



**COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO**

**Diversity Committee Meeting  
Thursday, March 24, 2022, 11:00**

Present: Sherry Tripepi, Tavis Glassman, Louis Guardiola, Ann Carrellas, Amanda Murray, Leonardo Gomez, Arukshita Goel, Tanesha Rorie, Laura Schmelzer

Approve minutes from last meeting – meeting minutes approved

Aru – provided information regarding fundraising gala for Camp Kesem, which is a program for children whose parents are currently being for cancer. Additional questions can be addressed to Aru.

Student questionnaire – Louie and Amanda update

Amanda reported updated response rates for survey. Current n = 1898. Full report is available. Amanda is creating graphs to assist with interpretation. Leonardo and Aru will create poster presentation with Amanda for our event: *CHHS Celebrates Diversity Month: YOU Belong Here*

Louie reminded group that we need to randomly draw for gift card. Names need to be drawn. Amanda will randomize the list and grab the top ten names.

Solidify plans for April: Celebrate Diversity Month

- Title of event- CHHS Celebrates Diversity Month: YOU Belong Here
- Location = atrium
- Purpose of event: Increase awareness that diversity committee exists, what we are doing and what plans we have, student group tabling, and recognition of Dean's Diversity Advocacy Award recipients
- Dean will start the event with welcome.
- Date – April 27<sup>th</sup>. 11:00-2:00. Faculty and staff should wear shirts on that day.

Details:

- 250 t-shirts have been ordered. We hope to have delivery is about 3 weeks. Sherry will follow up. They will be provided to all faculty who are interested. Louie will determine mechanism for faculty and staff to request and obtain t-shirt.
- Louie will also reach out to faculty to see if they want to have a poster (or something) presenting/representing current research on diversity related topic.
- Spin the Wheel: will include the remaining t-shirts, Gift cards – perhaps buy at local businesses that support diversity (provided by Tavis), Tanesha will contact some local

businesses that support diversity and may be able to donate gift card. Aru also has some contacts she will pursue.

- Amanda is determining how to present, results of survey
- Popcorn will be available.
- College award recipients will also be recognized.
  
- All committee members should take date and time back to departments in order to see if any student groups want to have a table.
  
- All committee members please block calendars to be present at 11:00-11:15  
Time blocks for committee members to staff event, please let Sherry know when you will be there:
  - 11-12:00
  - 12:00-1:00
  - 1:00-2:00

Meeting again on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00. Note date change so we can meet again before this event

Graduate Program admissions procedures and prompts, related to diversity:

Tavis met with Dr. Lafleur Small. She provided university diversity statement. She is in favor of the homegrown initiative. Hiring is on hold due to budget. She will look at these prompts and provide feedback. Tavis will also forward thoughts and questions from faculty within the committee regarding these prompts. Tavis will also invite her to the college event.

Nominations for Dean's Diversity Advocacy Awards.

Sherry updated dates. Angie sent out the web form last year. Due date is the 11<sup>th</sup>. Committee would need to review submission by the 18<sup>th</sup>. Laura and Ann will serve on committee. All diversity committee members are encouraged to remind students, faculty and staff to nominate individuals for this award.

Committee member diversity statements-

Louie suggested everyone on the committee develop a diversity statement. We could then highlight faculty throughout the college – purpose behind this is to make the idea of You Belong more explicit. Try to write one by next fall.

Resources:

- i. <https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/DiversityStatements>
- ii. <https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/developing-and-writing-a-diversity-statement/#start>
- iii. <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2018/01/25/how-write-effective-diversity-statement-job-candidate-opinion>

Chair for this committee?

Sherry verbalized that she is not going to serve as the chair next year and that the committee will need a chair.

Congrats to Aru and Leonardo! They will both be graduating in May. They were reminded that they would be welcomed as a graduate student representative or alumni representative. The committee is grateful for their service and wishes them the best in their future endeavors.

Last meeting date for the semester: April 21st at 11:00 – focus will be on event.