

## Draft Minutes of Diversity & Equity Committee Meeting November 12, 2018

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Jane Wolff (*Chair*)

Fadi Masoud, Charles Stankieveh, Robert Levit (proxy for Dean Sommer), Aziza Chaouni

Heather Huckfield (*stand in for Committee Secretary*)

Regrets: John Shnier, Mauricio Quiros Pacheco, Jessica Misak (GALDSU), Kira James (AVSSU), Didier Pomerleau (*ex-officio*), Dean Sommer (*ex-officio*), Kate Nelischer (*Committee Secretary*)

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### Call to Order

Jane Wolff called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.

#### 1. Overview of Draft Curriculum Study (Jane Wolff)

Jane provides an overview of the Draft Curriculum Study, which was circulated to the Committee in advance of the meeting.

Jane highlights questions for the Committee's consideration, included at the end of the Draft Study, and notes that the Committee's responsibilities are to advise the Faculty.

#### 2. Discussion of Draft Curriculum Study

Charles notes that Visual Studies only has two courses represented in the Study.

Jane notes that this Study is a snapshot in time, and is only the beginning of a larger and longer process of ongoing review and improvement. All agree it is important to focus on the future and what changes can be made.

Aziza notes that beyond curriculum content and delivery, it is also important to ensure that review panels are diverse.

Fadi notes that "diversity" was loosely defined in the Draft Study and in the initial questions to faculty to gather this information. He suggests we refine this

definition as we move forward with collecting additional information. Robert notes that he doesn't believe having a wide range of terms is problematic, and thinks broad and inclusive definitions are valuable and that the report works well. Jane notes that these categories were derived from content submitted by faculty, and that the draft categories were then circulated to faculty for comment and revision. Jane suggests creating a draft list of themes to circulate again for discussion and revision, which will hopefully encourage buy-in.

Fadi suggests developing a form about diversity and equity content that instructors are required to submit with course outlines. Robert expresses concern that this would seem regulatory, and instead suggests this should be voluntary. Jane notes that we have to provide this kind of information to accrediting bodies and the University, and therefore there is some sensitivity around these issues. Additionally, the Committee's mandate is to advise, and it does not have the power to make faculty report.

**Action Items:**

Jane and Kate will revise the Draft Summary based on the Committee's feedback.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2 pm.

*These notes are considered to be an accurate account of the meeting. Please note that attendance is recorded as per the sign-in sheet. If any discrepancies or omissions are noted, please contact the undersigned; otherwise these shall be deemed acceptable to all.*

Kate Nelischer (*Committee Secretary*)