

MINUTES

Equity & Diversity Committee Academic Senate, SMC

Location: Zoom

Date: 10/29/2020

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 P.M. PST (Pacific Standard Time)

Members Present: Kevin Chicas, Sara Brewer, Amber Urrutia, Mark Tomasic, Chanté De Loach, Steph Anderson

Interested Parties: Dr. Tyffany Dowd, Shannon Herbert, John Jacho

I. Call to order: 1:05 P.M.

II. Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve: Mark Tomasic

2nd: Steph Anderson

Motion passed unanimously

III. Public Comments: Tyffany Dowd provided the committee with an overview of the Direct Connect Canvas shell she developed with Chanté De Loach as part of an initiative to focus on equity in regard to distance education. Direct Connect is a student support Canvas shell that offers easy access to essential resources for students. The committee agreed to offer assistance as needed to help promote Direct Connect to other faculty including placing the information in the revised equity resource guide.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Oct. 15th, 2020 meeting

Motion to Approve: Sara Brewer

2nd: Amber Urrutia

Motion passed unanimously

V. Reports

Chairs report: None (see Old Business)

Other reports: None

VI. Old business

E& D whereas statement on diversity in hiring pools

- The committee will review the whereas statement on increasing diversity in hiring pools before the next meeting, at which point the committee will decide on appropriate revisions or edits.
- The committee will review the background report created by Chanté De Loach that served to inform the writing of the whereas statement before the next meeting.
- The Chair will reach out to HR to inquire about the ability of our committee to make recommendations to departmental hiring committees as we see a need for guidance and growth at this level.
- It was suggested that an Equity Brown Bag be held in regard to this topic to gain information from various constituents.

VII. New business

- Equity Resource Guide 2.0: Discussion tabled
- Partnership with the Professional Development Committee: Discussion tabled. Chair will send notes to the committee from his meetings with the chair of the PDC to inform the discussion at our next meeting.
- Co-sponsoring Decolonizing the Academy webinar event featuring Dr. Gina A. Garcia: Shannon Herbert provided background information on the work of Dr. Garcia. Plans are to present one of Dr. Garcia's texts as part of a book club (Winter 2021) and have Dr. Garcia present at a webinar (Spring 2021). The Equity and Diversity Committee supports this project

and will lend assistance as needed to further advance this initiative.

VIII. Announcements

- Chair announced that a representative from Associated Students, Commissioner John Jacho, was present at this meeting.
- **Adjournment:** 2:05 P.M.