

James Farmer Multicultural Center Faculty Advisory Committee Minutes

September 20, 2018

4:00 pm

Members Present: Dr. Marion Sanford, Director of JFMC; Dr. Leo Lee (Math.) – Chair; Dr. Maia Magrakvelidze (Phys.) – secretary; Dr. Alexandra Dunn (Business); Dr. Suzie Kim (Art History); Dr. Melissa Wells (Education); and proposed Student Representative – Erin Shaw (2018-2019 Citizenship Award for Diversity Leadership Recipient).

Approval of minutes — The minutes were presented from the previous meeting on March 26, 2018 and approved unanimously.

Director's Report –

- Cultural Programming and Social Justice Initiatives update

Dr. Marion Stanford started her report with an overview of the Cultural Awareness Series events that JFMC sponsors for the fall and spring semesters. The Cultural Awareness Series events include:

1. Latino Identities Month celebration (Sept 15- October 15) that started with Kick off celebration at Ball circle on September 17th. The second program of the celebration was titled, “Approaches to Latino Literature Series: Canek Sánchez Guevara’s *33 Revolutions*.” It was co-sponsored by the Departments of English, Linguistics and Communication; History and American Studies; and Modern Languages and Literature and took place on September 18th. Salsa night will take place on Friday, September 21st. The Latino Identities Month Keynote Performer: Lorena Guillen Tango Ensemble will be presenting on September 24th, and many more exciting events are coming. The Sabor Latino event on October 10th will conclude the Latino Identities Month celebration.
2. Gender and Sexual Minorities and Allies (GSMA) Cultural Celebration Keynote Performer: Namoli Brennet will be performing on October 23rd. A poster with all the events for this celebration was shared with the committee.
3. Asian Cultural Celebration Keynote Performer: Prem Raja Mahat
4. Taste of Asia
5. Jewish Cultural Celebration Keynote Performer: Dr. Mark Naison
6. Native American Cultural Keynote Performer: Uptown Boyz
7. Kwanzaa
8. The University of Mary Washington Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bernard LaFayette, Jr.
9. Black History Month Keynote Speaker: Karen Hunter
10. Step Show Competition
11. Women’s History Month Keynote Speaker: Major (Ret.) Kimberly Morris
12. Islamic Cultural Celebration Banquet Keynote Speaker: Salaam Bhatti
13. 29th Annual Multicultural Fair

14. Passover

More details about the events can be found at: <https://students.umw.edu/multicultural/ca/>

There are two programs coming up focused on different social justice issues. The first program is scheduled for September 20th at 6:30 pm titled, “Nationalism, Protest, Social Justice, and Campus Climate.” The second program is titled, “The Truth Behind Illegal and Legal Immigration.” It will take place on Tuesday, October 2nd at 6:00 pm. in Chandler Ballroom C. There will be other programs and events sponsored throughout the year.

- **RISE Peer Mentoring Program update**
This program helps new students connect and transition to the UMW community. It pairs the new students with upper class students who provide assistance and guidance to help them navigate their entire first year at UMW. This year, there are 32 new students in the program as mentees and 25 peer mentors (several had to have two mentees).
- **Feedback on revised Statement of Community Values - ASPIRE**
Feedback on the revised Statement of Community Values (SCV) was discussed and emphasized that the SCV shapes the working and learning environment at the University similar to our Honor Code. Under Dr. Sabrina Johnson’s, Vice President for Equity and Access/CDO, leadership, efforts are being made (e.g., placing banners across campus, putting them on walls in every building, etc.) to ensure that the SCV have a constant presence for all community members at UMW.
- **Review of President Paino’s Strategic Vision goals related to diversity and inclusion and the work of the JFMC**
The committee reviewed President Paino’s Strategic Vision, especially goals #1 and #4. A discussion began last spring semester regarding the role of the JFMC in helping to realize these goals. It was shared that the committee will resume these discussions and work to outline specific ways it envisions this involvement.

The future meeting dates confirmed by the committee members.

Future meeting dates are:

- **November 1st, Thursday at 4:00pm**
- **December 6th, Thursday at 4:00pm**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.