

**Committee on Diversity Minutes
January 30, 2003**

Present: Bartanen, Bristow, Bobby, Macey, Nowak, Royce, Scott, Washburn

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jac Royce at 1:05 in the Misner Room of the Collins Library.

The Minutes of December 2, 2002 were approved.

Several announcements were made.

1. David Macey reported that the faculty senate is moving to support a full range of spousal benefits for domestic partners. A summary version of the resolution will be presented at the next Senate meeting.

Jac Royce announced that the intended agenda for today's meeting would be postponed until both George Mills and Melanie Reed (Director of Freshman Admission) can be here—presumably the next scheduled meeting of this committee (Thursday, Feb. 13).

Margi Nowak reported that the first film of the Disability film series has been shown. There was some discussion about how best to attract people to the films. She reported that the people who did attend had all been touched in one way or another by disability. Nancy Bristow may ask in her class why students did not attend the film. David Macey suggested that the film could be made available to faculty members to show in class. Jac Royce suggested that subsequent films be shown several times during the day so more people may be able to fit a showing into their schedules. David Macey will follow up with Ivey on the idea of making the film available to faculty to show in their classes. Kris Bartanen announced that the planning for next year's Theme Year is beginning and suggested that a film series could possibly be part of theme year events.

Margi Nowak talked about the group she is leading to Poland (Auschwitz) for 9 days in May as part of the March of Remembrance and Hope. Seven people from campus will be going.

The discussion about our Spring work followed, focusing first on which groups the committee should try to meet with in order to collect information about the campus climate and other issues relating to diversity on campus. Bartanen reported that Randy Nelson is adding questions to the Senior survey about campus climate and distributed results on diversity items from the National Survey of Student Engagement and the Resident Satisfaction Surveys administered to Puget Sound students last spring. Eric Orlin suggested that the committee members (not the whole committee) meet with students in the residence halls in order to connect with unengaged students. Kris Bartanen responded that RAs have programming responsibilities that include diversity as a topic; possibly the committee could partner with RAs. Kris Bartanen announced that the Diversity Statement will be going to the Trustees at the upcoming Board meeting. The group agreed that disseminating the Diversity Statement would be a good entrée into the residence halls. David Scott noticed that students are more engaged with questions of diversity when there is a hot issue at hand. He suggested the idea of a Quick Response Team to think about how to respond when those moments arise to get a wider and deeper conversation going. David Macey suggested that any efforts we undertake should be repeated so the conversation we are trying to get going is visible and sustained.

The committee decided form two subcommittees as a way to get started.

1. To think about which student organizations to visit and to make those visits: Kim Bobby, Nancy Bristow, and David Macey
2. To work with RAs (Kyla McLoed is contact person): Eric Orlin, Jac Royce.

Margi Nowak volunteered to meet with the Theme Year committee about the film series idea. She suggested Ivey West would be interested in working with her on that topic.

The subcommittees will report at the next meeting, February 13.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Washburn