

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

## University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Equity and Diversity Committee

Campus Governance

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9-30-2015

### MEC minutes 09/30/2015

Multi-Ethnic Experience Committee

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Multi-Ethnic Experience Committee  
September 30, 2015  
4:00 PM

*Committee Members Present: Tom Genova, Solomon Gashaw, Farah Gilanshah, Jena Lipham, Nick TwoBears, T.J. Ross, Simon Franco, Michael Ceballos, Hilda Ladner, Jessica Porwoll, Matthew Linder*

*Committee Members Not in Attendance: Jenna Ray, Jeremy O'Hara*

The meeting was called to order:

- Tom asked the group if the chair would vote if a committee vote ever came to a tie. All agreed that during a tie the chair should vote. TJ made a motion to accept, Simon seconded.

The group discussed the overall committee structure:

- It was suggested that the committee add a second P & A staff person, bringing the total committee size to 12.
- The group discussed adding low income, first generation, GLBT\* students, and/or students with disabilities to the committee's purview, but decided against the change noting that the committee has much work to do just within the scope of multi-ethnic students. The group also noted that creation of other committees might help to manage other groups' concerns more effectively. The mission will not be expanded at this time.
- The MEC doesn't have a budget for activities, is usually supported by Multi-Ethnic Student Program.

The committee discussed concerns/topics to focus on for the year including:

- Bill & Idea Stewart Diversity Award
- Faculty hires (Are we recruiting well? Are we competitive? What could be done to strengthen this area?)
- Diversitea
- Intercultural competency events for faculty/staff
- Email to students from MEC explaining who we are and what we do
- Invitations to campus guests for future meetings
- Email survey/poll for students (plans are coming together for a larger campus climate survey through Melissa Bert's office in spring of fall 2016)
- Updating diversity poster

Upcoming Events

- Twin Cities Office of Equity & Diversity staff will visit Morris November 17, 2015
  - Katrice Albert, Shakeer Abdullah, & Michael Goh will visit

Future Meetings

- The committee will meet, at minimum, once per month
- The next meeting will be scheduled for mid to late October