

## **Multicultural Student Center Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, March 5, 2008  
2:00 p.m., Chapman Regents Room

Present: Michael Powell, Sergio Piceno, Yohlunda Hill, Alice Jackson, Nicole Stroobants, Susan Fields, Ramona Sledge, Chong Yang, Dao Vang, Edwin Maldonado, Linda Huang, Diane Amour, Kenneth Curtis

### Campus Climate Survey Update

The survey will be administered in April. It is in the process of being publicized around campus. Michael stressed the importance of participating in the survey, responding to issues, and how the data will be used. UWM is committed to using data generated to inform the decision-making process and allocation of resources. Campus climate is a huge issue as confirmed by the LipmanHearne report on the African American and Latino populations.

This survey, therefore, offers an opportunity to present hard data, which will be used in a constructive fashion. Sue Rankin from Penn State University will construct the survey. It will take about 20 minutes to complete. Incentives may be offered. UWM is one of five UW System campuses participating in this survey.

The UWM climate survey team is working on a title for the survey. It will be offered online and paper copies will be available as well. The survey will also be accessed via kiosks on campus.

Alice suggested a series of workshops by Steve Robbins. Since his workshops were very good, can they be offered again and made mandatory for faculty/staff? Robbins' workshops were first in a series of training/dialogues on campus.

### Admitted Student Overnight Program

Yohlunda updated everyone on the "You @ UWM: An Overnight Multicultural Experience" program for admitted students of color. It will be held on April 9-10. She tried to reserve RiverView for the housing component since it has empty rooms. If RiverView is available, then juniors and seniors who do not live in residence halls can participate as mentors/hosts.

Students who live in residence halls are still needed as hosts. So far, 13 mentors/hosts have responded. Maria Solis had talked to the multicultural offices to help with recruiting more mentors/hosts.

Yohlunda shared a tentative agenda for the program, which included Placement Testing, Welcome Dinner, Lyrical Sanctuary, Flick and Flicks, Taste o' UWM, Academic Afternoon, What's Next, Pack It Up, and Family Dinner. Registration is available online. It is suggested that schools/colleges and multicultural offices talk up the program. The goal is to recruit 50 admitted new freshmen of color for this program.

### Admitted Student Calling Campaign

Susan mentioned that the calling campaign is in addition to everything that her office has to do. Linda raised the question about multicultural offices calling the same multi-ethnic students. For example, Diane's office will call all multi-ethnic students who have indicated American Indian as one of their race/ethnic groups, and Susan and Dao's offices will do the same for African American and Southeast Asian students. Per Edwin, Roberto Hernandez Center will only call Latino/White students, not those with other multiple race/ethnic groups. Everyone agreed that this strategy is fine as long as the offices know that a student may be getting multiple calls from other multicultural offices.

### Travel Restriction Guidelines

Michael mentioned that of UWM's 100 positions that are vacant, only 14 positions have been approved for hiring thus far. For all out-of-state travels, approval is required.

### WiscAMP Program

Deadline for submission of proposals to WiscAMP is March 21<sup>st</sup>. Proposals should focus on recruiting and retaining students of color in STEM areas.

### Unit Updates

Alice – Union Sociocultural Programming's position was approved for hiring. It's moving forward for face-to-face interviews. Woodson Week events are on April 7-11, focusing on race and violence in the U.S.

Linda – Please inform students about Diversity Career Day on March 6<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 2 p.m. in Union Wisconsin Room. There will be about 90 employers present at the event. Planning for another issue of *Myriad*, which will be distributed in fall 2008, is currently underway.

Nicole – FYC director is hired. LINKS will be under Academic Affairs, and will keep its space in the Union. Upcoming events include the Spring Revival and the New Orleans/brass band concert on April 30th.

Susan – Working on progress reports now. Multicultural graduation ceremony is in May.

Discussion on multicultural celebrations ensued. There is a separate American Indian/AISS and Latino/RHC graduation banquet for students. There is no separate graduation celebration for African American and Southeast Asian students.

Diane – Will email April events to everyone. There will be a student award celebration in May. Ned Blackhawk, a faculty from UW-Madison, will be the keynote speaker at one of the Woodson Week events. AISS will be hosting a national American Indian conference in 2009 and indigenous games in 2011 at UWM.

Chong – Lao Student Organization (with small membership) is renamed Asian Student Union to include other Asian groups. ASU works closely with Hmong students.

Dao – APIA U: Leadership 101 will be held on April 19-20 in the Zelazo Center. Southeast Asian students from around Wisconsin will be attending this training session.

Edwin – Cinco de Mayo will be celebrated with events scheduled from April 29th through May 8th. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual banquet for graduating Latino/a students will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Union Ballroom.

Yohlunda – Maria Solis is the newly hired staff in the DRO multicultural recruitment area.

Sergio – There is a Council for Inclusion meeting next week. Joan Prince is the co-chair.

Kenny – BSU is very busy in April. It's in the final stage of planning for the annual Black Tie Ball on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7-10 p.m. in the Union Wisconsin Room.