

## **Commission on Racial & Social Justice Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 10, 2017**

**Woodruff Library, Jones Room**

**4:00 – 5:00 pm**

### **ATTENDEES:**

**Co-Chairs: Dona Yarbrough and Judith Pannell**

**Executive Committee – Claire Sterk, Chris Augustini, River Bunkley, Chelsea Jackson, Dwight McBride, Susan Hobson (substitute for Deena Keeler), Henry Bayerle, Courtnei Andrews**

**Steering Committee – Karen Andes, Jonathan Butler (phone), Lynell Cadray, Wanda Collins, Tiffany Del Valle, Michael Elliott, Irfa Hirani, Joanne Brzinski, Del King, Suzanne Onorato, Christine Ristaino, James Roland, Julia Thompson, Jonathan Wesley, Tiffania Willetts,**

**Social Justice Process Owners – Mekeshua North, Nancy Bliwise**

**Scribe – Kathy Moss**

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### **Welcome & Introductions**

#### **New Membership Structure Update**

Dona welcomed the group and recognized new Executive Committee members and Steering committee members. River Bunkley provided an update on the Dean's Internship Program. His recent presentation to the Deans' Council went very well. He will meet again in October with representatives from that group to plan for the deans' internship program kick-off in November. CRSJ is waiting to add students to steering committee after this program is implemented. Student representatives from this group will be identified.

#### **Request for Resolution of Demands 2, 11, and 12**

Dona referenced the document provided via e-mail and reviewed the process for rolling off demands and initiatives.

- Demand 2 – Bias Incident Reporting
  - ACTION: Resolution of Demand 2 approved
- Demand 11 – Yik Yak
  - ACTION: Resolution of Demand 11 approved with following stipulation
    - Updates from Michael Shutt and DeLa Dos providing information/timeline for how hate speech on social media will be addressed by Demand 6 working group.
- Demand 12 – GED Classes
  - ACTION: Resolution of Demand 12A (GED Classes) approved with following stipulation

- Demand 12B – address other Campus Services staff issues. *Del King will meet with students to clarify concerns.*

**Updates on ACTION items for Demand 11 and 12B need to be provided prior to next Commission meeting.**

**Retreat Update**

Judith informed the Commission that the steering committee has requested additional time to discuss whether having a retreat in February is the best mechanism for CRSJ work. They will determine goals and objectives at their next meeting and report back in December. Concerns were expressed regarding planning an effective retreat between December and February, engagement and recruitment of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> year students and graduate students, and advertisement.

River announced that a town hall event is being held Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at Harris Hall for 1<sup>st</sup> year students to inform them of CRSJ work and how to become involved. Commission members suggested sending out communications to academic schools and departments more broadly (utilizing listservs, etc.). River reported a problem with the online intern program application. *Dona will address the online issue with tech services.*

**Progress Reports**

**Demand 4: Faculty Evaluations**

Nancy Bliwise, new SJPO for this demand, presented slide (see attached) and announced that the working group was unable to meet as planned due to university closing for inclement weather. A graduate student member for this group is being sought.

Discussion:

- How is the text of Demand 4 informing the work of this process group?
- Length of time between demands made (2015) and development of implementation plan for evaluation and training (July 2018). Nancy agreed to emphasize the importance of moving forward as quickly as possible on development to the working group.
- Diversity in working group – Nancy assured that underrepresented groups have been invited to participate.

Due to time constraints, Demands 7 & 8 were tabled until the December meeting.

Final Points of Concern:

- Expediency of demand processing – Is there a need to reshape/restructure the way demands are being addressed/resolved?

- All Commission members and SJPO's are strongly encouraged to review the details presented in the [Preamble and Demands](#) by students in Fall 2015. *Dona will remind Commission members when minutes are distributed.*
- Continuity of those working on demands and student transitions affect outcomes and progress.
- More communication between steering committee and executive committee between meeting dates would be beneficial.