

**President's Commission on Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity and Diversity
General Meeting
January 30, 2019**

Attendance: S. Amaya, L. Broxton, L. Carado, M. Cascarano, M. Coleman Carter, M. Colon, C. Cottle, F. DeCarvalho, C. Drost, E. Farrell, T. Hindsman, R. Judge, D. Keiser, S. Marschall, L. McDermott, C. Meneghin, A. Mennuti, C. Molinari, E. Murray, K. Pearson, L. Petrozzello, D. Phillips-Clark, L. Raven, C. Reyes-Cuevas, D. Rogers, T. Seaboch, B. Serrani, H. Strayhorn, J. Stroh, J. Uy, D. Williams

I. Welcome:

Meneghin called meeting at 12:05 pm

Approval of November 28, 2018 minutes: Motion by Serrani to approve; seconded by Petrozzello. November 2018 Minutes approved.

II. New Business

a. Sponsorship

Cottle updated that one request totaling \$500 was received from the MSU student chapter of NAACP for the 110th anniversary of NAACP event on campus February 12th. The co-sponsorship will be used toward food; motion was approved.

Cottle added that \$2900 had been spent on sponsorship so far this year.

b. Commission Website Move to New University Format

Meneghin updated that the PCAAEOD website will be migrated to WordPress by the end of the day on January 30th. She was asked if pages on the MSU site are being translated into Spanish. Meneghin will contact Lisa Ryder, Director of Web Services for the answer.

III. Old Business

a. Cornell Brooks

Rogers was not able to provide an update since she has not been contacted back. Meneghin will continue to hold the room reservation in case Mr. Brooks confirms soon. The time will be in the late afternoon/evening between 5:00 and 7:00 pm.

b. Universal Furniture for Classrooms

Meneghin updated on the issues with classroom desk accessibility brought to our attention in spring 2018. Students had visited various classrooms to survey desks

with different abilities to see if there were crowded classrooms with too many desks and chairs.

Erin Murray explained that MSU is using more universal furniture in the classrooms and that where possible, Facilities will increase the number of adjustable tables. She along with member Mennuti are looking to develop an inventory to clearly show the capacity in each classroom and will inform the Registrar's Office for scheduling purposes. The goal is to have a standard seating diagram posted in each classroom. In regards to the fixed seating rooms in the Feliciano School of Business, there are two locations in each room for wheelchair accessibility. The issue raised is that people have been adding extra chairs into the rooms, resulting in overcrowding. Classroom booked beyond capacity present safety issues. Meneghin will invite both to the next Executive Committee meeting and will then set up an update at a future Senate meeting.

c. Lactation room announcement

Member Strayhorn is working with Ebony Jackson, Assistant Director, Office of Equity and Diversity, on a campus announcement, which will include a link to the website and directions on how to reserve a lactation room. Artwork donated by VP Pennington's friend was framed and added to several of the rooms. Mennuti stated that there is a new lactation room in the Center for Computing and Information Sciences building, and that there will be a new lactation room in the renovated College Hall when it reopens. He added that he anticipates confirming soon that there will be a new one in Richardson Hall with plumbing. Mennuti will continue to look at capital projects to see if lactation rooms can be added. Meneghin thanked him for his efforts and added that standard furniture for the rooms should be listed and then added to the budget request. Strayhorn will make the request since the funding for new or replacement furniture will need to be made.

Signage where the lactation and single person bathrooms rooms are located will be on the website. Regarding single person bathrooms, there is an effort to identify those rooms and to put the request in the plans for new buildings or those getting major renovations. Mennuti will follow-up on an issue with the signage in one of the bathrooms in Sprague Library.

d. Power & Privilege

Stayhorn asked for members to participate in a focus group to assist in planning a power and privilege focused program. Members Rogers, Petrozzelli, Williams, Reyes-Cuevas, deCarvalho, and student Pearson volunteered.

IV. Other

- Meneghin – World Fair’s Day is on April 25th and she is looking for volunteers to help at the table that will be set-up.
- Appreciation Day is scheduled for April 17th and may conflict with department meetings. Members were asked to review their schedules and meetings and to let her know if the date conflicts.
- Red Hawk News now has an opt-in for Rave text alerts for those not part of the University campus community. Individuals without a NetID including visitors, those attending a conference, and parents of children at the Ben Samuels Children’s Center can opt-in for the Rave alerts. Concerns, comments, and suggestions can be sent to Meneghin.
- Strayhorn encouraged the membership to participate in the upcoming events celebrating Black Heritage Month including the Flagraising on February 1st, Day of Unity on February 7th featuring Mari Copeny “Little Miss Flint,” the Black HERstory Ball on February 15th, and the Social Justice Conference on March 22nd. Anyone interested in submitting a proposal for the conference should contact his staff. Sponsorship is welcomed for food.
- Women’s History Month will be held during the month of March 2019
- Sexual Awareness Month is in April 2019
- Rogers mentioned an upcoming lecture to be held on April 4th on the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. It will be an open class session beginning at 1:00 pm. Additional details to follow.
- Serrani announced a screening of the movie “Hidden Figures” on February 20th from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Center for Computing and Information Science
- Cottle reminded members to come out and support the NAACP event on campus February 12th
- Meneghin will ask Corresponding Secretary Phillips-Clark to compile a list of upcoming events to share with the membership.

Motion to adjourn – Motion by Mennuti; second by Uy; meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by M. Colón