Equity and Diversity minutes 09/22/2020

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EDC Meeting  
September 22, 2020  

In Attendance: Jennifer Rothchild, Jade Simonton, Adrienne Conley, Priyanka Basu, Noelle Muzzy, Joe Alia, Gabby Holboy

I. “the quiet violence” and a call to action

II. Introductions  
   A. Name, pronouns, unit on campus, boring fact

III. Voting on last meeting’s minutes  
   a. Approved

IV. Announcements from Liz  
   a. EDI affiliated student orgs back, organized  
   b. First VU meeting was this week  
   c. Hispanic Heritage Month – highlights are Arzola (9/30), film (10/8), and comedian Lorenzo (10/16)  
   d. Reimagining EDC for spring 2020  
   e. Supporting with TJ Ross and Lucell Hanson on restorative justice (RJ) in ORL  
   f. Police Training update with student panel – now only one session in October 20, but more in spring 2021; annual fall  
   g. Anti-racism Dialogue Series by outside person – October dates and February dates

   Joe Alia – grant STEM, Indigenous retreat; help connect students connect their backgrounds with STEM; https://academics.morris.umn.edu/science-math-division/lsamp; hope to be more coordinated with broader alliance

   AC – note about Becca Gercken’s listening sessions; https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScZ2gpWVKXuDx6nV8aRdqy45XBgvdVNfy_wdKxjvm6qh33p8A/viewform?gxids=7628

V. Update from the UM Senate—see attached

VI. Update from the President about diversity, equity, and inclusion—see attached  
   a. Notice from faculty and staff of increased communication and how that has affected our Chancellor’s messaging  
   b. Some student frustration about emails, but not action  
   c. Need to see committed, authentic action; call out; hold people accountable  
   d. Changes are happening are seen as reactionary; communication, transparency needed
e. Unsure if the university has found a way to communicate well with students; compounded issues; some small group setting
f. Challenge with time, thinking through, and then responding
g. Loss of connectivity
h. A webpage with a “progress bar” with timeline/points and contact people; a webpage with everything we’re doing; could be shareable so Morris students could share and be proud of the university
i. Referenced article of President Gabel’s communication process, since students’ initial action

VII. Voting
a. Referenced racial discrimination already at polling place
b. MCSA? Or someone on campus?
c. Encouraging students to vote “back home” by absentee ballot; Office of Student Activities involvement; education around reporting discrimination? Julia Scovil
d. Referenced mid-term election informational site? Clarifying the different pathways of how students could be voting; flowchart graphic
e. Voter Registration information by Women’s Sociology Association
g. Student perspective; sometime overwhelming; a guide; a neutral person/unit to send out; Chancellor? Dave?
h. Suggestion to make a recommendation to Dave for education, support
i. Next Step(s): Jennifer to think about reaching out to Dave?

VIII. Updates to Sexual Misconduct Policy—see email sent

IX. New business?
   a. Faculty survey about anti-racism and racial justice work in classroom?
   b. Invite Chip Beal? Sam Rosemark? Chancellor? for October 6 meeting
   c. Get result of MCSA survey – police engagement
   d. Student group with Black Lives Matter and restorative justice?