Race and Ethnic Affairs Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, November 11, 2009 5-6pm
Pioneer Student Center, Mining Room

Present: Michael Viney, Carl Allsup, Carlos Wiley, Syed Moiz, Keith Hale, Melissa Gormley, Vicki Dressens, Alejandra Arredondo, John Nkemnji, Anna Mroch
Not Present: Quincy Bufkin

I. Approval of Agenda/Minutes

II. Discussion with BILSA Diversity Council Chair Syed Moiz

-While this year they haven’t done much last year they had several initiatives. Last year’s initiatives included: A memo to the dean chairs to say the importance of diversity. Worked with international students and made others aware of the problems he faced.
-Face the issues of why we implement some recommendations and not others.
-Recommended professors use different names and countries in exams and examples.
-Sent a letter to the dean that itemized problems that non-traditional and GLBTQ students and students with disabilities face.
-It becomes discouraging that they can only recommend and not implement initiatives.
-This year the plan is to follow up from issues of last year.

III. Discussion with LAE Diversity Council Chair Carl Allsup

-Met three times this past semester. They are lucky to have members that have been doing this a long time.
-Found Awareness Activities have been having little effect.
-Needing to move beyond “there are people of color” to there are issues
-Looking at curriculum and environment both of which have been a long time issue.
-Provost says all campus committee will have veto power.
-With the Ethnic and Women’s studies classes will look at all courses that count as general education. Some of those classes may not pass
    -Discussion on content of curriculum and how devised: mainstreaming v. specific courses
    -Mainstreaming difficult because requires a consciousness among faculty. Specific courses may cause rising issues in other classes.

IV. Review of Goals and Objectives for 2009-10 Academic Year
a. Survey for Students of Color
-Clarification was asked on #4. White Guilt was explained and a discussion about comfort and not talking about issues.
-looked at survey and asked that individuals bring back suggestions and recommendations.

V. Response to Racist Graffiti Incidents on Campus.

-Student Senate will be bringing up next week. In talking with students they are finding that it is not being brought up in classes.
-Rich Egley sent an email.
-Michael recommended the document Speak Up through tolerance.org, the incidents were brought up at President’s Council, Quincy Bufkin is also coordinating things through Student Senate.

VI. Area Updates –Tabled

VII. Adjournment

Next Meeting December 9 5-6pm PSC, Mining Room

Purpose and Duties:

1. On an annual basis, the council will identify and advocate for university-wide issues that are of particular interest to people of color on campus.
2. Each academic year, the council will forward these issues to the appropriate committee for consideration and possible action. If there is no appropriate committee, the council may recommend the establishment ad hoc committees.
3. The council will recognize and promote the accomplishments and contributions of people of color to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and higher education.
4. The council will advise the Provost/Chancellor regarding issues related to people of color on campus.