

October 21, 2005

Dear Colleagues: Please look over this summary and let me know if I missed anything. Subsequently, these will be posted on our website:

http://committees.missouri.edu/committee_details.php?id=18

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, December 2, from 3:00 to 4:30 in Jesse Hall, room 123. Pablo Mendoza and his team from the Office of Multicultural Affairs will be our guests.

Thanks so much.
Flore

The Minority Affairs Committee held its first meeting on Friday, October 21. Below is a summary of the various issues discussed.

New members were introduced, and there were given a summary of the various recommendations made by the last year's committee. These recommendations were sent to Deputy Chancellor Michael Middleton, to whom the committee reports.

We discussed where the University was with regard to these recommendations. Some progress has been made with regard to granting more professional support to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Resource Center (LGBT). Additionally, the Office of Enrollment Management is also moving in the direction of having admission materials translated in Spanish. It is our understanding that these are being translated and will be available soon on the web, and in the brochures.

Next we discussed the issues that we wanted to pursue during this AY: These include:

1. choosing a movie that deals with multiculturalism/diversity issues to be presented in August 2006 during Fall Orientation. "Crash" was suggested, and this will be explored with David Rielly who is involved with the movie selection process.
2. Adding a session on Diversity Issues at the Teaching Renewal Conference that takes place in February. This will be explored with Dr. Michael Prewitt's Office.
3. Discussing with Ragtag the schedule of their Multicultural Films. Pertinent movies can be advertised on appropriate MU websites. This will be explored with Ragtag's coordinator Paul Sturtz.
4. Continuing to educate the Mizzou community about issues of Disability. Lee Henson is conducting various sessions on the topic for Colleges and Divisions.
5. exploring emails connections with all minority groups, based on the model used with prospective Asian students. The idea is to give prospective students a list of current peer students whom they can contact before they come to MU. These "seasoned" students can

help with the "acclimatization" process of the new ones.

6. possibility of creating an "intergroup dialogue" course, now under discussion with Four Front. The committee decided to invite Pablo Mendoza, the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, to give us more information about this proposal.
7. possibility of having a Multi-cultural Greek Council, Sigma Lambda Gamma.
8. creation of a diversity newsletter/magazine, named SWIRL, that seeks to improve and encourage all forms of interactions among various groups.