

James Farmer Multicultural Center Faculty Advisory Committee Minutes

March 27, 2019

10:00 am

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);
Jason Ford – Student representative.

Absent: Erin Shaw– Student representative (class conflict).

Approval of minutes -- The minutes were presented from the previous meeting on February 06, 2019 and approved unanimously.

Director's Report –

Dr. Marion Sanford started her report with an overview of the Cultural Programming and social justice initiatives.

➤ Cultural programming:

- Almost completed Women's History Month. On Tuesday, March 27th, "RGB" documentary will be shown.
- Next week is dedicated to the Islamic Cultural Celebration. The Muslim Student Association is working hard to prepare for the upcoming events.
 - Discussion ensued on the recent events in New Zealand and similar other events related to Pittsburgh, Charlottesville and the Netherlands, as well.
 - Interfaith Harmony Discussion, as part of the ICC, will be held on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6:00 pm in Lee Hall, 411.
 - Speaker Salaam Bhatti will be ICC banquet speaker on Thursday, April 4th at 7:00 pm in Chandler Ballroom. He is an attorney with the Virginia Poverty Law Center in Richmond.
- The last cultural event for the semester is the Passover Seder. It is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23rd at 6:00 pm in Chandler Ballroom C. The JFMC is working closely with the Jewish Student Association in preparing for this program.
- **Multicultural Fair, second largest event on campus, will be held on Saturday, April 13th.**
 - The attendance is increasing every year!
 - Still requesting volunteers to sign up.
 - Next year, it will be 30th anniversary of Multicultural Fair!

- **100th birthday of Dr. James Farmer, Jr. in coming January.** There is a planning committee meeting to identify specific events to celebrate and honor his contributions and legacy. More information will be forthcoming.
- Social Justice initiatives:
 - Student representative, Jason Ford, reported on the Social Justice & Leadership Summit that was held on Saturday, March 23rd. He said it was a great success and the attendance was higher this year. He also noted student engagement for the concurrent sessions, as well as the large group discussions, was excellent. Jason added that ‘the Michael Moore movie “*Fahrenheit 11/9*” was a very well-planned movie, a must see documentary.’ This movie was shown during the lunch session and a discussion took place afterwards.
 - Plans are underway for the Social Justice Fall Break trip next year. This time, the consideration is to revisit Montgomery, AL, and maybe go further to Jackson, MS. However, the route will follow the Freedom Rides journey that Dr. Farmer organized in 1961. Additional stops (such as places the Freedom Riders stopped) on the trip are planned.
 - The next Social Justice Teach-In session will focus on cultural appropriation. It is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2nd at 5:00 pm in Chandler Ballroom C.
 - Diversity workshops for Athletics Department
 - Monday, March 25 was the last diversity workshop on microaggressions and campus climate for this semester. The first workshops began in January.
 - A total of 12 workshops were facilitated to 22 teams that included ~500 student athletes.
 - Looking into planning other diversity workshops for the next year.
 - RISE Peer Mentoring program update
 - Accepting applications for Peer Mentors for the upcoming year; the training sessions will happen at the end of this semester
 - There is a scheduled field trip this Saturday for the RISE participants to visit the Fredericksburg Area Museum downtown.
 - Mary Washington Giving Day update – This was the first time the JFMC participated in the campus-wide campaign. We are grateful for the generosity and thoughtfulness of all who donated and supported our drive. To date, we have received ~\$2300 in donations.
 - Diversity Education Toolkit is available on the JFMC website. This is a one-stop shop location where all the diversity-related workshops offered for the campus community are listed and may be requested.
 - It was suggested that the Toolkit should be advertised on FSEM website as well.

➤ Update on President's Vision Subcommittee:

- An Intercultural Knowledge and Competence Value rubric mapping was shared to measure learning outcomes related to cultural competency for the various diversity, service, and community engagement initiatives implemented across campus. There will be more work to do in identifying and addressing what the campus offers via curricular and co-curricular activities that contribute to cultural competency for all community members.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, April 24th at 10:00 am

- The election of officers for the committee next year will be on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.