

Faculty Council on Multicultural Affairs
February 27, 2013, 3:30-5:00 p.m.
36 Gerberding Hall

Meeting Synopsis

1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of minutes from last meeting
 3. Update on Student Diversity Requirement
 - a. Report from Reyes & Ginorio on Visit to FCAS meeting of February 22.
 - b. Update of current status of proposal
 4. Invited presentation by Professor Eugene (Gino) Aisenberg, Graduate School's Inaugural Leadership Professor, on assessment of issues for diversity among graduate students – based on conversations with stakeholders.
 5. Adjournment
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1. Call to Order

Chair Ginorio called the meeting to order at 3:40.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were not approved due to lack of quorum.

3. Update on Student Diversity Requirement
 - a. Report from Ginorio on Reyes & Ginorio Visit to FCAS meeting of February 22.
 - b. Update of current status of proposal

Chair Ginorio introduced students Helen Filmore and Shage Purnell who had been part of a group of students who were present at the previous Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS) meeting when FCAS reviewed the most recent iteration of the proposed Diversity Requirement. One of the first concerns expressed at FCAS was the feeling that “diversity” had become a contentious word. An alternative, “ethics and perspective,” was suggested. Outcome of the lengthy meeting was that FCAS member Susanna Cunningham, chair of the subcommittee assigned to review this proposal, was assigned to draft Faculty Senate Legislative language (Class B) for the proposal. The Class B legislation would then be reviewed by FCAS for final approval at its March 8 meeting. Ginorio and the students

may attend that meeting as well in support of the proposal. Once approved, FCAS would submit the proposal to the Senate Executive Committee which would initiate the Senate legislative process that would culminate with a vote of the entire Faculty for approval of the proposed requirement.

Since the last FCMA the ASUW has updated its endorsement of the proposed requirement. There may be an endorsement forthcoming from GPSS; the Faculty Council on Women in Academia had approved a motion in support of it as well.

Ginorio complimented the professionalism of the students' participation in the FCAS meeting. The students feel strongly that addressing diversity is a necessary part of an undergraduate's education. They also feel that the requirement should be modeled as an Area of Knowledge requirement rather than a Writing requirement. If the proposal is approved as a Writing requirement, the students, in protest, will withdraw the proposal altogether. The students noted that this proposal had been in the works for the past three years and students had accepted many compromises along the way. The proposal currently under consideration is very different than one that started out three years ago. This final version would be where they will draw the line.

A list of existing courses that would fulfill this requirement is being drafted by the XXX Provost's Task Force (Schmitz & Taylor, co-chairs) and it appears that there are enough such courses right now that would serve the need for undergraduates without a the need for funding new courses. The exception may be the Engineering and Business Schools.

Discussion turned to acknowledging the need for FCMA to be thinking of strategies and actions that can be taken to support the progress of this proposal – through FCAS, the Senate Executive Committee, the Senate, and ultimately once ballots go out to all university faculty. Students offered to FCMA a set of FAQ that they have generated as this discussion has proceeded. The meeting with FCAS provided some sample questions that could be addressed in the FAQ. Helen Filmore (one of the guest students) volunteered to send to FCAS their FAQ list, she will send a copy to Ginorio who in turn will distribute it to FCMA members for further input.

One of the guest students suggested that Julia Parish, a faculty member and Associate Dean from the College of the Environment, had started a College diversity committee, and may be a good resource in ways to garner support for the Diversity Requirement.

Ginorio thanked the students for their participation in reporting on the FCAS meeting.

4. Invited presentation by Professor Eugene (Gino) Aisenbert, Graduate School's Inaugural Leadership Professor, on assessment of issues for diversity among graduate students – based on conversations with stakeholders.

Due to the low attendance at the meeting, Professor Aisenberg was invited to defer his talk until the FCMA meeting of April 24.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Minutes by Susan Folk, Faculty Council Support, sfolk@u.washington.edu

Present: Faculty: Ginorio (Chair), Chapman
Ex Officio: Lobo (PSO)

Absent: Faculty: Yang, Barria, Flores, Willgerodt, Reyes, Harris, Rubio
President's Designee: Fraga
Ex Officio: Lillard, Rodriguez