

James Farmer Multicultural Center Faculty Advisory Committee  
Minutes

March 26, 2018

4:30 pm

Members Present: Dr. Marion Sanford, Director of JFMC; Dr. Leo Lee (Secretary and temporary Chair); Dr. Xiaofeng Zhao; and Dr. Maia Magrakvelidze; Student Representative-Benjamin Henderson

Approval of minutes – The minutes were presented and tabled from the previous meeting on February 12, 2018. They will be approved at the next meeting.

Director's report:

- Marion provided an overview of the Social Justice and Leadership Summit held on Saturday, March 24, 2018, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Digital Auditorium. This was sponsored to create an opportunity for our students to develop a theoretical framework and applicable understanding of leadership, social justice, and allyship. There were six faculty members who conducted concurrent workshops in the morning and afternoon. There were approximately sixty-five students who registered for the Summit. The students participated in workshops throughout the day, as well as the group reflections at the end of the day. During the lunch portion of the Summit, Janaye Ingram spoke on direct action, civil rights, and her experiences with organizing movements. The Summit was sponsored by the James Farmer Multicultural Center, the College of Arts & Sciences, the Office of Student Affairs, the Diversity Unity Coordinating Committee (DUCC) of the SGA, and Students Educating and Empowering for Diversity (SEED).
- Marion announced that the annual Passover Seder is on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 p.m. in the Chandler Ballroom. Passover is a Jewish festival to honor the emancipation of Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. It begins on March 30<sup>th</sup> and lasts for eight days until April 7<sup>th</sup> this year. This is sponsored by the Jewish Student Association.
- The Islamic Cultural celebration will begin on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> with a couple of events scheduled that day, including a kick-off dinner at 5 p.m. in the University Center, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. As part of the Islamic Cultural celebration, the banquet keynote speaker will feature Attorney Qasim Rashid on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the Chandler Ballroom. He is a best-selling and critically acclaimed author, practicing attorney, and former visiting fellow at Harvard University's Islamic Studies program.
- The committee was reminded of the upcoming 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Multicultural Fair on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on campus, rain or shine. The fair will be free, open to the public, and devoted to multicultural entertainment, activities for children, international and American food, etc. Volunteers are still encouraged to sign up for this event.
- An update about the UMW Safe Zone program was provided. Workshops for faculty, staff, and students are still available to increase awareness and understanding about the

lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community so that people at UMW could become supportive allies. Also, the Day of Silence event scheduled for April 27 was shared with the committee.

- Two additional announcements were provided about a campus safety forum tonight (Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.) in the HCC Digital Auditorium. The next forum will be on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the HCC Digital Auditorium. Lastly, the Statement of Community Values committee's next open forum is scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> at noon in the HCC Digital Auditorium.

The committee would continue the discussion via email and/or phone on Dr. Paino's Strategic Vision goals regarding promoting the values of service and community and civic engagement, and creating a diverse and inclusive community as an essential requirement for academic excellence and academic success; the committee will talk about them again at the next meeting.

Our next meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 9, 2018 at 4:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned.