

**Faculty Senate Student Equity Committee  
Spring 2012**

Date: May 10, 2012  
Time: 1:00-2:00pm  
Location: 1415 Social Science Conference Room

**Committee Members:**

Chris Lamm, Faculty Senate Student Equity Committee Chair; Faculty/Social Science Division: Child Development & Educational Studies Dept.

\_\_\_\_\_, Faculty/Natural Sciences Division (**need replacement**)

Adela López, Faculty/Social Science Division: Ethnic Studies Department

Carolyn Facer, Faculty/Mathematics & Computer Sciences Division: Math Dept.

Jose Miranda, Faculty/Technology & Engineering Division: Automotive Dept.

Rosalinda Ruiz, Faculty/Humanities Division: English

Annie Liu will be on committee Spring Semester representing Humanities

\_\_\_\_\_, Counseling/Matriculation (**need replacement**)

Pilar Ellis, Manager of the International Student Center

Mark Greenhalgh, Dean of Mathematics & Computer Science Division

Chuck Helms, Classified Representative/Skills Center

Janine Cirrito, Career Center Coordinator, Career & Life Planning Center

Amber Nguyen, A.S. Representative

Manuel Burciaga, Student Representative

Carolyn Flores, Student Representative Pre-Law Organization

Alex Reyes, Student Representative

**Resource People:** Rajen Vurdien, Ann Hovey, Toni DuBois, Terry Giugni, Michael Perez, Maria Duque, Chris Sanchez, Paul McKinley

**Present:** Chris Lamm, Carolyn Facer, Annie Liu, Mark Greenhalgh, Adela Lopez, Amber Nguyen, Chuck Helms.

**Guests:** Brittney Wallace, Adam Perea, Kristin Schorsch, Claudia Lucy Prado, Michael Crane, Vince White, Jullia Kim, J. Rafael Barajos, and Shantal M. Lopez

**Information Items:**

- **Next meeting** we will have an open discussion on issues, as well as, discuss the draft of the End of the Year Report and Recommendations that will be sent to Marcus Wilson and Rajen Vurdien.
- **Concern from Carolyn regarding the 2012-2013 Calendar:** Spring semester should start the last week in January. It will be years before we ever have the money to offer an intersession. The spring semester should end prior to Memorial Day Weekend. Many of our students work at Disneyland or Knott's, etc. and it is the start of the summer season. Many students would have difficulty getting off work at the peak times for their employer to come back and finish finals, etc. Our focus should be to support the students.

**Agenda & Meeting Notes**

**Discussion:** Follow-up on how well we are supporting our GLBT students on campus. Our guests will be Vince White and members of Lambda, and others.

**The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Student Forum, Fall of 2011 identified four areas of focus:**

1. Fear & Safety
2. Family
3. Education and Career
4. Campus Resources

Today's we had a **GREAT** discussion which touched on each of those areas.

**Fear & Safety:**

**Safe Zones:**

- Campus faculty and staff need "Safe Space" training

**\*\*Safe Zone is about training allies**

**Program supports:**

- LGBT - not out on campus
- Resource available + sticker for office door
- Go to safe zone faculty or offices to talk and get needed support
- "Safe Zone" is for faculty and staff & needs to be driven by faculty
  - GLADE and Lambda will provide support
  - Vince and Mark went through the training
  - Maybe work collaboratively with the Staff Development Committee & campus Diversity Committee to make this happen.
- Local Campuses with Safe Zones:
  - Cal Poly Pride Center Program
  - CSUF - faculty that have gone through training get a sticker for their office door.
- The Health Center and Cadena Cultural Center are Safe Zones!
- Feel like we are "walking on eggshells" in some areas on campus, especially the 1200 building - PE - locker rooms. Major group is the football team and athletes in general.
  - If this continues to occur - go directly to the Instructional Dean.
  - This issue has been brought up to the Campus Diversity Committee and it was initially addressed.
- **FC needs a campus policy on Bullying.**
- Bullying is an issue of power and control. It also is a "shield": if I bully, no one will bully me or I'm never going to let it happen to me again so I'm going on the "offensive".
  - Bullying is an outgrowth of the bigger issue of Homophobia on campus, which unfortunately is "alive and well".
- A different experience from bullying is: "I don't exist!" I am Not Visible.
- Both should not be tolerated at Fullerton College.
- Also there needs to be additional training for campus security. There is a sense of
  - insensitivity, lack of awareness and double-standards when it comes with interacting with the LGBT community on campus.

**One issue: brought up at the Forum. **There is a NEED for Gender-neutral restrooms.****

- It can be a nightmare going into the restrooms on campus, especially for our students who are transgender. It can be very traumatic.
- CSUF and UCI both have restrooms on their campuses that are gender neutral.
- Health Center has worked well with LGBT to support this need.
- The 1000 Building (first floor) has a single stall restroom that would work well as a "transgender bathroom". Other buildings have staff only restrooms (300, 500, 600). Need to check

about the remodel of the 700 and 900 building; however, if there are two areas that students can use: Health Center and first floor of the 1000 building, that would be a start.

### **Education and Career:**

#### **Classrooms:**

- Regarding LGBT issues - the best way to fight through discrimination is through education.
- Students need to see themselves in the curriculum - many opportunities in course content are missed
- There's a Sense of Pride - Empowerment - **I really do matter!**
- Some faculty are bias in their interactions with students.
- Some students stop going to classes because anxiety in the classroom.
- Students need to seek guidance from someone on campus (access the Safe Zone areas)
- Some times faculty put assignments or readings in their curriculum regarding literature, articles, etc. and if students don't do the assignment the teacher changes their requirements for that particular assignment. This reluctance or lack of knowledge of some faculty to challenge the bias and stereotypes in their classroom add to the message that these behaviors are okay. This perpetuates (with authority backing from the instructor) that this behavior is okay.
- Instructors who bring these issues to the classroom and create a respectful and equitable classroom, provide support for the student who is LGBT and also possibly open the eyes of those who were discriminating.
- Instructor need to be sure they are not perpetuating the stereotypes and justifying them in class, whether it is through lack of knowledge, understanding, naivety or believing that stereotypes and making light of them are okay - it's part of life - get over it. Justifying stereotypes is not okay. This needs to change NOW. We have heard from several groups that this is happening and that faculty have crossed the line (i.e. last meeting with the discussion regarding Veterans). This has nothing to do with "academic freedom" - it has to do with respect, providing a safe learning environment for all students and common sense.
- Any ethnic community on the Fullerton College campus needs to feel a sense of "community" on campus. Both the smaller community, such as the LGBT Community, as well as feeling a sense a community in the larger campus community. "Feeling a Sense of Community" means to feel included, supported, visible, safe and welcomed just to name a few. This is a critical component for students to be successful learners.

### **Campus Resources:**

- Need resources available in various locations on campus.
- All offices (instructors and programs) that are identified as safe zones should have resources available.

**Next & Last Meeting:** Thursday, May 24, 2012- 1-2pm

### **Announcements:**

- FC Food Bank Collaborative - Food Pantry Open: T/W: 12-2pm and 4-6pm in building 1955 through May. Summer hours: Students in need of food assistance who are on campus this summer can contact Bob Miranda (992-7090/Room 2020-04) or Chris Kiger (992-7094/Room 1204).