

**Diversity Council**  
**Thursday, October 28, 2010**  
**Dogwood B**  
**11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Attending:**

Patty Blackwell, Facilities Services  
Pam Davis, Director of Human Resources  
Danny Green, Associate VP for Enrollment, Diversity Council Chair  
Jan Hargrove, Director of Teaching Fellows  
Donna Knott, Secretary to Council  
Sarah May, Apartment Manager, The Oaks  
Miranda McCall, Assistant Director of Financial Assistance  
Kevin Morrison, Associate Director of Study Abroad & International Student Advisor  
Tomecca Sloane, Director of Commuter Life and Diversity Programs

**Not Attending:**

Dorothy Ashworth, Alumna Representative  
Brittany Frieson, Student Representative, SGA Unity Chair  
Cameron Johnson, Art Instructor  
Wetonah Parker, Professor, School of Education and Director, Teacher Education  
Allyna Stone, Alumna Representative

**Guest:**

Jill Triana, Coordinator of Disability Services

**S Y N O P S I S**

**Welcome-** Danny welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Lunch Discussion** – Members discussed “What happened to Core 100.” Not addressing the removal of the course, members spoke specifically to observations in students and the campus climate that have been seen. Cultural events and opportunities are still made available; however, there is concern that students can select to opt out of participation. How do you measure the loss when students are not engaged in situations that challenge their views but help them foster an understanding that one can continue to embrace their own values? As well, the value of social graces learned through sharing similar experiences was discussed. Some members observed that some students are not as sensitive to the similarities and differences of other cultures and backgrounds. Discussion included the FYE classes and the new PRISM courses.

**Disability Services and Accessibility** – Guest Jill Triana provided members with statistics from the disability services area. The percentage of students receiving services remains consistent but the office faces challenges that lead cause for concern.

Those include:

- Caseload Management – Currently the load is handled by three fulltime case managers with some additional support from the director of counseling services when available.
- 2008-2009 Accessibility Study – Ensuring solutions for all identified areas are viable.
- Facilities – Accessibility to many of the older buildings is a challenge as well as the associated issues of prioritizing, funding, etc.
- Technology – Web accessibility, training faculty on Universal Design, and managing e-text production.

Diversity Council members will help create an awareness of these issues. Collaborative ideas for an awareness campaign and training were shared.

**Study Circles** – Miranda McCall led the discussion on spring study circle possibilities. March/April dates were discussed as was whether to offer two training sessions. Members were asked to give thought to co-facilitating a session and what themes should be considered. If facilities management would agree, Patty Blackwell offered to serve as a third facilitator for one session. Jan Hargrove also offered to serve as a third facilitator. Others will look at their calendars and advise.

**Understanding Gender Issues** – Tomecca Sloane provided a brief update on the newly developed committee led by Ann Gleason. Members of the committee are reviewing women's and transgender issues and how they are being addressed by other college campuses. Ann will return to a future meeting to share the results of some findings.

**Announcements** – November 18 and 19 Safezone training will be conducted for faculty, staff and students. An announcement will be made soon.

**Next meeting** – Thursday, November 18, 2010 – 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Dogwood B.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Knott