

Diversity Council Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2010
Newcomb Hall Room 389

Present: Connie Lee, Maria Chee, Bob Covert, Wraegen Williams, Amy Chen, Peggy Dame, Ashley Fleming, Kelli Palmer, Valerie Gregory, Jasmine Jefferson, Sharon Davie, Adettra Thomas, Vincent Jones, Erica Spangler, Jennifer Harmon, Robert Fatton, Barbara Millar, Melvin Mallory, Carolyn Vallas

Guests: Danny Navarro, Christian Loya, Sumaira Javed, Ahmed Ragab, Sarajanee Davis, and Julie Roa

ODE Staff: Marcus Martin, Gail Prince-Davis, Meghan Saunders, Shirley Cauley, Daisy Lovelace

- I. **Introductions and Review of September 16th, 2010 Meeting Minutes:** Diversity Council members introduced themselves. September minutes were reviewed and approved without suggested corrections/revisions.
- II. **MLK 2011 Celebration update:** Dr. Martin provided background on the MLK celebration indicating that president Sullivan requested that the Office for Diversity and Equity take the lead in coordinating a University- wide and Charlottesville community celebration for 2011. Daisy Lovelace updated the Diversity Council (DC) on activities planned to date. Daisy provided a spreadsheet of all currently planned activities to take place over a 10 day to 2 week celebration period. Daisy informed DC members that a website with calendar activities will be available. Diversity Council members were encouraged to let Daisy know of activities being planned in their respective areas.
- III. **Latino Student Alliance:** Christian Loya opened the discussion by giving the DC the background on the Latino Student Alliance. The Latino Student Alliance is the umbrella organization for the Latino/Hispanic Community at UVa. The alliance is a working group that brings together leaders of the diverse Hispanic/Latino and Latin American student organizations. The goal is to facilitate communication and exchange of ideas among the various organizations, to coordinate scheduling of events and activities, and to collaborate on worthy projects (such as Hispanic Heritage Month and Latino Awareness Week).

Danny Navarro followed up with the objectives of the LSA. The main objective is to create advocacy. Danny gave a power point presentation highlighting the objectives of the LSA. Danny also spent a few minutes discussing the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act (DREAM). The purpose of the DREAM Act is to help those individuals who meet certain requirements, have an opportunity to enlist in the military or go to college and have a path to citizenship which they otherwise would not have without this legislation. The power point presentation is attached.

- IV. Muslim Student's Association:** Sumaira Javed and Ahmed Ragab gave a power point presentation providing information on Muslim life, Islamic basic beliefs, pillars of Islam and dietary needs as examples. Sumaira also provided a handout with an overview of resources for Muslim students at UVa. The power point presentation and handout are attached.
- V. Black Student Alliance:** Sarajanee Davis provided information on the purpose of the Black Student Alliance (BSA) which include voicing the concerns of Black students, conducting political action against unjust policies or programs, serving as an umbrella organization for all black student organizations, serving as a liaison between black students (undergraduate and graduate), black faculty, black alumni and the administration, establishing communication within the black community and aiding in the achievement of the common goals of black students at UVa and the black community in Charlottesville.

Sarajanee discussed concerns that students are facing such as economic/financial and subtle racism. Sarajanee also discussed current programs, current projects and upcoming events. The handouts from Sarajanee's presentation are attached.

- VI. Announcement:** Diversity Council members will receive an email invitation to attend the December 20, men's basketball game in the president's box. .

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am