

Meeting Agenda – Diversity Committee, November 25, 2013

Committee members in attendance: Amy Ryken (Chair), Czarina Ramsay, Oriel María Siu, Michael Benitez, Jennifer Utrata, Hannah Smith, Carolyn Weisz, Mike Valentine.

I. Announcements

MLK announcement. Verbal confirmation from Dr. Carlos Muñoz for January 21st, 7PM. Dr. Muñoz is well-known scholar, pillar of the Chicano movement and struggle, Chair of the Chicano Studies Department at UC Berkeley. His visit will provide an opportunity for faculty to engage in conversations about diversity in higher education. Muñoz has previously spoken about legacy of Dr. King in the age of Obama; and one of the goals of his visit is to demonstrate the evolution of Dr. King's message and legacy through various people and in different ways. It was suggested that he discuss transformation of Ethnic Studies during his visit.

II. Review/Approval of November 11, 2013 Minutes

M/S/P To approve the meeting minutes from November 11, 2013.

III. Knowledge Identity and Power Overlay Proposal Update

Committee members discussed the Faculty Senate November 11, 2013 agenda item about possibly polling faculty in relation to the Knowledge, Identity, and Power proposal. Committee members discussed:

- the timing of the poll
- the framing of the proposed questions which creates a false dichotomy suggesting that diversity can be engaged without considerations of power
- the importance of dialogue versus surveys, especially since faculty do not have shared understandings of the terms diversity, power, and privilege
- the fact that our Parliamentary procedures prohibit straw polls to be taken during faculty meetings
- the possible purposes for conducting a survey
- The Faculty Senate is the body responsible for the Faculty Governance "Forum," a forum that may have silenced many faculty members. Why is the Senate not critically examining the types of discussion fostered in that forum?

M/S/P unanimously

The Committee on Diversity opposes taking a poll because 1) the reasons for and use of the poll are unclear, 2) the content of the poll is problematic, and 3) doing so undermines the research that has been done so far.

Amy will attend the Faculty Senate meeting today to share this motion with the Senate.

IV. BHERT Update

Objectives are up online, see: <http://www.pugetsound.edu/about/diversity-at-puget-sound/diversity-programs-resources/bias-hate-education-bert/>. BHERT

summary of incidents was distributed. Poster about public bias messaging is being put up across campus.

No time to continue meeting and meeting is adjourned. The following two points will be discussed at next meeting.

New Charge for committee from faculty senate

Discussion of SAWG August 2013 Report

Respectfully submitted

Oriel Siu