

**Diversity Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 15, 2010**  
**Newcomb Hall South Meeting Room**

**Present:** Debbie Mincarelli, Brett Schnell, Gertrude Fraser, Margaret Dame, Connie Lee, Sharon Davie, Maurice Apprey, Adetra Thomas, Ricky Patterson, Maria Chee, Eric Coleman, Andrea Roberts, Ashley Fleming, Jasmine Jefferson, Jennifer Harmon, Martha Ballenger, Melvin Mallory and David Truetzel

**Guests:** Desiree Smith, Kate Abshire and Yvonne Luo

**ODE staff:** Marcus Martin, Daisy Lovelace, Gail Prince-Davis

- I. **Introductions and review of last meeting minutes.** Diversity Council members introduced themselves. March minutes were reviewed without changes.
  
- II. **Honor Committee update:** David Truetzel, Honor Committee chair, announced that the new committee members have been elected for 2010-2011. Charles Harris will be the new chair. David provided a report on the cases brought before the Honor Committee the past year (April 2009-March 2010). David mentioned one major challenge of the Honor Committee is underreporting. He believes that faculty may not report incidents because they may handle the issue in a variety of other ways. Another reason for underreporting could be peer or social pressure. A third reason mentioned for underreporting could be because students and faculty feel that the process takes too long.

Discussion took place regarding study group collaboration, bias, spot lighting, conscientious retraction, and sanction reform. David mentioned that in the case of group study, the concern is usually when 2 or more students give an identically wrong solution to a problem. This raises suspicion more so than if students gave identically correct answers.

Further discussion took place regarding cultural misunderstandings. David mentioned that to ensure understanding of the honor system by international students orientations are held with a variety of language groups represented.

- III. **University Judiciary Committee update:** Jasmine Jefferson reported 73 cases reported for 2009. It had been noted that in past years many students did not know the purpose of the UJC. There has been a focused effort of UJC awareness among the students this year. UJC set up information tables in front of Newcomb Hall and bus stops. A mock trial was recently held to educate students about the process. Also UJC members went to fraternity houses and athletic teams and gave presentations. An additional goal of the UJC is to make themselves known to first year students through orientation.

- IV. **Student Representative update:** Desiree Smith shared 2 concerns from the student population as follows:
- a. Curry EDLF 5000 course on multicultural education is in danger due to lack of funding.
  - b. Lawn selection committee in need of reformation to become more transparent
- V. **Hoos for Access update:** Kate Abshire and Yvonne Luo stated that Hoos for Access was created in 2007 by students with the objective of attracting lower income students to UVa and supporting current students on financial aid. The goal of Hoos for Access is to bring increased focus on socioeconomic diversity at UVa. The work is done through 4 committees: mission, financial/literacy, graduation dinner and social fundraising. A copy of information discussed by the students is attached for further review.
- VI. **Update on Media, Democracy and Diversity Conference:** Daisy Lovelace reported that the post conference survey was sent to all registrants. One hundred and five comments were received. Overall comments included the following: high quality of presenters/engagements; more time for discussion; concern of conference being held on holiday; posters and post cards should have been sent earlier; more diverse panel. The overall conference evaluation was 2 on a scale of 1 excellent – 5 poor.
- VII. **Diversity Resources Strategic Planning Committee update:** Sharon Davie, on behalf of the Diversity Resources Strategic Planning Committee, provided council members with a diversity, equity, inclusion initiatives template so that council members could organize requests for funding initiatives. Sharon provided a one page example of a funding opportunity request. Sharon is asking council members to submit initiatives for funding using the template.

Next Diversity Council meeting will be held May 20, in the Newcomb Hall South Meeting Room.