Multicultural Network Meeting Summary
Thursday, December 19, 2013
9-10:30 a.m., Bolton 196


AMSLC – Warren
Because of lack of funding, multicultural offices will contribute toward sending their students to this conference. It will be held at UW-Green Bay on April 4-5, 2014. Abstract submission deadline is January 31, 2014. For the 2013 conference, 18 students registered, and 14 attended.

Warren will email everyone regarding the cost per student that includes registration fee, lodging, and transportation. Registration process will be coordinated through Warren.

It was suggested that Tiffany Thorton can help students with submitting abstracts and presenting/researching their projects.

Ruth and Twyla are interested in attending this conference as chaperones.

Student Climate Survey – Warren
IEC is interested in administering a climate survey to students. Institution is able to add 20 questions. Suggestion was made to include the addition of questions related to what we can do to help students in returning to UWM.

It was also suggested that we should over sample the multicultural population. iPads can be made available in various offices for students to take the survey. Focus group sessions can be conducted as well. If the timing is right, completion of the survey can be tied to the Lawton Scholars requirements.

It is important that the recommendations are made visible and implemented. Graduate students can utilize the data for their dissertation studies. The senior survey and NSSE both provide good data, too.

Office of Undergraduate Admissions – Brian
Brian came to UWM in late August. Priority is to bring more students to campus – targeting four areas: recruitment, communication, visitor info center, and admissions. UWM has committed money to fill 4 new positions to recruit students beyond WI.

With the goal of increasing tour guides to 50 students (from 6), multicultural students are encouraged to apply. Multicultural offices are welcome to send students directly to Brian for hiring. Announcements were sent out under the “Campus Ambassador” hires.
In order to grow enrollment, Brian felt that we are comparing too much with other institutions and not enough on what UWM has to offer. Our biggest selling point is our diversity.

Application/Admit data was shared and discussed, along with a new initiative that was implemented during the Thanksgiving weekend. It was called the Black and Gold Friday, which increased applications by 24%. Thus far, overall application is down, but targeted SOC is up slightly.

Brian proposed a priority application deadline of March 1 (to be consistent with other institutions), but UWM will continue to accept documents and students until August 28th. 40% of new freshmen do apply before March 1st.

UWM Blood Council – Jim Hill and guests
Demetria Anderson is a new leadership hire. She works with the Blood Center community liaisons (Faye and Andrea) to outreach to student organizations, especially targeted student populations. Their presentations to the UWM community do address issues of racism.

The UWM Blood Council members presented on issues and stories of organ and marrow recipients. There will be a blood drive during the Black History Month on February 4th.

Updates
- Updates on the Lawton Scholars and ADI Team were tabled to the next MN meeting.
- Linda shared the list of Study Abroad Diversity Scholarship recipients. It was suggested that study abroad photos be collected from these recipients so they can be used for future marketing purposes.
- Multicultural offices should encourage students to attend the study abroad info sessions in February by CIE. The next diversity scholarship application deadline is March 15th.
- Following up on requests from MN members at the October meeting, Linda shared the list of STEM-Inspire scholars and asked that the multicultural offices connect with John Baker for any student issues.

Future Meetings & Agenda Items
- February MN meeting will begin at 9 a.m.
- Ruth brought up the importance of discussing changes currently occurring for the developmental math courses, and suggested inviting Kyle Swanson (math chair) to the next MN meeting. We may need to allocate one hour for this discussion.
- There is a UWS Task Force on Remediation that will be submitting a report in April. Phyllis King is the co-chair of (and represents UWM on) that task force.
- MAP-Works on SOC – for discussion at the April 17th meeting?
- Strategic planning/ADI report out will be on the agenda of the April 17th meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.