

Riverside City College Student Equity Committee



Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 07, 2022

Attendees: Bryan C. Keene, Inez Moore, Kristi Woods, Matthew Brashier, Parissa Clark, Ruben Contreras, Bernadette Rochin, Alicia Berber, Eduardo Perez, Maria Maness, Timothy Gutierrez, Wendy Silva, Delia Tijerina, Emily Spencer, Sharon Walker, Cecilia Lusk, Patricia Avila, Brandon Owashi, Star Taylor, Audrey Holod, Jennifer Flores, Kinnari Bhavsar, Monique Greene, Daniel Slota, Scott Blair, Diana Pell, Lynn Wright, Thomas Cruz-Soto, Rana Tayyar, Malika Bratton, Suzan Youssef, Tina Stavropoulos, Tucker Amidon, Daniel Turrubiartes, Lilia Acevedo, Mejgan Ahmadi, Lamar Neal, Victor Sandoval

I. Call to Order & Welcome

Began Meeting at 10:09 AM

II. Agenda/Minutes Approval

Tim Gutierrez motioned to approve the Agenda from October 7th. Daniel Slota made a motion to approve, and Maria Maness seconded the motion. Tim Gutierrez motioned to approve the minutes from Sept 16, 2022. Rana Tayya motioned to approve the minutes, and Matia Maness seconded the motion.

III. Old/Ongoing

Classified Professional Co-Chair Call for Nominations – Inez, Star

Classified Professional Co-Chair Call for Nominations – Inez, Star

Inez did a quick recap of the last conversation on this line item; she said we have a vacancy for a Classified Professional Co-chair that we need to fill, along with continuing the discussion on what the process will look like to nominate a Student Chair. Inez introduced Star Taylor as the nominations chair; Star asked if there was a job description for the position of a Classified Professional Co-chair member. Inez stated that, at the moment, she did not have it available but would facilitate that soon and send it out via email. Star briefly described some of the requirements of the classified professional duties. One would be to meet with the chair committee, which includes Inez Moore, Tim Gutierrez, and Alicia Berber. Star confirmed that the next SEC meeting is on October 21st, and we can vote on it then, but as of today, it is open

for self-nominations or if someone wants to nominate someone. Eduardo Perez asked if the nominee has to be a voting member. Inez said that the bylaws draft state the nominee must be a voting member. Eduardo said he nominated Malika Bratton for Classified Professional Co-chair since Malika would be an official voting member by the next meeting, which is on October 21st. Malika accepted the nomination. Star confirmed we have Malika on the list as a nominee. Maria Maness said she has a nomination but will first talk to the nominee. Star said she received an email from someone self-nominating but would further look into it, and she reminded the committee that nominations are due by October 19th.

Student Co-Chair Position Discussion – Inez, Alicia

Inez said we must come up with ideas to identify a student chair. Sharon Walker said she could reach out to the students from Umoja and students from other groups, such as students in ASRCC. Sharon also added possibly creating an interest form to see if any students are interested. Star said she liked Sharron's idea, but a faculty or advisor should nominate the student. She added we need students that are identified and will be committed. Brian Owashi said that he liked Sharon's idea to have an interest form not only for a student chair but to have more students involved. Brian also mentioned how we get students interested and said monetary compensation might motivate them to participate. Inez agreed with Brian that keeping students involved in the process is a great idea. Maria Maness mentioned we also have to consider that the students might be involved with other groups on campus. She suggested we ask students what other commitments they have already. Also, we need to make sure students want to take part in this process willingly. She added that we need to remember that their education is the priority. Inez agreed with Maria and said we need to give them the necessary tools to understand the policies and procedures. Parissa Clark said this is a big commitment and asked if there is a way to compensate them with a stipend. Inez said she would have to look at the student employment policies to ensure that it is possible since this isn't something we would typically pay a student to do. Thomas Cruz-Soto added that we should have a quick presentation with student leaders from different groups to try and recruit a student chair. Eduardo Perez said that if faculty knows of a student that will be a good candidate, they should be nominated but still present to try and get more students involved. Tim brought up a point on privacy and what information the student co-chair would have access to. Inez clarified that we do not go into details about sensitive information, for example, student identifications and things specific to one student but that it is something good to keep in mind. Inez confirmed with Brian Owashi regarding privacy, and he confirmed that the information is aggregated and not specific; therefore, it wouldn't be an issue. Brian also mentioned compensating students for their time. Inez said we need to look at the practices we've used in the past, and she will follow up. Star Taylor asked if this position would start in the spring and if we already have a job description. Inez said we do not have one at the moment, but it is something we can work on together. Inez motioned to table this item for the next meeting, Delia Tijerina motioned, and Maria Maness seconded the motion.

