Diversity Committee Meeting: January 25, 2011, 1-2 pm Hoke 203

Attendance: Christy Oliveri, Tonia St. Germain, Kathryn Shorts, Pat Arnson, Linda Jerofke, Katie Townsend, Joanne Hellen, Bennie Moses, Bakhrom Ismoilov , Karen Clay

* Kathryn Shorts, Chair of University Council, attended the meeting to share information on the structure of committees falling under the Council.
* Must have rep from each Academic Division (A&L, Ed, Bus)
* 12-13 members is average
* No requirement for ex-officio members, but often committees have 2-3 (at most)
* 2 admin faculty, 2 students, 2 classified staff required
* Discussed the fact that we have 4 admin faculty currently on committee- 2 too many, and also many ex officio members who do not show up.

Everyone agreed that we need to get rid of 2 admin faculty positions (this is Bennie and Jackie’s last year, so we could just not re-elect them at end of year). In addition, we could draw up a list of all positions related to “diversity” on campus, including the current ex officio members, and make them sort of an “advisory board” to the committee, and each year, they would vote amongst themselves which two would actually serve on the diversity committee. The rest of them would be (as everyone is on campus) welcome to attend meetings, especially if there is a current issue/topic that affects their “area” of diversity directly and advise the committee.

We have to draft a proposal for this and take it to University Council and then Senate.

* Discussion of edits to strategic plan: Tonia emphasized the need to specify the inclusion of gender in the definition of diversity; others agreed that we might need to specify some of the categories of diversity- class or socioeconomic status were also discussed. Other small edits were discussed and Christy will share with Dennis Hopwood.

It was shared that we might want to present the plan or at least discuss the plan at the spring town hall meeting in Huber so that the campus can have some input, and possibly put info about the plan in the student newspaper.

* Discussed the need for a regular reporter for the committee: Katie Townsend elected and will begin at the next meeting
* Determined we could probably conduct final edits of strategic plan over email and begin meeting monthly. Christy will send out a doodle to schedule.