

September 15, 2005

Dear Colleagues: I want to thank all of you, who were able to come to our first meeting yesterday, December 15.

Here is a summary of the various issues discussed and that we will be exploring next semester:

- I. minority students' scholarships/enrollments
- II. possibility of increasing course offerings in the area of multiculturalism.
- III. possibility of giving extra compensations to faculty who teach such courses, based on the model of the Honors College
- IV. possibility of adding diversity as one of the University's core values
- V. benefits for partners (gays and lesbians) who cannot legally be married
- VI. disability access through main entrances of buildings

We also talked about meeting with key individuals who oversee offices/organizations that deal with minority affairs and diversity on campus, in order to ascertain what the concerns of their constituencies are, and also to get a better sense of what is being done all over campus to address these various issues.

Furthermore, a suggestion was made that we place an ad in the Maneater and the Mizzou Weekly at the beginning of next semester to let the University community know that the Minority Affairs Committee exists and how members can contact us to register their concerns and offer suggestions.

We also established a calendar of meetings for the Winter semester. Members present agreed to meet on the following Thursdays at 4:00 (Please mark your calendars):

- I. January 27: guests to be invited include a. Deputy Chancellor Michael Middleton who can offer us an idea of what the term "minority" mean from the point of view of the higher administration. b. Linda Garth from the Office of Academic Retentions (one of our Committee members) who can tell more about the various programs for minority students. c. Pablo Mandoza from the Office of Multicultural Affairs (under Student Affairs). d. Vice Provost Korschgen, Enrollment Management (facts and figures about minority enrollments)
- II. February 17: guests to include: e. June DeWeese (Status of Women Affairs that is presently discussing issue of benefits for same sex partners) f. Adam Bringham (from the Gay and Lesbian Association)
- III. March 17: guests to include g. Ryan Hack, representative from FOREFRONT (Student Group),
- IV. April 14: guests to include: h. Lee Hanson (one of our Committee members) from the Office of Disabilities.

We will try to fit any other issues that arise in these pre-established meetings, and if necessary will call additional meetings.

Please, feel free to make any corrections and additions to my summary. Also mark your calendars for the times of our future meetings, although we will send reminders as the time approaches.

Most cordially,
Flore