Diversity Council Meeting

September 12, 2008

In attendance: Adams, Ada; Gainer, Allen; Hall, Kathleen; Martin, Sherry; McBride, Susan; Miller, Cornelia; Moore, Maurice; Nelson, Tonya; and Nicholson, Marilyn

Absent: Barrentine, Lee; Blevins, Darrell; Faust, Jeffrey; January, Corine; Jones, David; and Woods, Carolyn

Meeting Began: 10:10 am

- As members entered the room they were handed information packets which included the following items:
  - Meeting agenda
  - Copy of chapter 2 from Implementing Diversity by Marilyn Loden
  - Minutes from the Councils July 22, 2008 meeting
  - Minutes from the Councils July 24, 2006 meeting
  - The Diversity Councils Annual Committee Report, date June 2008
  - A copy of Carl Camden’s article “employment Diversity”
  - The JDCC diversity calendar
  - Information on the 2008 Annual Diversity Conference
  - A diversity bookmark
- Maurice Moore began the meeting by welcoming new members Ada Adams and Tonya Nelson.
- Moore stated we would follow the agenda as printed. He then asked us to turn our attention to the charge of the Diversity Council as he read it and explained to everyone, particularly new members, that this is the goal of this council and the task we have before us.
- Moore directed us to the material from Loden’s book. We looked at the diversity wheel and discussed the dimensions of diversity.
- Minutes from the last meeting were presented by Dr. Marilyn Nicholson. After some discussion the minutes were accepted as presented. This served as another way to help the new members learn more about the Council.
- Moore read the minutes from July 24, 2006 to further emphasize the goals of the Council.
- Diversity Council Annual Committee Report for 2007-2008
  - Previous activities from this report were discussed.
- JDCC 2008 – 2009 Diversity Calendar
  - September 2008: Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month
    - Kathleen Hall mentioned some musicians she saw at a Mexican restaurant and how we might be interested in having them here and serve chips and salsa to the students. After discussion it was agreed that the Council would look into having them, or a CD, playing while chips and salsa is served. It was further discussed that we should speak with
the deli so that they could have a menu that features food from the region.

- Dr. McBride mentioned that Joanne Dailey, ESL instructor, has agreed to meet with the Council to discuss her students and how we can make the college more inviting. Dr. McBride will schedule a time when all of us can meet with Ms. Dailey. This will allow us an opportunity to get nonconfrontational feedback.

  - October 2008: Disability Employment Awareness Month
    - It was agreed that this topic be covered with a few informational emails. Upon further discussion it was decided that having someone from Job Readiness come in for a brief Q & A session specific to the needs of the College.
    - Dr. Nicholson stated she would speak with Vanessa Kyles and Kim Fleming in Financial Aid for the Job Readiness representative contact information.

  - November 2008: Native American Heritage Month
    - The Council agreed that the native dancers were a huge success and that they should be invited back. Mr. Moore said that he would speak with Lee to get them to come back.

- Annual Local Diversity Workshop
  - Dean Hall told us that professional development thinking about a book to facilitate this workshop. When she has more information she will share it with the Council.
  - This workshop is currently held in December. It was suggested that it be moved to February. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

- The ACSHRMA (Alabama College System Human Resource Management Association)Diversity Conference
  - This conference will be held on October 2nd & 3rd in Birmingham. Council members were encouraged to use this opportunity to find possible speakers for future campus events.

- Mr. Moore encouraged us to be watchful for items to share with members at future meetings. He also explained his hope that examining diversity will allow all of us to do our jobs with more sensitivity and to look at diversity from a perspective beyond our own.

- Allen Gainer mentioned that he had received positive feedback regarding the February presentation by Rev. H. K. Matthews and requested that he return to speak. Mr. Gainer also shared with the Council that two of his former basketball players told him that hearing that presentation was their best JDCC experience.

- Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 8th at 1:30 p.m. in the ATN conference room.

Meeting Ended: 11:05 am

Minutes submitted by: Tonya Nelson