

ACCESS & EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE

November 13, 2020

11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attendance: Betsy Evans, Sally Roche, Gina Stocks, Justin Coleman, Jamir Chowdhury, Jeanne Qvarnstrom

Guests: Rachel Franco, John Pearce

New Members: Manuel Martinez is the new Alpine student member. We are hoping for a RGC student representative, too.

Minutes: Sally made a motion to approve the minutes, and Justin seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Discussion of the Rachel Franco Workshops: Sally, Jamir, Betsy, and John shared their experiences from the workshops. Then, the group discussed Rachel Franco's document, Meeting Documentation and Engagement Summary. Rachel presented participants' responses to the question, "One thing I wish my university knew about me". She classified responses as "non-dominant"-students and "dominant"-faculty and staff. Sally suggested that the comments should be shared with faculty. The group noted how honest the responses were. Betsy said she saw a theme of hope in the responses. We also identified the theme of anxiety. Jamir said this should be shared with our counselor, and Jeanne explained that Becky Wren has been involved. Jeanne said she would follow-up with a communication to all 35 participants letting them know that their responses were being studied. John said it was very helpful for the athletes to meet together and address stereotypes that they face as athletes.

Jamir said he would have liked more data such as ethnicity, tenure, etc. Rachel suggested digging deeper by holding future sessions for Blacks only or Whites only or Hispanics only.

The group addressed the Recommendation section of Rachel's report. They were very interested in her suggestions.

Next Steps: Jeanne suggested developing a mini-presentation for department chairs to share with their staff. John said he thought coaches may like a mini-presentation, too. Sally volunteered to work with Jeanne on that. We also discussed working with the Media Team to create a video about the workshops and this committee. John said he could recruit student participants. We also talked about using the video that Bret Scott made for professional development sessions. Gina said she would help with that.

NSSE: Jamir will be leading a sub-committee to plan a marketing campaign to increase student participation in the February 2021. Gina, Justin, and Sally volunteered to be on the sub-committee. Jamir will also invite Alpine faculty and Manny Martinez to participate.

Adjournment: 12:55 p.m.

Next meeting: Friday, January 22, 2021 from 11:30 – 1:00.