

**Academic Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 8, 2022, 1:00 PM via Zoom**

Present: Kelly Erby, Beth O’Neill, Barbara Scofield, Danielle Dempsey-Swopes, Dennis Etzel, Izzy Wasserstein, James Barraclough, Jason Miller, Jim Smith, Joey DeSota, Keith Tatum, Kelly McClendon, Mary Sundal, Melanie Burdick, Muffy Walter, Leah Brown, Gillian Chadwick, Ayellal, Verlisa Cradle, Chaz Havens, Isaiah Collier, Tina Williams, Connie Gibbons.

Guest: Eric Grospitch

- I. A motion to approve the minutes from February 8, 2022 committee meeting was made and seconded, and the minutes were approved.
- II. Discussion was held with Dr. Grospitch regarding committee’s concerns regarding the skeleton and noose found in a residence hall. Dr. Grospitch summarized the incident (which came through as an incident using the Student Code of Conduct lens), immediate reactions following the incident, and work that has been completed with the WU community in response to the incident, including the specific identified students in the incident. Dr. Grospitch asked for committee feedback regarding ways for WU to respond to the bigger issue of racism on campus, and the specific incident, while meeting FERPA confidentiality requirements. Committee members shared their thoughts and perspectives, including those that have been communicated to them by marginalized students of color.  
A committee member expressed interest in ensuring that members are sharing and discussing with each other when racist acts occur on campus. The committee was also reminded of the WU Inclusive Network and the support that it can provide to students.
- III. Old Business
  - a. Follow up on definitions of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. Given the time of the semester and the agenda items coming up in Faculty Senate, Kelly Erby proposed waiting until Fall to elevate the definitions to the governance bodies. The committee will continue to collect feedback informally throughout the Spring semester.
- IV. Update on images that are used to convey information. Communication was received from Joy Bailes regarding changes that are being made in Bod Talk to include alternative text.
- V. Discussion
  - a. WUmester 2023-Planning committee met recently to being talking about ideas for 2023. Topic ideas: Health Knowledge, Education, Literacy, Accessibility, Health & Healing, Healing, Confinement, Oppression & Liberation, Community. Committee members had some initial discussion regarding these ideas and it will go back to the subcommittee for further discussion. An electronic vote will likely take place before the next meeting.
- VI. Announcements
  - a. WUmester 2022
    - i. Register for monthly challenges
    - ii. Mulvane WUmester Exhibit February 4-July 23, 2022: Curated from the permanent collection, the exhibition will explore the various meanings and

definitions of truth. In particular it will consider how distinct identities shape perspectives and understandings of social and political issues.

- iii. What's Your Truth writing contest
- iv. Screening of Fruits of Labor and discussion with filmmaker, March 29, 5 p.m. in Henderson 112 (flyer attached)
- v. Urge event, early April, details TBD
- vi. Speak Out Against Sexual Assault, April 12, Union Underground
- vii. WIFI Film Festival April 29-May 1, 2022: Events include a workshop on making historical documentaries that accurately and professionally shed light on unknown stories.

b. <http://www.washburn.edu/dicourses>

VII. Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.