Multicultural Coordinating Committee Meeting  
Thursday, August 13, 2009  
1:30 p.m., Bolton 196

Meeting Summary

Present: Celeste Clark, Dao Vang, Linda Huang, Michael Powell, Carla Cadet, Sonya Martin, Edwin Maldonado, Carmen Cepeda, Ray Fikes, Ruth Russell, Susan Fields, Victoria Pryor, Enrique Figueroa

Guests: Beth Weckmueller, Melissa Hall, Kim Folstein

LINKS - Sonya

Student Success Center will be located in Bolton 120. Sonya will be contacting individual multicultural offices this fall to build relationships with the centers.

Six students are needed to serve as LINKS mentors. There are currently four at this point. Students can request for LINKS mentors, and each mentor will have about 10 students. They will also be collaborating on programs. Please let Carly Reckwerth know if there are any programming ideas. She is in charge of the LINKS mentors.

Please forward student info to Sonya at gladneys@uwm.edu. It’s preferable that LINKS mentors are sophomores and juniors.

Enrollment Update

Michael mentioned that there is a comparison of Wisconsin schools in a recent issue of Milwaukee Business Journal. Our students of color composition is 17.8%, as compared to 27% for UW-Parkside. Therefore, we need to be more competitive and find out more about UW-Parkside’s recruitment strategies. Michael will send everyone a copy of the article.

It was suggested that the elimination of subsidized transportation from Racine/Kenosha and Waukesha has an impact on student enrollment at UWM.

Linda distributed enrollment data as of August 11, 2009 by race/ethnic groups.

DRO Update – submitted by Yohlunda after the meeting.

Staffing:

- We have two new staff members in DRO: Tamika Doolin and Tam Trutwin. They both come to UWM with lots of higher education experience and have been assigned to assist some of our out-of-state outreach and some WI areas.
- The position left vacant by John will be filled, with a national search taking place.
Programming:

- The U-Visit schedule has been reduced to include the following dates: We were able to consolidate some of the U-Visits dates in the dates set up for the Preview Day program. Here are the U-Visit dates:

  Fall 2009 – September 23, October 7, October 17, November 11
  Spring 2010 – January 29, March 31

- The Preview Day schedule is December 11, February 8, March 5, April 9, May 7

- And the Multicultural Visit schedules are:

  **Overnights:** Discover UWM: November 4-5, 2009
  You @ UWM: April 14-15, 2010

  **Discover Schools/Colleges:** November 11 (school has not been set)
  April 23 CHS

Union Sociocultural Programming – Carla

Carla is currently working on the fall calendar. She is also looking at the USP programming, i.e., how to work closer together with multicultural offices to strengthen collaborations and develop programs that meet the needs of students. Spring calendar deadline will be in November.

Michael mentioned about the Subscription Center through the PantherLink calendaring system. USP is exploring making its calendar available through the Subscription Center.

The Civil Rights Pilgrimage at the Marquette University is a leadership event/trip to different cities that are significant to the civil rights movement. Carla inquired about the possibility of implementing a similar program at UWM.

Marquette University is offering this event again, and is open to including UWM students to participate. The trip is on October 21-25. Per student cost is $200, and help with funding a chartered bus is needed. Please refer any questions or interested students to Carla.

Undocumented Students – Beth, Melissa, Kim

A new statute was signed into law as part of the 2009-2011 state budget to exempt undocumented students from nonresident tuition at UW System institutions if these students have: 1) graduated from a Wisconsin high school or received an equivalent of a GED; 2) resided in Wisconsin for at least three years during their high school years; and 3) planned to attend a postsecondary institution and file for a permanent resident visa as soon as they are eligible to do so. The statue does not automatically guarantee resident status to all undocumented students.
At UWM, students must apply for admission first. After they are admitted, they will be reviewed for residency status. If they are eligible, they will be contacted to complete and sign an affidavit. This residency status, if granted, will be in effect throughout students’ years at UWM.

It is important to note that residency and admissions status are two separate processes that do not affect decisions on either status. Issues regarding confidentiality of students disclosing their undocumented status were raised and discussed. Once a student is enrolled, FERPA applies.

It was suggested that DES develop a FAQ that will include the step-by-step process. Beth will suggest this to UW System, but will develop one if UW System doesn’t have it available soon. It makes sense to have two documents – one for students and one for the public. She will also do an internal process document for distribution.

Beth will be the point person on campus for any questions regarding this issue.

UWS Board of Regents Diversity Award – Linda

Linda distributed guidelines for the diversity award, and encouraged everyone to submit a nomination. UWM is eligible to submit one nomination in each of the three categories – individual, team, and institution/unit.

Unit Reports/Other

Edwin – September 15 to October 15 is the Hispanic Month Celebration:

- October 2 – A Latino theatre group (Teatro Luna) from Chicago will perform in the Zelazo Center at 7 p.m.
- October 8 – the student version of the Latina Monologue will perform in the Zelazo Center at 7 p.m.
- Many more events are listed on the RHC website.

Dao – The Hmong certificate program was approved. Chia Vang is working on a celebratory event.

Carla –

- UWM Housing (Liz Van Lyzal) is planning a Tunnel of Oppression.
- PantherFest is featuring the Dashboard Confessional and Common on September 11.
- PantherProwl (Peppy O’Neill) is October 11 at 10 a.m. (same weekend as the Family Weekend).
- UWM Night at Miller Park (Peppy O’Neill) is on September 23.

Celeste –

- September 11-12 is the Indian Summer. AISS is selling tickets now.
- October 3 is the 32nd annual Autumn Pow Wow.
- October 22-25 is the National Indian Education Association Conference. Joan Prince’s office is a sponsor of this conference.
Ray – Victoria is working on a series of workshops. The first two are focused on talking to your professors, and time management/test skills.

- October 7 is the Black Student Experience event.
- Additional series will be implemented through the Africology and other departments.
- Additional programming include: leadership track, pre-law track, etc.