**MINUTES**

**Chancellor’s Committee on Inclusive Excellence: Summer Subcommittee**

**University of Wisconsin - Whitewater**

**Wednesday, June 20, 2018, 2:00PM – 3:00PM**

**University Center 262**

*Present:* Ola Bamgbose, Kari Borne, LaVar Charleston, Jess Clayton, Miao-Ching Liu, Marco Marquez, Han Ngo, Ozalle Toms, Margaret Wheeler, Kenny Yarbrough

*Minutes Recorded by:* Brittany Dickerson, Program Assistant Confidential

*Meeting began at 2:00PM*

**Ice Breaker**

Dr. Yarbrough began the meeting with a brief exercise during which all the members of the committee were able to reflect on various positive aspects of their lives.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chancellor’s Committee on Inclusive Excellence: Summer Subcommittee Minutes for June 6, 2018

Motion was made by Dr. LaVar Charleston and seconded by Marco Marquez to accept the minutes as recorded. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Report – Dr. Kenny E. Yarbrough**

Dr. Yarbrough informed the committee of a meeting that was held between himself, Dr. Charleston, and Dr. Artanya Wesley regarding civil discourse. He provided the group with the following updates:

* The Civil Discourse Committee provided Dr. Yarbrough with a graphic design piece that was the summation of words created from a meeting on civil discourse. Dr. Yarbrough believes that this piece is a good visual representation of civil discourse. From this piece, Drs. Artanya, Charleston, and Yarbrough discussed what they believe the Diversity Forum should look like.
* The Chancellor’s Committee on Inclusive Excellence will be looking to hold the Diversity Forum for three days. Dr. Yarbrough proposed that the first day have a large plenary session with a keynote speaker, the second day would hold workshops and highlight something artistic that demonstrates civil discourse, and the third day would close out the event with a keynote. He also suggested the idea of closing out the event with a fellowship gathering or World Café (“World Bazaar” was suggested as an alternate title).
* Dr. Yarbrough shared the following title ideas for the Diversity Forum: Embracing Civility; Cultivating Civility; Civil Discourse: Not a Dirty Phrase; Cultivating Community Through Civil Discourse; Civility?; Got Civility?
* Dr. Charleston expressed the need for a title that will attract the audience and make everyone feel included. He believes that the title needs to be alluring in order to draw in more attendees and avoid having the “same ten people” come to every event.
* Dr. Charleston informed the committee that the Civil Discourse Committee is still ongoing and will be meeting later this summer. He believes that it would be advantageous to bridge the gap between the LEARN Center, Civil Discourse Committee, and Chancellor’s Committee on Inclusive Excellence in order to broaden these discussions and share in some responsibilities.

At this time, Dr. Yarbrough asked the committee for any thoughts on the provided updates.

Dr. Jess Clayton expressed her interest in using the word “cultivating” in the title of the event. She believes that this word is captivating and that the committee could take advantage of its meaning by creating a play on words. She suggested the idea of having the event highlight a theme of horticulture and/or sustainability. Marco Marquez suggested reaching out to S.A.G.E. (Students Allied for a Green Earth). Dr. Charleston and Marco both suggested the idea of reaching out to students and faculty members who are involved in hydroponics and aquaponics research at the university.

Dr. Clayton stated that this theme could be very diverse and would have the ability to pull in students, faculty, and staff from all parts of campus.

Dr. Charleston mentioned a display that was highlighted at the Purple & White Gala held in April 2018. The display showcased an artist who created a graphic representation of conversations as they were happening. This became a focal point of the event and captivated many attendees. Dr. Yarbrough suggested the idea of having a similar artistic representation created during the keynote speech at the Diversity Forum. Once the piece is finished, it can be used as a topic of discussion at the event.

Dr. Clayton suggested that the committee bring in regional or local talent (workshop leaders, keynote speakers, etc.) for the Diversity Forum, since there is such a small time frame before the event. Dr. Charleston expressed an interest in bringing in talent from UW-W, particularly for workshops. It was said that this could help draw in more students and other attendees who have been affected by these particular faculty/staff members

Dr. Yarbrough brought the conversation back to the topic of naming the Diversity Forum. He asked the group: Do we want to use the terminology, “Civil Discourse”? Dr. Charleston suggested the idea of using a captivating title with a colon telling you more about what the event is. Dr. Yarbrough proposed the title, “Cultivating Me.” He believes that this title could be open to everybody and that the workshops could then be geared towards specific subjects.

Dr. Ola Bamgbose expressed her concern about undergraduate student interest in the word “cultivate.” She believes that this may not be interesting enough. Marco added to Dr. Bamgbose’s concern by sharing that many people may not fully understand the meaning or use of the word “cultivate.”

Dr. Ozalle Toms suggested getting students involved in the planning and execution of certain parts of the event. She believes that this would bring in more attendees because students are often more willing to support other students.

Kari Borne expressed concern about the actual schedule for each day of the event. She believes that the items on the schedule should be made accessible to students with busy schedules. The committee must be aware of how students and staff will participate in the event. She stated that devoting time to an event is often hard for students with full schedules. Because of this, it is suggested that the committee make items on the calendar throughout the day (morning, midday, and evening). Dr. Yarbrough recommended having some of the events occur multiple times throughout the day in order to draw in a larger number of people.

