

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Steering Committee

Campus Governance

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Steering minutes 03/29/2018

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Steering Committee Meeting
March 29, 2018

Present: Tammy Berberi, LeAnn Dean, David Roberts, Michelle Behr

Guests: Adrienne Conley, Heather Peters, Kerri Barnstable, Michael Bryant, Matt Zaske

EDA proposal

The purpose of the meeting today is to bring the Membership Committee into the conversation. Heather reported that the EDA group heard the concerns from Steering and has made changes to the proposal based on the feedback. Each constitutional and standing committee will include at least one advocate. That advocate will occupy an existing seat on each committee. The role of the advocate will be to facilitate understanding and conversations around issues of inclusivity, equity and diversity related to the committee's work.

Membership will ask all committee members if they are interested in serving as their committee's Equity and Diversity advocate. Committees with no volunteers will be asked to meet and identify at least one advocate for their committee.

On behalf of Membership, Mike reported that this proposal is much clearer and cleaner. When populating committees, Membership is trying to balance gender, length of time on the committee and that has sometimes been challenging. At what level are we accounting for all units? Faculty, P&A and USA units are very much involved in the control of the committee process. This could include language for potential constitutional changes. How will students be included? He believes it is important that we offer this role to students.

Heather responded that the Multi-Ethnic Experience Committee will likely discuss how to involve students. She initially thought it was to roll this out to faculty and staff first to see how it plays out. There would be some merit in bringing students in earlier.

Steering agreed that this could enhance campus governance but there is concern about the timing of this important initiative with the continuing conversation of the reduction of committees. They agreed it would be good to have students participate.

The proposal for the pilot program will be brought forward at the May 2 Campus Assembly meeting as an information item. At some point it will come forward as an action item.