
African American Studies Advisory Board Minutes

November 12, 2009

Dr. Ochwa-Echel presided over the meeting.

Members present: Dr. Beck, Dr. Hendrickson, Mr. Kuma, Dr. Ochwa-Echel, Dr. Onyango, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Schultz

Staff present: Mrs. Kathy Chancellor

I. Welcome

II. Approval of the September 10 and October 8 minutes.

Approval of these minutes will be put on next month's agenda.

Since there were a limited number of members attending Dr. Ochwa-Echel decided to move directly to V. Curriculum on the agenda.

III. Curriculum

- Dr. James Ochwa-Echel began by reviewing past conversations from previous meetings. He also mentioned that:
 - The current degree is a B.S. and he would like to change that to a B.A. since it would better fit, since African American Studies falls under Arts and Humanities.
 - Name change to Africana Studies to better reflect the courses taught.
 - Adding an additional course that would meet the general education designation
- Discussion ensued and some of the key suggested were:
 - Major G.P.A. and including a total G.P.A. minimum stated in the catalog
 - Dr. Beck's upcoming new courses be included under the history specialization

IV. Other Items

Mr. Kuma explained that every December, every year, Booth Library puts up a display about Kwanzaa as part of the holiday festivities. During this time, the Black Students' Union sometimes wanted to borrow some of the displayed items for their own display. Of course, the Kwanzaa kit was a personal property and could only be borrowed at the discretion of the owner. To avoid conflict, Mr. Kuma applied for a Redden Grant in order to purchase a Kwanzaa kit for the Library. He announced that he did receive the grant and the purchase has been complete and he wants to donate the Kwanzaa display to African American Studies Program. Students or others would now be able to borrow this and use for their various functions. He will deliver it to the African American Studies office after the meeting.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Kathy Chancellor, Recorder

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING
Thursday, Dec 10, 2009
3108 Blair Hall