
Africana Studies Advisory Board Minutes

March 8, 2012

Members present: Dr. Darren Hendrickson, Mr. Vernon Woodley, Dr. Teresita Hunt

Staff present: Connie Clarkson

Connie Clarkson called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

I. Welcome

II. Approval of September 9, 2010 & April 14, 2011 minutes

Approval postponed due to lack of a quorum.

III. Articulation Agreement Update

President Perry signed a new Articulation Agreement with Richland Community College on January 31, 2012. This new agreement includes transfer credit for Africana Studies.

Connie Clarkson and Dr. James Ochwa-Echel set up a table at Richland C.C. for their Africa! Africana!! celebration for Black History Month on February 15, 2012. Features included photography, African dancing & drumming, art and artifacts and food sampling. A few students stopped to inquire about E.I.U. and left their names and email addresses for future contact.

IV. Faculty/Staff Campaign

Connie Clarkson reported the current balance in the E.I.U. Foundation Africana Studies Scholarship account is \$3,511.36. An appeal was made for donations as scholarships can't be distributed until the balance reaches \$10,000.00.

V. Other Items

Curriculum Update

Mr. Woodley inquired as to whether any spin-off committees had been established; Dr. Hendrickson reported that there had not.

Recruitment

Connie reported that Taneya Tuell (student worker), is working on a recruitment plan and testimonial letter for the Africana Studies Program. Connie also mentioned a few celebrities, (Michelle Obama, Joakim Noah, Natasha Watley), with African American Studies minors and passed these along to Ms. Tuell. Dr. Hendrickson reported that in the past, mentoring and outreach has been pursued in the Chicago area.

Dr. Hunt suggested going to community colleges or high schools in the area with a group of students and or faculty. The time to start talking to students in high school is in their junior year. Terry also suggested contacting celebrities to come to E.I.U. and presenting to students that we have spoken with.

Vernon stated that the U of I African American Studies Program has graduated their first PhD and the program is growing and increasing in numbers. A colleague of his, Ray Muhammad, is mentoring PhD students in African American Studies at U of I. Vernon will contact Dr. Muhammad to see if he has any ideas/suggestions for recruitment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Connie Clarkson, Recorder