President’s Gender Equity Council Meeting
10:00 a.m., February 15, 2022
Via Zoom

Minutes

I. Call to Order
   A. Meeting called to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. Welcome and Introductions
   A. Welcome from Chair: Dr. Sofia Chapman
   B. Present: Sofia Chapman, Amelia Talley, Archie Pitsilides, Aimee Cameron, Robin Germany, Dawn Payne, Kirsten Cook, Jodie Billingsley, Kristin Messuri, Brandi Stuart, Brittany Morris, Ashley Gonzales, Carol Sumner, Esther De Leon, Grace Hernandez, Ana Mitchell Córdova

III. Approval of Minutes from Dec. 10, 2021 meeting
   A. Approved

IV. Aimee Cameron, Senior Academic Advisor, Women’s and Gender Studies:
   A. Update
      i. Last meeting went very well at La Diosa Cellars; another meeting upcoming
      ii. Women’s Night at the Rec postponed for now; was supposed to happen on Feb 4 but weather got in the way
         1. Women’s Staff Network table will be at that event
      iii. Next happy hour scheduled for March 10

V. Committee Reports:
   A. Employment Committee: Dr. Stephanie Jones
      i. Dr. Jones unable to be here today but wanted to let everyone know that Academic Impressions has been rolled out, and information is starting to be sent out on sessions concerning women’s leadership and other equity type sessions – another great source of support
   B. Family Support Committee: Dr. Robin Germany
      i. No updates
   C. Climate Committee: Esther De-Leon
      i. Committee has been meeting several times a month and has decided to work with the Diversity Week Committee to host a panel during that week on March 21 called “It’s okay to not be okay” about mental health for faculty, staff, and students
1. confirmed panelists include: Amanda Wheeler, ? Dolan, Stacy ?, Caroline Cummings, someone from RISE, another individual (didn’t get all the names)
2. hope to have food available, will have marketing and flyers out soon
   ii. Workshops to help promote a campaign on respect around campus; planning to do workshop in summer too
      1. On April 8 with a Vice Chancellor speaking
D. Title IX Committee: Kristin Messuri
   i. Working on post cards that will be mailed to faculty and staff; seeking quotes
   ii. Working with IT to email info to all students so its readily available
E. Outreach Committee: Archie Pitsilides
   i. Had some movement on opening up President’s Excellence in Gender Equity Award; opened up last week; marketing on technannounce, etc
   ii. Ana updated the GEC website with 2022 criteria and other information
   iii. Aimee working on outreach
   iv. Continuing to work on an OP for the Gender Equity Awards
      1. Archie has started a first draft and will get it to committee once draft finished, then Chapman will review, and then whole council will review; first attempt to write an op so he’s using a lot of the language already there; wants to harmonize it with president’s awards too
      2. Dr. Gonzalez doing a lot re-aligning the two awards
      3. Award ceremony on April 14
      4. Nominations close on Feb 25; no nominations yet but expecting them to come in closer to deadline
      5. Past years’ awardees invited to serve on committee for reviewing nominations, both awardees have tentatively accepted
      6. GEC requested to get the word out

VI. Dr. Sofia Chapman, Chair, President’s Gender Equity Council:
A. Texas Women in Higher Education Conference: March 24, 2022 SUB Red Raider Ballroom 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
   i. This is the GEC’s baby
   ii. Conference is on for this year in person
   iii. Presenters have been confirmed: Jade Silva Tovar, Cassie Christopher, Kimberly Simon, Brandi Stuart, Nadia Flores
   iv. Theme is allyship and resiliency
   v. All male panel: Dean Mendez, Matt Gregory,
   vi. Shortened to end at 1pm to allow time for attendees to do what they need to do
   vii. Charging $30 for faculty, $20 for staff, $10 for students, but Chapman happy to help if an issue
   viii. Isabel Torres from president’s office helping to organize it all
VII. Announcements
A. Ashley Gonzales now an assistant vice president!
B. Black History Month African American lecture series tonight 2/15 at 7pm in Lanier (law school)
C. Dr. Cook - Donuts and Diversity event to close out Black History Month on Feb 28th; it will be a virtual session with Dorothy Brown, a law professor at Emory who wrote a book called The Whiteness of Wealth about racial wealth disparities and how they are created and magnified by tax law
   i. Will forward zoom invitation
D. Law school hosting our diversity week first week of March
   i. Derek Mergele-Rust on Feb 28 – gender and sexuality in the law
   ii. A professor from Florida State law – women and intersectionality in the law
   iii. Sylvia Borunda Firth SBoT president will present at the Diversity Awards Banquet
E. Archie - Diversity symposium on March 24 and 25; employers panel, student panel, and research event
F. Law school and other groups hosting Sujatha Baliga on March 24, 5:30 – 7
G. Esther - on Friday 2/18, 3-5pm, event with Chicanx/Latinx working group; conversations with artists and professors, how they created that space and how they work in it and then second part is working time for participants
H. Final GEC meeting in April, hopefully in person meeting

VIII. Adjourn
A. Meeting adjourned at 10:25.