

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Consultative Committee

Campus Governance

2-16-2023

Consultative minutes 02/16/2023

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Consultative Committee
Meeting Agenda
Thursday, Feb 16, 2023 (11:40 am, Zoom)

Members: Clement Loo, Adrienne Conley, Angie Senger, Bibhudutta Panda, Emily Johnson, Kristin Lamberty, Noelle Muzzy, Robert Jayne, Madison Ferguson

Absent: Sheila Warner, Nade Sotirova

Notetaker: Bibhudutta Panda

1. Approve Minutes from [01/19/23](#)
2. Updates:
 - a. [Email Responses from Dave Israels-Swenson](#)
 - b. [Questions for Student Groups](#)
 - c. [Response from Sara Mattson](#)
3. Invitees for February 16th Meeting
 - a. Jay Allard (Co-Chair, Morris Queer Student Initiative for Equality)
 - b. Donovann Bower (Student Building and Events Manager, Campus Activities Council, Chair-Improv Club)
 - c. Ana Carbajal (Co-Chair, Circle of Nations Indigenous Association)
 - d. Eli Westacott (Co-Chair, Morris Queer Student Initiative for Equality)
 - e. Heaven Myers (BSU)

Clement introduced the agenda and started the introductions.

Clement: What kind of events do you have and how often do you have them?

Eli: We have weekly meetings; large event clusters are one each semester centered around come out week in October and in March and April 9 closes with the Drag show.

Jay: Another event is mumble talk; The focus is on building community.

Clement: What is your approach to community building?

Jay: connect people with resources on and off campus to be safe on campus. Like Coming Out week, intergenerational coffee chat and connect people with LGBT people and community. Peer support group.

Eli: events fit into: (a) resource and education (b) the fun stuff - a space to make friends and accept views

Clement: How do you balance these events?

Eli: Larger events are educational like intergenerational coffee chat and panels to ask questions. The big fun event is the drag show. MBLGTACC College Conference is going to be in Kentucky Next year.

Bibhu: What kind of challenges do you face?

Eli: Attendance; people do not know about these events. It may be an advertisement thing.

Bibhu: Is there any way the university can help you in advertisement?

Eli: We will get back to you on this.

Clement: What kind of events do you have and how often do you have them? Question for CAC.

Ana (CAC): Some popular events are Free movie night, ready teddy go; Idea is to help people come out of the campus and get engaged. Bingo events are popular and have prizes.

Donovann: Performing arts series; this is to have fun and experience new things.

Clement: How do you actually think which program will fit better?

Donovann: we have benefits of past events that worked; in our meetings, we consider what students will be excited about, what will be fun and engaging. Keep things as much as free as it is a big thing for college students.

Clement: Benefits of hindsight; Have you seen events that have come out as successful?

Donovann: Visibility is important, other people engaging and having fun. Events that do not need to be explained.

KK: What's up, Wednesday? How has that been working out?

Donovann: It does not have to be Bingo. Original idea is to promote other organizations and ask them to take the lead. Bingo (on hindsight) works.

Ana: The organizations are given money and space to promote their organizations. Bingo is going on but who is hosting it?

Donovann: Karaoke and Debates work.

Angie: Does it matter the time of the calendar year or the day of the event?

Donovan: It depends on the event and case by case. Do not have numbers to back up.

Ana: It is on a case by case.

Jay: Bingo time is 6-8 that conflicts with MQSIE event

Eli: There is a lot of stuff on Wednesday. It conflicts with events.

Noelle: What makes students apprehensive about attending? What kind of things do you do to overcome those.

Donovann: We use our own experiences. Casino night: lots of fun activities (no risk)

Ana: Lot of members (underclassmen) and less seniors. Seniors think how they could have done the event.

Emily: Wednesday event (lots of club meetings); How do you pick your weekly meetings?

Donovann: CAC meets 5:15-6pm. It's tough to schedule. It is right before What's up Wednesday.

Eli: For MQSIE it is a tradition thing. The group is meeting at a specific time for a longer time. Same meeting time from the equality time day (a decade ago). It is working fine.

Clement: How do you approach communicating events to students? How students find events outside their organization?

Jay: advertised through discord channel. Email is not used enough. MCSA events are through posters and UMM official emails/forms. Most of the events they hear about events are posters and emails.

Eli: Posters for large events

Ana: CAC through UMM Official, posters, discord; email lists

Donovann: enjoy the weekly events emails; that through UMM official; For the clubs: get the list from the tables at the activities fair. For improv troupe, it is a little different. We mostly communicate through snap chats or group chats; for shows we collaborate with library.

Clement: To Ana and Heaven: How do you think about your events?

Ana (CNIA): weekly general meetings, talking circles anyone who wants to come, open to everybody. Fall: NA heritage month (artists), Prairie Gala, CNIA: 15-20 people each meeting this semester; 50-60 people in email list. Dylan will make frybread. More people will come. Pow-wow table.

Heaven (BSU): every Tuesday 6-7, everyone is welcome; wide variety of things. Homecoming dance, soul food dinner (next Thursday) - are the main events

Clement: What do you think are the practical things you do to achieve a sense of community?

Heaven: Getting the group members feedback; what they are saying is heard.

Ana: Weekly eboard meetings and getting feedback from general meetings. Make sure everyone is heard.

Noelle: To Ana and Heaven: What are the biggest challenges in planning events and building community (community members believe that they belong here)? How do you overcome that?

Clement: Why do you think it is important to develop a sense of belonging?

Ana (CNIA): it comes from different tribes and backgrounds. There should be someone and someplace there for people.

Noelle: What is the biggest barrier to creating that space?

Ana (CNIA): E-board, getting people to be involved. Making connections and stay in touch with people

Heaven (BSU): sometimes it is difficult as there are a small number of black students and do not have a full board. Communicating and getting the message across are important.

Noelle: What are the biggest barriers in creating space for support?

Eli: lucky to be an organization for long time, there is a support system. Barrier: possible disconnect between atmosphere in campus and larger area. Working with Morris Area High School that there is space for them. May be just people do not know MQSIE is a thing.

Ana: Question for Eli: Have you reached out to other schools and colleges?

Eli: Not really. High school is a new thing this year. It is a good idea.

Jay: MQSIE not reached out to other schools, attempts earlier not gone super far.

Eli: Aggressively working on the high school and reaching out.

Jay: reaching out to Ronn (??). MQSIE wants to join other student groups. There were some communication issues with MQSIE and other EDI groups.

4. Invitees for March 09th Meeting

- a. Sanjana Kidambi (Asian Student Association)
- b. Alwin Lor (Asian Student Association)
- c. Signy Mastel (Student Hall Director, Campus Activities Council, Sports Team Improv Club)
- d. Joselin Gonzales Meija (La Union LatinX)

Meeting Adjourned.

Date of next meeting: March 09, 2023

Submitted by Bibhudutta Panda

Date submitted to Digital Well