

Because of scheduling conflicts, the Minority Affairs Committee met in two separate sessions, on Friday Sept. 16 and Friday Sept. 23 and the chair met separately with Noor Aziazan-Gardner, Interim Chief Diversity Officer.

In these meetings, a number of interesting ideas and projects were discussed. Below is a selection:

Diversity Course requirement.

Work with Faculty Council to get revised requirement passed.

In the meantime,

- Sponsor symposium to address how to improve teaching by teaching to diverse student needs-physical disabilities, ADHD students, students of different socioeconomic levels and from different cultures. [The Beloit College Mindset List helps faculty be aware of the mindset of incoming freshman and how references that are obvious to faculty might be lost on students born after their professors finished college. Would a similar list of references that might be obvious to the majority culture, but lost on subgroups be useful?]
- Find a way to indicate in student transcripts which courses are identified as covering diversity issues, along the lines of how writing intensive courses are identified on transcript after being approved by a committee

Other symposia, panel discussions:

Race-based drugs/race-based medicine-advantages and disadvantages

Black Homecoming- advantages and disadvantages

Adding an "other" option to the current female/male gender choices- advantages and disadvantages

Determine if there is a need to provide advice to staff and their college bound children on the college application process and financial aid forms. This service might make staff feel a bigger part of the community and it would increase the diversity of the student applicant pool.

Support a proposal that the graduate school provide funds to increase the diversity of seminars speakers to campus which would provide MU students and faculty more experience in interacting with diverse professionals and also help show off MU's strengths and potentially improve the recruitment of minority and women to MU

Request that the graduate school and graduate departments consider including a request that recommendation letters address the ability of the candidate to work in a diverse environment