboration are: Multicultural Student Lounge has implemented a program with Yomarie/Study Abroad in the past and will plan another such event in the near future; RHC staff continues to
work with international students, but they don’t know about RHC. More relationships are, however, still need to be built between international students and multicultural offices.

Patrice described the Cultural Café, a program run by students to bring students together. There are presentations and food at each event. Diane suggested that Cultural Café can offer American Indian and other cultures, too. Many of the multicultural offices have not heard of this program so more information about Cultural Café is needed.

MCC will invite CIE to the meeting again; Patrice will bring Dave Engberg and Jennifer Gruenewald to talk more about study abroad, Cultural Café, and global studies, etc.

PSOA Dance Events

Kris is a lecturer in the dance department. The theme for this year’s dance season/performances is “Race & Identity.” Kris will be choreographing the Summerdances: Uncovered, featuring Garth Fagan’s “From Before” on June 3-5 in the Mainstage Theatre. Please let students know about this event.

Kris requested to join the MCC. She will be added to the membership list.

Announcements/Other

Edwin – RHC is finalizing the Cinco de Mayo events during the first week of May. May 8th will be the Latino graduation banquet. Information will be shared with everyone after it’s finalized.

Diane – April 8th is the Indian Taco Sale at the Point of Grace Church. Student awards event is on April 20th and the all-city graduation program is on May 20th.

Victoria – BCC graduation is on May 5th. The March and April calendar of events in the Multicultural Student Lounge was distributed.