
Absent: Julie Ancis, Shannon Cartledge, Douglass Covey, Suan Easterbrooks, Mary Anne Gaunt, Shif Gurumu, Heather Housley, Robin Huff, Terkquyose Kennebrew, Gabe Kaperminc, William Robinson, Leslie Taylor, Gordon Vernick.

The February minutes were approved as read.

Christine reported that she had just been told by Paul Alberto, Chair of the Executive Committee, that President Becker and the Executive Committee wish to support our proposal for a University Policy on Accommodating the Disabled. The President was impressed with the thoroughness of our supporting data and our recommendation of the issues that the policy should address. He has instructed the Provost to gather more information on how such a policy can be put together and possible staffing for the various sections of it, specifically noting that this is not a job for either our committee or the Disability Initiatives Committee since we are Senate committees. He has charged Linda Nelson, Assistant VP of Human Resources, and Rodney Pennamon, Director of the Office of Disability Services, with heading the efforts to draft such a policy in liaison with both the CDC and the DIC as the initiating Senate committees.

Christine said that she will ask Rodney Pennamon for regular updates to both committees, adding that she will be on campus this summer one day a week for consultation on this.

Doris Derby gave a report on the inauguration and launching of the African American male Student and Faculty Pilot Mentoring Program. The Mentor Coordinator is Monica Harper and the Mentee Coordinator is De’Andre Clark. Currently there are 11 mentees (juniors) and 17 faculty mentors. The initial reception and orientation program was held on March 19, and was well attended by mentees and the mentors. Christine noted that two members of our committee, Shif Gurumu and Gabe Kaperminc, are mentors as is another volunteer recruited by committee member MaryAnne Gaunt. The Office of Student Affairs has approved funding for this program for Spring 2009. Doris and her office are currently writing a proposal for one-year’s support of the program to the Board of Regents, using data collected from this Pilot.

There will be one more AAMI subcommittee meeting before Spring semester ends. Dr. Derby anticipates a full scale program in the Fall, and recommends that the subcommittee remain together.

Annette Butler introduced Chaneta Forts from the Office of Opportunity Development and Diversity Education Planning to summarize the report on the 2007-2008 Affirmative Action Plan. This report is available on the GSU website.
Chaneta explained two innovations in this year’s report. Part-time employees are included as well as full-time employees in all the seven Job Groups. Also, some Job Groups have been restructured. Cora Presley asked whether students are included in the Job Groups, and Chaneta said they were not. Cora also inquired whether the inclusion of part-time workers might affect the overall percentages of minority workers, and Annette replied that the figures were kept separately rather than being added together. She encouraged those with further questions about the report to consult the website.

Tanya Washington inquired about those on hiring committees in her College of Law who protested that any effort to recruit and hire minority faculty was illegal because it discriminated against applicants who were white males. Annette replied that the federal government set up guidelines regarding the groups that were underrepresented in the various Job Groups, and that recruiting candidates in these underrepresented groups was mandated federally. Tanya suggested that Annette’s office might give a presentation about this to the College of Law, and all agreed this would be a good idea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Minutes Submitted by:
Eva Hill