The Race & Ethnic Affairs Council  
Monday, February 2, 2009  
3:00 pm – Mining Room of the PSC

Attendance:
M. Keith Thompson  Carlos Wiley  Tameaka Bryant  
Carl Allsup  Vickie Dreesens  
Mick Viney  Anna Mroch

Chair and Recorder: Keith Thompson

Minutes:

1. Update on General Education Task Force (GETF) and Discussion
   Most of the meeting discussion focused on the failure to include the directors of ethnic and gender studies on the task force. The failure to include these two figures constitutes an egregious lapse towards serious reform of general education. Carl Allsup (the Director of Ethnic Studies) has been invited to attend meetings if he chose. Carl stated that this was an insult to his office and tantamount to saying that the GETF could make decisions about the teaching of diversity without consulting those people who had scholarship in diversity issues. He refused to attend meetings under those conditions.

   It was decided that Keith Thompson would take these concerns to the task force and make an endorsement to have the directors of ethnic studies (Carl Allsup) and gender studies (Teresa Burns) made official members. Keith would stress the following points:
   • Diversity education is a core general education objective.
   • No current member of the task force had the required scholarship to properly address diversity issues.
   • A variety of data (NSSE foremost) demonstrates that UWP is weak in addressing diversity.
   • UWP has a number of diversity initiatives and it is inconsistent for general education reform to occur without having diversity experts involved in the process.

2. Adjournment
   The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.