Dr. Charleston brought the conversation back to Dr. Toms’ suggestion to include students in the Diversity Forum events. He suggested the idea of having a Real Talk session led by student leaders. Marco agreed that student groups running parts of the event would bring in more student attendees.

Dr. Clayton suggested the idea of streaming the events and creating recordings. This would allow people to watch the events in real time or after the fact from the comfort of their own home. Dr. Yarbrough mentioned the Chancellor’s Committee on Inclusive Excellence website that is being developed and how these recordings could be put on the website. This would create an archive of all events held by the committee and would help with future planning.

Han Ngo expressed an interest in reaching out to non-traditional student groups to help with the event.

Dr. Clayton suggested the idea of having “breakfast workshops.” The committee could publicize that there would be food at the event and this would bring in more attendees.

The topic of athletic student groups was brought up to the committee. Dr. Charleston stated that these students are often left behind because of time conflicts. He suggested that we reach out to Todd Garzarelli, Director of Athletics, and coordinate something with him so that student athletes are not left out of the event. Dr. Yarbrough continued this discussion by suggesting that the committee capitalize on civil discourse in athletics today. He believes that this could be a good topic for the Diversity Forum, as it is a very relevant topic in this day and age. Some potential questions that he suggested for discussion include: What do our UW-W athletes think of these topics? Do they feel pressured to conform?

Kari agreed that it would be a good idea to include non-traditional groups in the Diversity Forum. She expressed a desire to reach out to student groups that are not generally asked to participate in these types of events. One group that was mentioned was the American Marketing Association (AMA).

Marco suggested the idea of creating a backbone for having uncomfortable conversations. Rather than having a specific theme, the Diversity Forum could help develop a guide for the community members on how to open up their perspective and go into workshops or events with a different mindset. Dr. Clayton agreed with the idea of having a backbone teaching activity that could be applied to any part of life. She expressed the importance of being able to communicate with others and being aware of your own bias. This idea could be marketed as something that everyone could take advantage of.

Dr. Yarbrough suggested a new title for the event: “Making the Connections.”

Dr. Bamgbose stated that there is no hard and fast rule about how to talk to people who are different from you (no cheat sheet). She asked the group: How can we teach people to be ready to have these conversations? How do we make these connections?

Dr. Yarbrough suggested the title, “Building the Cheat Sheet.” There was a discussion as to whether or not a “cheat sheet” for this topic could truly be formed.

**Subcommittee Reports**

Diversity Forum Location/Dates

Dr. Clayton suggested the idea of having the Diversity Forum coincide with the Boxes & Walls event held by University Housing. This started a discussion as to whether the committee should try to coincide with the Boxes & Walls event or avoid it all together. Dr. Clayton suggested the idea of having the event start on a Sunday, since most students would be on campus.

Dr. Yarbrough suggested holding the Diversity Forum in early October (the week before Homecoming). Kari stated that early October might not be a good time for the event since students are still settling into the semester.

Dr. Yarbrough requested that the committee discuss the exact dates of the event after looking over the Greek calendar, which Marco Marquez was asked to share with Brittany Dickerson. Brittany will distribute the Greek calendar to the committee once it has been received.

Dr. Charleston suggested making an outline of the ideas for the Diversity Forum. He also suggested that the committee members think about student groups and faculty/staff members who could lead workshops for the event so that the committee can start reaching out to individuals.

Dr. Charleston requested that the subcommittees begin having meetings. He also requested that a point person be selected for each group. The point persons for each group are as follows:

Diversity Statement: LaVar Charleston

Campus Climate Survey: Jess Clayton & Ozalle Toms

Han Ngo volunteered to check the availability of rooms in Hyland Hall for the Diversity Forum.

Campus Climate Update

Dr. Yarbrough shared that he attended a webinar earlier this day (6/20/2018) that discussed the Campus Climate Survey that will be circulating through all UW campuses. He informed the committee that each campus would have to form working groups to create questions for the RFP.

**MLK Day**

Dr. Yarbrough informed the committee that Dr. Charleston’s area (Student Diversity, Engagement, and Success) organizes MLK Day at UW-Whitewater. He would like everyone to take note of the upcoming MLK Day in January 2019. He believes that the campus should stay true to fact that it is Martin Luther King Jr. Day and avoid organizing other activities and events during that time, as these events can be done in the spring. He asked the group to start thinking about this day and possible activities that could be held.

Dr. Yarbrough shared that he has asked the Provost’s Task Force on Civil Discourse to start thinking about the Diversity Forum that will be held in Spring 2019.

**Adjournment**

Dr. Bamgbose suggested that the group hold longer meetings in the future. It was also discussed that the meetings could occur earlier in the day.

The next meeting of the Chancellor’s Committee on Inclusive Excellence: Summer Subcommittee will be held on Monday, July 9 from 9AM to 11AM.

*Meeting adjourned at 3:10PM*