Group Norms/Community Agreement Finalized – Tim, Malika, Daniel, Natalie

Inez presented the Group Norms/Community Agreement, and Tim explained the minor changes to the document. Tim said a few changes were made to the community agreement to try and clarify the intent. After discussing the agreement, Tim motioned to approve the Group Norms/Community Agreement, Eduardo Perez motioned to approve, and Maria Maness reversed the motion. Lastly, Thomas Cruz-Soto suggested we bring up the Group Norms at the beginning

of the meetings, and Tim agreed that was a great idea and would be put into motion moving forward

Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15) and Title IX 50th Anniversary Celebration – Inez

Inez reminded everyone that Hispanic Heritage month is still going on. She also provided an overview of how to embed some equity-minded activities into Canvas. She added that the Student Support Hub would be updated regularly with announcements and different programming. She said she would share more information on Riv-all in the future. Inez also mentioned an upcoming Hispanic Heritage month event on the 11th with Eric Alba. Alicia Berber reported on the Title IX 50th Anniversary: she said that the Title IX event will take place at Ramona High School and that Cheryl Miller will be the MC running the clinic for the youth from 7th grade to 12th grade. She said it would be from 1:00-2:30 PM and would share a flyer. Additionally, at 4:00 PM, they will have a professional women's Drew League, which consists of former WNBA division players and one collegiate player. Alicia invited SEC members to attend the event. She finalized by saying they are getting a lot of support from some members of the Clippers team, along with others. Alicia added that she continues to fight for equity at RCC, wants this to be a positive experience, and is fighting for equality. Inez said we are still working on some title IX events here on campus. Inez added to Alicia's announcement that we are currently working with our current athletic director, coaches, and student-athletes. Malika said we need to be more involved to create change, and Inez agreed. Inez quickly reviewed the theme for each workgroup before going into breakout rooms. Tim provided some guidance and information on the inquiry as a strategy process. He further explained how this data would be used. Eduardo asked for further details on coming up with themes and data collection. Inez said we want to use student experiences to inform our practices best. She concluded that the best way to do this is to group with equity-minded groups who wish to invest in this process for the long term.

Members of the Committee when into breakout rooms.

Workgroup #1 Metric on Female Black Students: Brandon reported that the group came up with the following question: What barriers have they faced?

Workgroup #2 Math and English in the First Year with a Black African-American Students: Tucker Amido said they want to push for priority registration for Umoja and La Casa. Group #2 came up with the following question: As a black African American student, do you have a recommendation for a program at RCC? That would support you and help you be more successful in your math and or English courses. He said the purpose is to determine what support is working and what other support is needed.

Workgroup #3 Foster Youth: Emily Spencer said their group #3 came up with the following question: What barriers have you encountered when enrolling in subsequent semesters because of your lived experiences as a foster youth? She mentioned that Bernadette highlighted that foster youth tend to leave and return later. Emily said if they focus on this, the question might look like the following: If you left college and returned, what would you have needed to be able to Re-enroll instead of leaving?

Workgroup #4 Asian Pacific Islander Students: Patricia Avila presented the question: What has been your experience of the cultural climate at RCC? On a day-to-day basis? How did these experiences make you feel? How did they affect your ability to achieve your goals? What specific obstacles do you perceive in your day-to-day interactions on campus? And, in your opinion, what has RCC done, if anything, to be more inclusive of Pacific Islander students?

Workgroup #5 Hispanic Transfer: Wendy Silva reported for the group, and the question was as follows: Who do you feel most comfortable with talking about your educational journey/transfer process? Wendy added that the purpose is to know where the students feel safest, most comfortable, and most secure in having these conversations. With the intent to better equip those people to serve the students better.

IV. Open Forum

Tim announced undocumented student awareness week is coming up.

V. Adjournment at 12:05 PM

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